

Dr. Sergio Lo Iacono

Post-doctoral Researcher

Utrecht University

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Research Interests

Trust, Cooperation, Reputation, Social networks, Institutions, Diversity

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2019 – Present **Post-doctoral researcher**, Department of Sociology, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- 2017 – 2019 **Max Weber fellow**, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute, Italy
- Spring 2016 **Visiting researcher**, Department of Political Science, McGill University, Canada

EDUCATION

- 2018 **PhD in Sociology**, “On the determinants of generalised trust: an investigation of the institution-centred and society-centred perspectives”, University of Essex, UK. Internal examiner: Dr. Renee Luthra; External examiner: Prof. Dietlind Stolle
- 2012 **MA in Political Science**, University of Toronto, Canada
- 2011 **BA in International Relations**, University of Trieste, Italy

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Lo Iacono, S., Sonmez, B., The effect of trusting and trustworthy environments on the provision of public goods. *European Sociological Review*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcaa040>
- 2019 Lo Iacono, S., Law-breaking, fairness, and generalized trust: the mediating role of trust in institutions. *PLOS One*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0220160>
- 2019 Lo Iacono, S., & Quaranta, M., Contextual economic conditions, institutions and social trust: trends and cross-national differences in Europe, 2002-2017. *Polis*. DOI: <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.1424/94245>
- 2019 Parra, T. S., & Lo Iacono, S., (Re) Productive discourses: media coverage of children born of war in Colombia. *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/blar.12976>
- 2018 Lo Iacono, S., Demireva, N., Return to foreign and host country qualifications: evidence from the US on the labour market placement of migrants and the second generation, *Social Inclusion*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17645/si.v6i3.1509>
- 2018 Lo Iacono, S., Does community embeddedness promote generalized trust? An experimental test of the spillover effect, *Social Science Research*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2018.03.001>

TEACHING & MENTORING

- Present **Teaching assistant**, “Doing multidisciplinary research”, “Criminology and safety: theories, trends, and policies”, and “Introduction to the social sciences”, Department of Sociology, Utrecht University, Netherlands.
Tasks: deliver on-line lectures and classes, prepare course material, mentoring, grading - MA & BA level
- Fall 2018 **Teaching assistant**, “Foundations of social life: trust and trustworthiness”, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute, Italy
Tasks: deliver lectures and classes, prepare course material, mentoring, grading - PhD level
- Winter 2018 **Teaching assistant**, “Advanced research design”, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute, Italy
Tasks: deliver lectures, prepare course material, mentoring, grading - PhD level
- 2016 – 2017 **Graduate teaching assistant**, “Researching social life I”, Department of Sociology, University of Essex, UK
Tasks: deliver classes, prepare course material, mentoring, grading - BA level
- 2014 – 2015 **Graduate personal tutor**, Department of Sociology, University of Essex, UK
Tasks: mentoring and supervising - BA level

BOOKS & CONFERENCES

Forthcoming	Barradas, R., Lo Iacono, S., <i>Trust matters: cross-disciplinary essays</i> . Hart Publishing
2019	Invited Speaker at the Seminar in Politics and Society, "The effect of trusting and trustworthy environments on the provision of public goods", Collegio Carlo Alberto, Italy

GRANTS & AWARDS

2020	BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants with B. Sonmez, "Humanitarian communication: gated information and sentiments towards asylum seekers and refugees"	£10,000
2020	Data Science Project in FSW with T. D. Cruz, "Identifying gossip motivations using text mining" Data engineer expenses covered for 3-months	
2020	IT Innovation Fund with T. D. Cruz, "Identifying gossip motivations using text mining"	€23,815
2020	COVID-19 Fast Track Fund with V. Buskens, R. Corten, W. Przepiorka, and A. van de Rijt, "COVID-19 vulnerability, perceived lockdown-norm violations, and social trust"	€25,138
2019	Seed Money Fund 12th round , "Redistribution and cooperation: an alternative to peer-punishment?"	€17,228
2019, 2018, 2016	Seedcorn Funding ESSEXLab , "Asymmetric factual information environment and partisanship: public preferences for asylum seekers" with B. Sonmez; "Does community social embeddedness promote generalized trust? An experimental test of the spillover effect"	£4,500
2017, 2015	Multidisciplinary & Collaborative funding competition for Outreach activities, University of Essex, Outreach Activity: "Let's Talk" with R. Baltaru	£24,000
2016	Overseas Institutional Visit to McGill University	£4,000
2013 – 2016	ESRC DTC Award +3 Advanced Quantitative Methods , focus on multilevel modelling and experimental methods	£64,878
2012	Wanted the Best , tuition fees exemption at the University "La Sapienza" (Rome, Italy)	€3,225

WORKING PAPERS

- Lo Iacono, S., Buskens, V., Corten, R., Przepiorka, W., M., van de Rijt, A. ([R&R at *Social Science & Medicine*](#)) COVID-19 vulnerability and perceived norm violations predict loss of social trust: a pre-post study.
- Lo Iacono, S., Buskens, V., Corten, R., Przepiorka, W., van Assen, M., van de Rijt, A. ([to be submitted to *Science*](#)) The competitive advantage of sanctioning institutions revisited: a multi-lab replication of Gülerk et al. (2006)
- Lo Iacono, S., Testori, M., ([to be submitted to *JASSS*](#)). Inequality and punishment: a new dawn.
- Lo Iacono, S., ([to be submitted to *Social Networks*](#)) Core discussion networks and social trust: a longitudinal study (2008–2019).
- Lo Iacono, S., Cruz, T. D., ([under review at *PNAS*](#)) Hostile media perception affects news bias, but not news sharing intentions.
- Andersson, P., Lo Iacono, S., Testori, M., ([to be submitted to *JEPS*](#)) Inequality, egalitarian motives, and collective action: an experimental study.
- Sonmez, B., Lo Iacono, S., ([under review at *PLOS One*](#)) Does information matter? Asymmetric information and sentiments towards the policies on asylum seekers.
- Ermisch, J., Gambetta, D., Lo Iacono, S., Sonmez, B. ([to be submitted to *Sociological Science*](#)) Trust and strong family ties: new experimental evidence.

SKILLS

Software	Stata (advanced), oTree (advanced), zTree (advanced), Mplus (intermediate), Qualtrics (intermediate), QGIS (intermediate)
Languages	Italian (mother tongue), English (C2), French (B1)

AD-HOC REVIEWER AND MEMBERSHIPS

Member of the Interuniversity Center for the Social Science Theory and Methodology (ICS), Essex visiting scholar; Ad-hoc Reviewer for the *European Sociological Review*, *PLOS One*, *Social Science Research*, *Population Studies*, and *Social Inclusion*

REFERENCES

Dr. Wojtek Przepiorka,

Assistant Professor

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Prof. Vincent Buskens,

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Dr. Neli Demireva,

Associate Professor

Department of Sociology, University of Essex, Wivenhoe
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Prof. Diego Gambetta,

Full Professor

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