

Lorenzo VICARI

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RESEARCH

JOB MARKET PAPER

Feather-Handed Fascists: Surveillance as a Signal of Bureaucratic Loyalty (with P. Grau-Vilalta and A. Xamo)

We show that surveillance in autocracies can be shaped less by ideology or competence than by bureaucrats' need to signal loyalty. Using prefect-level data from Fascist Italy (1922–40), it shows that career bureaucrats without credible loyalty markers engaged in significantly more surveillance than early regime loyalists, and highlights evidence that career concerns drive coercive behaviour.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Picking Winners: Evidence on State-steered Industrialisation

Sirens: Evidence on Propaganda and Repression Under Autocracy

Pitchforks: Strategic Allocation of Policy Benefits Under Autocracy

Seeds: Economic Development and the Persistence of Authoritarianism

Scoops: A Theory of Access Journalism and Media Crookedness (with K. Heo)

OTHER PROJECTS

Climate Migration and Political Tensions (with M. Emeriau and S. Wolton)

Bricks: The Long-term Political Impact of Public Housing

PRESENTATIONS

2025 NYU CompPol Seminar, MPSA, KCL's APSG, Political Connections, EPSA, APSA, LSE PSPE WiP Seminar
2024 EPSA, SISF, LSE SPEECH Seminar, LSE PSPE WiP Seminar, Naples School of Economics Workshop
2023 LSE Government WiP Seminar

TEACHING

ASSOCIATE LECTURER, UCL

[PUBLO098](#) *The Politics of Public Policy*

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

[GV101](#) *Introduction to Political Science* (Prof Wolton)

[EC260](#) *Political Economy of Public Policy* (Prof Dewan, Prof Larcinese)

[GV225](#) *Public Choice and Politics* (Prof Dewan)

[GV4J7](#) *Introductory Mathematics for Political Science* (Dr Kudinova)

EDUCATION

2021 - 2026 PhD in POLITICAL ECONOMY
London School of Economics (London, UK)
2025 Visiting Research Affiliate
New York University (NYC, USA)
2017 - 2020 MSc in GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
Bocconi University (Milan, Italy)
2014 - 2017 BSc in ECONOMICS, MARKETS, AND INSTITUTIONS
University of Bologna (Bologna, Italy)

EXPERIENCES

2020 - 2021 PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT, **Bocconi University** (Milan, Italy)
2019 - 2019 JUNIOR IT CONSULTANT, **Capgemini** (Milan, Italy)
2018 - 2018 EVENTS ASSISTANT, **Italian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong** (Hong Kong)
2016 - 2017 CITY COUNCILLOR, **Municipal Council** (Cesenatico, Italy)

MISCELLANEA

Organising | PSPE WiP Seminar Series (lead organiser, 2 years, weekly)
Behavioural Political Economy Workshop (assistance, 2 editions)
London Seminar for Graduate Political Science (founder, one edition)
IT | Working knowledge of Stata, R, python, \LaTeX .
Basics of Mathematica, git, html.
Languages | Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (intermediate)