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Placement Director: Noam Yuchtman
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Employment	University of Oxford, Department of Economics Career Development Fellow in Economics, Mansfield College, 2021-present Lecturer in Economics, Trinity College, 2021-present	
Education	University of Oxford, Department of Economics Ph.D. Economics, 2017-2021 M.Phil. Economics, 2014-2016 University of Nottingham, School of Economics B.Sc. Honors Economics and Econometrics, 2011-2014	
Visiting Fellowships	Harvard University , Department of Government, Fall 2024 University of Venice , Department of Economics, Spring 2022 Harvard University , Department of Government, Fall 2019 European University Institute , Department of Economics, Spring 2019 Harvard University , Department of Government, Spring 2019 University of Nottingham Ningbo China , Spring 2013	
Fields	Political Economy, Economic History, and Applied Microeconomics	
References	Professor Noam Yuchtman Drummond Professor of Political Economy University of Oxford noam.yuchtman@economics.ox.ac.uk Professor Marco Tabellini Assistant Professor of Business Administration Harvard Business School mtabellini@hbs.edu	Professor James M. Snyder, Jr. Leroy B. Williams Professor of History and Political Science Harvard University jsnyder@gov.harvard.edu Professor Vanessa Berenguer-Rico Associate Professor of Economics University of Oxford vanessa.berenguer-rico@economics.ox.ac.uk
Job Market Paper	Black Empowerment and White Mobilization: The Effects of the Voting Rights Act (with G. Facchini, M. Tabellini, and C. Testa) <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , R&R [link] <i>Abstract</i> : How did southern whites respond to the 1965 Voting Rights Act (VRA)? Leveraging newly digitized data on county-level voter registration by race between 1956 and 1980, and exploiting pre-determined variation in exposure to the federal intervention, we document that the VRA increases both Black and white political participation. Consistent with the VRA triggering white counter-mobilization, the surge in white registrations is concentrated in counties where African Americans represent a political threat. Counter-mobilization leads to a short-run increase in support for racially conservative candidates, and to a slow-down in local public spending salient to Black Americans, such as public sector employment and education.	
Published and Forthcoming Papers	Race, Representation and Local Governments in the U.S. South: The Effect of the Voting Rights Act (with G. Facchini and C. Testa) <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 2023, 131 (4): 994-1056 [link] <i>Abstract</i> : The Voting Rights Act of 1965 redefined race relations in the United States. Yet evidence on its effect on Black office holding remains scant. Using novel data on Black elected officials between 1962 and 1980, we assess the impact of the Voting Rights Act on the racial makeup of local governments in the Deep South. Exploiting predetermined differential exposure of Southern counties to the mandated federal intervention, we show that the latter fostered local	

Black office holding, particularly in the powerful county commissions, controlling local public finances. In the presence of election by district, covered counties experienced Black representation gains and faster capital spending growth.

The Voice of Radio in the Battle for Equal Rights: Evidence from the U.S. South

Economics & Politics, 2023, 35 (1): 163-226 [\[link\]](#)

Abstract: Although the 1960s race riots have gone down in history as America's most violent and destructive ethnic civil disturbances, a consensus on the factors able to explain their insurgence is yet to be found. Using a novel data set on the universe of radio stations airing Black-appeal programming, the effect of the media on riots is found to be sizable and statistically significant. A marginal (1%) increase in signal reception from these stations is estimated to lead to a 2.4% and 4.1% rise in the mean levels of the frequency and intensity of riots, respectively. Several mechanisms behind this result are considered, with the quantity, quality, and length of exposure to radio programming all being decisive factors.

Sixty Years of the Voting Rights Act: Progress and Pitfalls (with G. Facchini, M. Tabellini, and C. Testa)

Oxford Review of Economic Policy, 2024, 40 (3), forthcoming [\[link\]](#)

Abstract: We review the literature on the effects of the 1965 Voting Rights Act (VRA), which removed formal restrictions to Black political participation. After a brief description of racial discrimination suffered by Black Americans since Reconstruction, we introduce the goals that the VRA was meant to achieve. Next, we discuss the local-level impact of the law on political participation and representation, on public goods provision and policing practices, and on labor market outcomes. We then turn to whites' reactions, from political realignment to electoral counter-mobilization to changes in voting rules and arrests patterns. We conclude by discussing how the evidence reviewed in this article can inform policy-making and the design of legislation aimed at reducing racial discrimination and inequality.

