

# Giulia Ferrero

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## Education and current position

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**Visiting Researcher**     *forthcoming!*     May 2026- Jun 2026  
*UCLA*     Los Angeles, USA  
Sponsor: Nico Voigtlaender

**Visiting Researcher**     *forthcoming!*     Spring 2026  
*Harvard Kennedy School*     Boston, USA  
Sponsor: Eliana La Ferrara

**Vilfredo Pareto PhD in Economics (UNITO/CCA)**     2022 - Present  
Doctoral Fellow at Collegio Carlo Alberto     Torino, Italy  
Supervisors: Professor Elena Esposito and Professor Giovanni Mastrobuoni

**Second Cycle Master Degree in Economics (LMEC)**     2018 – 2020  
*Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna*     Bologna, Italy  
Supervisors: Professor Matteo Cervellati and Professor Paolo Vanin  
Master Thesis: “Organized Violence in a global perspective: an empirical investigation, 1989-2019”  
Final Grade: 110 cum laude

**Bachelor in ‘Economics and trade’**     2015 - 2018  
*University di Torino* - 110 cum laude

## Research interests

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Narratives, Gender, Media, Conflict, Economic History and Development

## Teaching

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**Econometric Theory I - graduate**     2023-2025  
*Collegio Carlo Alberto* - TA to Professor Yagan Hazard  
**Microeconomics**     Spring 2024  
*SAA - School of Management* TA to Professor Nadia Campaniello

## Conferences and presentations

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2025    2025 BAEM (Bristol Applied Economics Meetings) Workshop on Gender, Diversity and Human Capital, Fragile Lives 2025, VPDE 2025 internal PhD forum, Third Political Economy CCA-Cornell-Bocconi Winter Workshop (ooster)  
2024    VPDE 2024 internal PhD forum

## Working Papers

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### Wartime Narratives and Gender Norms (JMP) - 2025

Awarded the 2025 Mixtape Fellowship by Scott Cunningham

### Sons of War: the Effect of Conflict on Son Preference with Jessica Mancuso - 2023

Awarded the Grigor Artsruni Award at the Armenian Economic Association Conference in Yerevan

Armenia and Azerbaijan, engaged in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, are known for their strong son preference and widespread use of abortion. In such a peculiar setting, we ask: does ethnic conflict affect son preference? By merging Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data with two different sources of conflict-related casualties, we investigate the effect of ethnic conflict on fertility decisions. To do so, we leverage variations in geographic and temporal exposure to conflict-related violence in the context of the First Nagorno-Karabakh War (1988–1994), alongside variation in the gender composition of children between families. We find that families with only daughters exposed to conflict increase their fertility in the very short term. Furthermore, our analysis of births by gender reveals that this result is driven by the birth of sons. Conflict intensifies son preference, manifesting in son-targeted fertility behavior and sex-selective abortions. Lastly, we identify child replacement as a mechanism contributing to the increase in fertility, driven primarily by the replacement of male children.

## Work in Progress

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### Narratives and Movies with Elena Esposito and Alessandro Saia - 2024

## Professional Experience

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**Research Assistant** for Prof. Esposito (*CCA/UNITO*) 2023

Research area: narrative economics and economic history

**Research Assistant** for Prof. Fort and Prof. Carlana (*UNIBO*) 2022

RCT project “Gender Differences in STEM: Can Teaching Girls to Code Close the Gaps?”.

Main tasks: data collection (field work) using Qualtrics; data cleaning and analysis using Stata and R.

**Trainee in DGI - External Developments (DG-I/EXT)** 2021-2022

*European central bank (ECB)*

**Research Assistant** for Prof. Cervellati (*UNIBO*) 2020

**Research Assistant** for Prof. Lambertini (*UNIBO*) 2019

## Workshops and conferences organized

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**17th VPDE PhD workshop in Economics** November 21-22, 2024

## Schools and Post-graduate Courses

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**Complex Network Analysis: Tools for Economic Development**

July 2023

*Barcelona School of Economics (BSE)*

Barcelona, Spain

Teacher: Professor Pau Milan

## IT knowledge

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Python, STATA, R, Latex, Qualtrics, QGIS, text analysis and web scraping techniques

## References

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### **Professor Giovanni Mastrobuoni**

Collegio Carlo Alberto, Carlo Alberto Chair

Full professor in Economics at ESOMAS, Department of Economics, University of Torino

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### **Professor Elena Esposito**

Collegio Carlo Alberto, Junior Chair

Rita Levi Montalcini Researcher at ESOMAS, Department of Economics, University of Torino

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### **Professor Juan Vargas**

Collegio Carlo Alberto, Carlo Alberto Chair

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