

EUGENIA MARIA FREZZA

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Università della Svizzera Italiana
Postdoctoral Researcher
Supervisor: Prof. Patricia Funk

2024 -

EDUCATION

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
PhD in Economics
Supervisor: Prof. Alejandra Ramos & Prof. Selim Gulesci
Visiting Scholar: University of Stockholm, Sweden

2019 - 2024

2023 - Spring

University of Bologna, Italy
MSc in Economics, LMEC - *cum Laude*

2016-2018

University of Torino, Italy
BSc in Economics

2013-2016

REFERENCES

Prof. Selim Gulesci
Department of Economics
Trinity College Dublin
gulescis@tcd.ie

Prof. Alejandra Ramos
Department of Economics
Trinity College Dublin
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Prof. Andreas Madestam
Department of Economics
Stockholm University
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Prof. Gaia Narciso
Department of Economics
Trinity College Dublin
narcisog@tcd.ie

ACADEMIC FIELDS OF INTEREST

Primary: Development Economics, Gender Economics
Secondary: Labour Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Accepting the unacceptable: Does intimate partner violence shape the tolerance of violence?

I study whether intimate partner violence has a causal effect on victims' tolerance towards it in a context where divorce is very costly. First, I show theoretically that tolerance of violence can serve as a coping mechanism, particularly under prolonged exposure to abuse. I empirically test this hypothesis

in the context of India. To do so, I leverage variations in the minimum legal drinking, employing a regression discontinuity design and an event study approach. The findings show a 4-5 percentage points increase in wives' likelihood of experiencing IPV as their husbands attain the legal drinking age. In the short-run, this does not lead to a change in wives' IPV tolerance. To study the effect of prolonged exposure to IPV on attitudes, I compare couples living in states with different legal drinking ages. I find that earlier legal drinking increases the exposure to violence by up to 6 months, which in turn leads to a 0.3 standard deviation increase in wives' tolerance towards violence. These findings suggest that the longer the exposure to violence, the more the victims may normalise and justify violence inflicted on them as a coping mechanism.

WORKING PAPERS

Fast Internet and gender norms: evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa

Awarded the ISWE prize from the Irish Economic Association

Is the internet a tool for women's empowerment, or does it exacerbate discriminatory gender norms? I answer this question by exploiting the gradual arrival of fast internet between 2008-2012 on African coasts via submarine cables from Europe to retrieve a causal effect of the internet on gender norms around attitudes towards intimate partner violence (IPV). Specifically, I compare individuals' attitudes towards violence in locations with high internet penetration and those without, exploiting differences in the timing of the high-speed internet arrival. Results show that fast internet leads to more regressive gender norms. Individuals located in connected areas are more likely to find violence justifiable. This effect is stronger for males. I then explore the potential mechanisms behind this result. The most likely mechanism to be at play in this setting is that the internet causes more regressive gender norms because it might change the balance of power within the household by affecting labour market opportunities for men and women differently.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Female Genital Cutting and Women's Autonomy: Theory and Evidence from Nigeria joint with Suzanna Khalifa (Princeton University)

Natural resources and Education: Evidence from Bangladesh joint with Selim Gulesci (Trinity College) and Ashikur Rahman (Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh)

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP

2024: Novafrica conference on Economic Development (NOVA), Irish Economic Association (University of Galway), University of Maynooth - invited seminar. **2023:** Africa Innovation Gender Lab (World Bank), NEUDC 2023 (Harvard University), Oxford Development Economics Workshop, PSE-CEPR Policy Forum, SITES Summer School in Dev. Economics - Prato, NCDE (University of Gothenburg), Frisch Centre seminar (University of Oslo), Development Tea (IIES), Brown Bag Seminar (Stockholm University). **2022:** TCD Trinity College Dublin PhD Working Group, Irish Economic Association (University of Limerick) **2021:** TCD Trinity College Dublin PhD Working Group, ASSET (Aix-Marseille School of Economics), ESRI PhD Workshop **2020:** TCD Trinity College Dublin PhD Working Group

TEACHING

Introduction to Mathematics - Lecturer - Msc. Year 1, Trinity College Dublin	2023
Econometrics I - TA - Msc. Year 1, Trinity College Dublin	2023
Impact Evaluation - TA - Msc. Year 1, Trinity College Dublin	2022
Econometrics I and II - TA - Bsc. Year 3, Trinity College Dublin	2020-2021
Introduction to Economic Policy - TA - Bsc. Year 1, Trinity College Dublin	2019-2020

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Co-organizer of the TCD PhD seminars	<i>2020-2022</i>
Research Assistant - Prof. Selim Gulesci	<i>2020-2021</i>
Research Assistant - Prof. Miriam Manchin - Polytechnic University of Milan	<i>2019</i>
Internship at Fondazione Agnelli - Turin	<i>2019</i>
Tutor for the CLOUD LAB project - University of Bologna	<i>2018</i>
Internship for final dissertation - Prof. Margherita Fort - University of Bologna	<i>2018</i>

LANGUAGES AND COMPUTER SKILLS

Languages: Italian (Native), English (Fluent), French (Fluent), Portuguese (Intermediate)
Compuer: Microsoft Office, Stata, R, QGis, LaTeX

REFEREEING

Public Health

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Luca d'Agliano Scholarship	<i>2023</i>
Fondazione Luigi Einaudi	
ISWE Prize for the Best Paper by a Woman Economist	<i>2022</i>
Irish Economic Association	
Dermot McAleese - Best Teaching Assistant	<i>2021</i>
Trinity College Dublin	
Irish Research Council Scholarship	<i>2021</i>
Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Programme	
Department of Economics Ph.D. Scholarship	<i>2019</i>
Trinity College Dublin	