ALICE DOMINICI

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Research interests

Primary Fields: Applied Microeconometrics, Political Economy

Secondary Fields: Experimental Economics, Health Economics, Economic History, Gender Economics

References

Prof. Sule Alan	**Prof. Andrea Ichino**	**Prof. Fabrizia Mealli**
European University Institute	European University Institute	University of Florence
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Graduate Studies

European University Institute   Florence, Italy
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics   *2018 – present*

Thesis title: *Essays in Applied Microeconometrics*
Supervisors: Prof. Andrea Ichino, Prof. Sule Alan
Expected completion date: May 2023

Undergraduate Studies

European University Institute   Florence, Italy
Master of Research in Economics   *2018*
Stockholm School of Economics   Stockholm, Sweden
Master of Science in Economics, Major in Applied Economics 4.63/5   *2016 – 2018*
University of Warwick   Coventry, UK
Erasmus semester abroad   *Fall semester 2015*
Bocconi University   Milan, Italy
Bachelor of Science in Economics, Management and Finance, 110 cum laude/110 *2013 – 2016*

Teaching experience

An introduction to Randomized Controlled Trials in Economics	University of Florence
Lecturer	*Fall 2022*
Panel Data for Banking Sector Analysts	Florence, Italy
Teaching fellow for Prof. Jeffrey Wooldridge, Florence School of Banking and Finance	*Spring and Fall 2021*
The Econometrics of Causality	EUI, PhD level
Teaching assistant for Prof. Fabrizia Mealli	*Fall 2021*
The Statistics of Causal inference	EUI, PhD level
Teaching assistant for Prof. Andrea Ichino	*Winter 2020*

Research and Work experience

Researcher (*Assegnista di Ricerca*) , University of Florence	Apr 2022
Planning and conduction of RCTs to promote preventive healthcare ("SpingeVacs")	
Research assistant for Prof. Andrea Ichino, EUI	Nov 2020
Trainee, ECB - European Central Bank	Spring 2018
Monetary and Financial Statistics	

Languages and Technical Skills

Languages: Italian (Native), English (Full proficiency), Spanish (C2), Portuguese, French and Swedish (Limited working proficiency)
Software: MS Office, LaTeX
Programming: *Advanced*: R, Stata; *Intermediate*: ArcGIS/QGIS, Matlab; *Basic*: VBA

Conferences and Seminars

Quantitative Political Economy Seminar (scheduled)	
King's College London, London (UK)	*December 2022*
Ph.D. Seminar (scheduled)	
University College London (UK)	*December 2022*
Economics and Statistics Ph.D. and Postdoc Workshop	
University of Naples Federico II, Naples (Italy)	*September 2022*
EuHEA 2022	
European Health Economics Association Ph.D. Conference, Galway (Ireland)	*August 2022*
Shifting Landscapes Conference	
London School of Economics, Department of Geography, London (UK)	*June 2022*
23rd IZA Summer School in Labor Economics	
Buch/Ammersee (Germany)	*May 2022*
Spring Meeting of Young Economists	
Orléans (France)	*May 2022*
Quantitative Political Economy Ph.D. and Postdoc Workshop	
King's College London, London (UK)	*May 2022*
Departmental Seminar	
University of Florence, Department of Economics and Management (DISEI)	*April 2022*
Graduate Economic History Seminar	Virtual
London School of Economics, London (UK)	*February 2022*

Grants and Awards

Research grant (*Assegno di ricerca*), 19.300 EUR   Florence, Italy
University of Florence   *April 2022*
Merck, Investigator Studies Program, 186.000 EUR
(With Lisen A. Dahlström) Merck International   *November 2020*
Early Stage Researcher Grant, 1.000 EUR   Florence, Italy
European University Institute   *November 2020*
Best paper prize for the 2nd year paper   Florence, Italy
European University Institute   *June 2020*
Early Stage Researcher Grant, 1.000 EUR   Florence, Italy
European University Institute   *November 2019*
Full Ph.D. Grant
The Swedish Research Council   *September 2018*

Professional Activities

Referee: The Economic Journal, Labour Economics, Review of Development Economics, Journal of Institutional Economics, International Migration, Journal of Peace Research

Other: support to M.Sc. Economics admissions (2017, Stockholm School of Economics), Researchers' Representative (2019, European University Institute), Manager of the EUI Microeconometrics working group (2019, European University Institute), Assistant for Ph.D. Economics pre-admissions (2021, European University Institute), Assistant for the Self-Assessment report of the Economics Department (2021, European University Institute)