Corruption as a Push and Pull Factor of Migration Flows: Evidence from European Countries (with L. Bossavie, D. Garrote Sanchez, and M. Makovec)

Empirica, 2024, 51 (1): 263-281 [\[link\]](#)

Abstract: Conclusive evidence on the relationship between corruption and migration has remained scant in the literature to date. Using 2008-2018 data on bilateral migration flows across EU28 and EFTA countries and four measures of corruption, we show that corruption acts as both push and pull factors on migration patterns. Based on a gravity model, a 1-unit increase in the corruption level in the origin country is associated with an 11% increase in out-migration. The same 1-unit increase in corruption in the destination country is associated with a 10% decline in in-migration.

Labor market outcomes during opposite resource shocks

Empirica, 2024, 52 (1), forthcoming [\[link\]](#)

Abstract: The 2009 and 2012 earthquakes in Italy occurred in a close-knit region and time horizon but differed substantially on both the initial shock to the stock and the subsequent flow of resources. This paper considers the short run impact on the dynamic response of labor market outcomes. Both earthquakes lowered employment and labor force participation by more than 0.5%. With its negative effect on the resources available, the 2009 shock led to a drop in real wages of 1.3% and a sharp – but short-lived – widening of the wage gap generated by the skill premium. The 2012 earthquake, which led firms to upgrade their technology, increased wages by 2.2% and led to a more balanced – but persistent – widening of the wage gap. The predictions of a model developed in this paper are consistent with these results.

The Impact of Trade on Income Inequality in Mexico (with O. J. de Groot)

Estudios Económicos, 2025, 40 (1), forthcoming [\[link\]](#)

Abstract: Income inequality remains a significant concern in Mexico, despite a slight decrease in its measure in recent decades. This paper investigates the impact of changes in trade patterns resulting from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on income inequality in Mexico over the past 20 years. Through a decomposition into within- and between-sector inequality, this paper reveals that the contribution of the latter has increased in an environment characterized by decreasing overall income inequality. Trade accounts for approximately 14.5% of the total change in between-sector income inequality, representing the most substantial contribution among the factors identified in this study.

Working Papers (In Progress)

Teacher Identity and Black Achievement: The Impact of Early Schools for Freed People (with L. Althoff and M. Tabellini)

From Ballot to Bench: Black Representation in Southern Justice and Law Enforcement (with G. Facchini, C. Testa, and H. Y. You)

The Effects of NAFTA on Mexican Local Labor Markets (with M. Faber, F. Mattei, and M. Tabellini)

West German Television and East German Smoking Rates (with S. A. Hartmann)

Teaching (Oxford)

Graduate Courses

International Finance, Graduate Course Co-convenor, Saïd Business School, 2023 and 2024

Undergraduate Courses

Microeconomics (both Prelims & Core), Tutor & Lecturer, 2017-present
Macroeconomics (both Prelims & Core), Tutor & Lecturer, 2020-present
Undergraduate Maths for Economists, Tutor & Lecturer, 2023-present
Development of the World Economy, Tutor, Department of Economics, 2021-2023
Economics of Developing Countries, Tutor, Department of Economics, 2021-2022
Microeconomic Analysis, Tutor, Department of Economics, 2020-2021
Quantitative Economics, Tutor, Department of Economics, 2020-2021

Past Employment

World Bank Group, 2020 to 2023; Goldman Sachs, 2015, 2016-2017, and 2018; United Nations, 2017; Bank of England, 2016; Deloitte, 2013; Confindustria, 2012; Banca Generali, 2012

Awards

Best Paper Award, 48th Annual Economic and Business History Society Conference, 2023, for *Black Empowerment and White Mobilization: The Effects of the Voting Rights Act*

University of Oxford

ESRC Studentship Full Scholarship, 2014-2016 (MPhil) and 2017-2019 (DPhil)
ESRC & Oxford Research Grants awarded to conduct field research in the U.S. and Mexico, 2017 and 2019
Doctoral Completion Bursary, 2019

University of Nottingham

Prize for Academic Excellence: highest grade in the graduating class, 2014
Highest grade in 3rd year, 2014, and highest grade in 2nd year (2013)

Refereeing

The Journal of Economic History, Southern Economic Journal, Urban Affairs Review, Migration and Ethnic Themes, Regional Science Policy & Practice, Bloomsbury Publishing

Languages

Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent)