

FRANCESCO FERLENGA

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BROWN UNIVERSITY

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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

Brown University Ph.D. Candidate in Economics Expected Completion Date: May 2024	Providence, RI, USA 2018 –present
Bocconi University M.S. Economics	Milano, Italy 2015 –2018
Bocconi University B.S. Economics (Visiting student at University of British Columbia, Fall 2014)	Milano, Italy 2012 –2015

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

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

JOB MARKET PAPER

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

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

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

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

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

- 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

OTHER

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