Job Market Paper

The Medieval origins of Catholic political preferences

To what extent do conservative culture and institutions affect political preferences and support of gender equality policies in the long term? In every Italian election with a running Catholic party, regions in north-eastern Italy showed marked differences in their Catholic votes (above 20 p.p.), which are also reflected by anti-divorce and anti-abortion votes in dedicated referenda (1974, 1981). I exploit a natural experiment to disentangle the effects of two possible long-term determinants of these different preferences: conservative formal institutions (the theocratic Papal States), and conservative culture (Medieval patriarchal norms). The Po river separates two regions: for several centuries, one displayed conservative culture but progressive institutions, and the other had a progressive culture and was only partially subject to conservative institutions. I formalize and estimate an extension to geographic regression discontinuity designs, the Difference-in-Geographic Discontinuities (DIG) estimator. I find that conservative institutions have no effect on conservative votes. I argue that the entire difference in votes is attributable to culture, through its effect on social capital.

Other research

Education, Immigration and HPV Vaccination: an Informational Randomized Trial
with Lisen A. Dahlström (Karolinska Institute)

We randomize an informational intervention on 7616 mothers of girls and boys due to receive the HPV vaccine in Sweden in 2021, stratified by mothers' education and cultural background. The treatment is the framing of a leaflet that covers concerns leveraged by disinformation, namely the vaccine's safety and the consequences of catching HPV-induced cancers, in terms of sterility and invasive medical procedures. It is framed emotionally (T1), through the testimonies of local cancer survivors, or scientifically (T2), using medical and statistical terminology. We also

include a pure placebo that only provides a reminder. Only Swedish-born mothers with compulsory schooling who pay attention to the leaflet respond to scientific framing by actually increasing their uptake (+5 p.p. ITT effect), but they understate their willingness to vaccinate. The effect is driven by mothers who pay attention to the leaflet (+16 p.p. ATE). Emotional framing worsens the beliefs of mothers with graduate education and reduces the uptake of those with high school education (-5 p.p. ITT), driven by mothers who do not pay attention to the leaflet.

Executive gender quotas and social services: evidence from Italy
with Flavia Cavallini (Royal Holloway University of London) and Olivia Masi (European University Institute)

We investigate the effect of executive female representation in local governments on the provision of different social services, in the context of Italy. While Italy is a high-income country, many families still rely on women to take care of children, the elderly, and family members in need of assistance. We exploit a 2014 reform that mandated 40% gender quotas in the executive committees of municipalities with more than 3000 inhabitants. To account for confounding policies introduced at the same cutoff, we employ a difference-in-discontinuities empirical strategy with additional identifying assumptions. We find that while the policy was effective in increasing female representation, it did not have an impact on any social services expenditures.

Family systems, gender norms and economic outcomes: a lesson from Italian history
(in progress)

This paper investigates the causal effect of family systems (Todd, 1990) and associated gender norms on household economic outcomes. I construct a novel geo-referenced, household-level dataset on the Pontine Marshes' colonization (1933-1943), during which agrarian families from Northern Italy with two different family systems moved to an uninhabited area under strict control of the fascist regime, and were subject to different shocks following WWII males' conscription. I exploit the variation in men's presence during the war to measure how culture affected women's ability to lead production and secure agricultural land ownership. Preliminary analyses with partial data suggest that women from the more patriarchal family system were significantly more successful.

Digital skills and university choice: a Randomized Trial *(in progress)*
with Martina Ferracane (European University Institute) and Adriano De Falco (European University Institute)

We conduct a Randomized Controlled Trial in Italian high schools in which we randomize access to digital skill courses. Courses are taken for credit and held by Fablabs, a network of laboratories funded by MIT. The courses employ a tested learn-by-doing pedagogical approach and cover 3D design, 3D printing, and laser cutting. We test whether participation fosters interest in STEM subjects for future university studies, relative occupations and employability, with a particular interest in girls.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES (PRE-PH.D.)

Landy, J. F., Jia, M. L., Ding, I. L., Viganola, D., Tierney, W., Dreber, A., ... & Crowdsourcing Hypothesis Tests Collaboration. (2020). **"Crowdsourcing hypothesis tests: Making transparent how design choices shape research results"**. *Psychological Bulletin*, 146(5), 451.