

LORENZO PESSINA

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Citizenship: Italian

EDUCATION

Columbia University

Ph.D. in Economics	(expected) 2021
M.Phil. in Economics	2018
M.A. in Economics	2017

Bocconi University, Milan

M.Sc. in Economics and Social Sciences, <i>summa cum laude</i>	2015
B.A. in International Economics, Management, and Finance, <i>summa cum laude</i>	2012

RESEARCH PAPERS

VAT withholding and firms' trade relations

This paper tests whether a change in the responsibility to remit Value Added Tax (VAT) causes a real response among firms, exploiting a quasi-experimental design and administrative data on firm-to-firm links from Italy. Analyzing confidential data for nearly 100,000 firms, I present two main findings. First, loosening the responsibility to remit VAT creates a large increase in the credit position vis-à-vis the tax authority among treated firms. The reform increases the proportion of firms that report a tax credit at the end of the year by 6 percentage points, a 10 percent increase. Second, I find that firms are more likely to stop dealing with their clients that are subject to the remittance regime. After the reform, firm-to-firm transactions subject to VAT withholding are 5 percentage points more likely to be severed, compared to links not affected by the reform. This paper provides empirical evidence against the canonical proposition that remittance responsibility is irrelevant to the consequences of a tax and describes the behavioral response of firms.

Importing Inequality: The Rise of Foreign Top Earners in the UK (joint with Arun Advani, Felix Koenig, and Andy Summers)

RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

Taxation and International Relocation of Top Earners: Estimates from UK Tax Records
(joint with Arun Advani, Felix Koenig, and Andy Summers)

The Saved and the Probate: The Trade-off between Control and Inheritance Tax Minimization (joint with Cameron LaPoint)

RESEARCH GRANTS

NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, SES-1919322, \$19,877	2019-2020
Data Purchase Support, Program for Economics Research, Columbia University, \$5,000	2019
Student Research Travel Grant, CDEP, Columbia University, \$600	2017

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Economics, Columbia University	2020-2021
Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award (runner-up), Columbia University	2018
Vickrey Prize for Best Third Year paper, Columbia University	2018
Wueller Teaching Award (runner-up), Columbia University	2017
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	2015-2020
Graduate Merit Award, Bocconi University	2012-2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Intermediate Macroeconomics	Summer 2018
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Teaching Assistant

Public Economics, TA for Wojciech Kopczuk	Fall 2018
Intermediate Macroeconomics, TA for Xavier Sala-i-Martin	Fall 2016, 2017, 2018
<i>Wueller Teaching Award (Fall 2017)</i>	
Urban Economics, TA for Jason Barr	Fall 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Francois Gerard, Columbia University	2017
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PhD Student Affiliate, CAGE, University of Warwick	2019 - present
Research Intern, Global Investment Research, Goldman Sachs	2014-15

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

2020: APPAM DC Regional Student Conference*, ifo CEMIR Workshop on Migration Research*
2019: NTA's Annual Conference (poster session)
2018: Young Economist Symposium

**cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Invited Attendance: NBER Business Tax Graduate Workshop and Meeting	2018
Reading Groups at Columbia: Public Economics and Taxation	Summer 2018
Student Organizer: Lunch with the Applied Micro Speaker	2018-2020

PERSONAL

Citizenship: Italy

US status: F-1 Visa

Languages: English (fluent), Italian (native), French (basic)

REFERENCES

Wojciech Kopczuk

Department of Economics

Columbia University

wk2110@columbia.edu

Michael Best

Department of Economics

Columbia University

michael.best@columbia.edu