

# **FRANCESCO FERLENGA**

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## **BROWN UNIVERSITY**

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### **Office Contact Information**

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### **References**

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Professor **Stelios Michalopoulos**  
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Professor **Vincenzo Galasso**  
Department of Social and Political Sciences  
Bocconi University  
Milano, Italy 20136  
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### **EDUCATION**

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<b>Brown University</b>	Providence, RI, USA
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics	2018 –present
Expected Completion Date: May 2024	

<b>Bocconi University</b>	Milano, Italy
M.S. Economics	2015 –2018

<b>Bocconi University</b>	Milano, Italy
B.S. Economics	2012 –2015
(Visiting student at University of British Columbia, Fall 2014)	

### **TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS**

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Political Economy, Public Finance, Cultural Economics, Economics of Migrations

# JOB MARKET PAPER

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## Symbols of oppression. The role of Confederate monuments in the Great Migration

### **Abstract**

Dominant groups around the world have asserted their power by constructing in public spaces monuments that glorify their narrative, vis-à-vis their opponents'. How does the construction of divisive symbols affect the opposing groups? I investigate this issue in the context of the construction of Confederate monuments in the US South during the early 20th century, which was supported by southern Whites and generally opposed by African-Americans. Given the absence of viable political counteractions for African-Americans (including voting) and the high propensity to migrate during the Great Migration, I find that African-Americans disproportionately left areas with monuments. First, I use a diff-in-diff approach to show that southern counties where a monument was constructed experienced a sharp decline in the share of Black population after the inauguration. Individual level data confirm this was driven by outmigration. Second, I exploit the presence of a quasi-monopolist producer to construct an instrument for the stock of Confederate monuments, based on the transportation cost and on the relevant production years. The IV analysis confirms that an exogenously higher stock of monuments caused a substantial reduction of the Black share of the population in the following decades.

## PUBLICATIONS

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Better to be direct? Evidence from the abolition of direct elections in Italian local governments  
*Economics & Politics. 2023. Volume 35, Issue 3.*

## OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

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Coordination and Incumbency Advantage in Multi-Party Systems. Evidence from French Elections  
with Kevin Dano, Vincenzo Galasso, Le Pennec and Vincent Pons 2023  
*R&R Journal of the European Economic Association*

EU Enlargement and Migrant Enfranchisement: Evidence from Italy  
with Stephanie Kang 2023

Vote Early and Vote Often? Detecting Electoral Fraud from the Timing of 19th Century Elections  
with Brian Knight 2023

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT

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Brown University, Economics Department Providence, RI  
Research Assistant for Professor Jesse Bruhn 2022

Brown University, Economics Department Providence, RI  
Research Assistant for Professor Brian Knight 2020

Bocconi University Milan, Italy  
Research Assistant for Professor Stefano Caselli 2018

Bocconi University Milan, Italy  
Research Assistant for Professor Nicola Pavoni 2017

Bocconi University  
Research Assistant for Professor Vincenzo Galasso

Milan, Italy  
2016

BRAC Uganda Research and Evaluation Unit  
Summer Internship for Professor Vittorio Bassi

Kampala, Uganda  
2016

General Consulate of Chile in Milan: ProChile, Commercial Office  
Summer Internship

Milan, Italy  
2015

## TEACHING

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### Teaching Assistant at Brown University

- Honors Tutorial for Economics Majors (*Professor: Neil Thakral*) Fall 2023-Spring 2024
- Honors Tutorial for Economics Majors (*Professor: Emily Oster*) Fall 2022-Spring 2023
- Theory of Behavioral Economics (*Professor: Geoffroy de Clippel*) Fall 2021
- The Economy of China since 1949 (*Professor: Louis Putterman*) Spring 2020
- Race Inequality in the United States (*Professor: Glenn Loury*) Fall 2019

## SCHOLARSHIPS, RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

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- Brown University Teaching Award 2023
- Orlando Bravo Center for Economic Research Award (\$1600) Fall 2023
- Orlando Bravo Center for Economic Research Award (\$1400) Fall 2022
- Brown University Economics Department Award (\$1000) Spring 2022
- Orlando Bravo Center for Economic Research Award (\$500) Fall 2021
- Shoukang Lin Graduate Fellowship, Brown University 2022 - 2023
- Graduate Student Scholarship, Brown University 2018 - 2022

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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- **Conferences:** The Political Economy of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era Conference 2023; NEUDC 2023 (programmed)
- **Referee:** American Economic Journal: Economic Policy (x3); European Journal of Political Economy

## COMPUTER SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

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- **Software:** Stata, QGIS, R, Prolific, Qualtrics, LaTeX
- **Languages:** Italian (native), English and Spanish