

# Mattia Albertini

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## Current Position

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2020- Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, IDEP – Università della Svizzera italiana – Lugano (CH).

## Education

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2021 Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics (GPA 5.6/6), Swiss National Bank - Gerzensee Study Center (CH)  
2020 Exchange, Quantitative Economics & Finance, University of St. Gallen (CH)  
2020 M.Sc. Economic Policy (summa cum laude), Università della Svizzera italiana (CH)  
2017 B.Sc. in Economics (summa cum laude), University of Pavia (IT)

## Research Interests

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Labor Economics, Migration, Urban Economics, Health, Culture/Trust, Applied Microeconometrics.

## Working Papers

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### **The Residential Integration of Transnational Regional Economies: Evidence from the 2015 Swiss Franc Appreciation**

with Lorenzo Barisone

**Abstract:** This paper examines how currency shocks, by affecting relative wages, influence cross-border relocation, commuting, and housing markets. We leverage the 2015 Swiss Franc appreciation as a natural experiment, which affected the Swiss wages relative to its neighbors. Using municipal-level data from Switzerland, Italy, and Germany, we estimate a dynamic difference-in-differences regression between border and non-border areas. Findings indicate that, after the currency shock, European residents in Switzerland relocated to neighboring countries but maintained employment, turning into cross-border workers. As a result, housing prices in Swiss border areas dropped, and increased in adjacent regions abroad. The results reveal heterogeneity in relocation patterns by the neighboring country, emphasizing the role of each country's conditions in shaping relocation choices. The evidence suggests that wage shocks across neighboring countries affect migration and housing demand in strategic locations, affecting housing affordability for local residents. Additionally, changes in the stock of cross-border also reflect location choice rather than simple labor supply shifts. Stricter cross-border work regulations could encourage long-term migration, and contribute to a more balanced development of housing markets across borders.

**Presented at:** 17th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (Toronto) • 12th European Meeting of the Urban Economic Association, Bocconi University (Milan) • NetCIEx Workshop by the Competence Centre on Microeconomic Evaluation (Ispra) • Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (Neuchâtel) • Swiss Workshop on Local Public Finance and Regional Economics (Bern) • The Economics of Migration Junior Webinar • IdEP Brown Bag Seminar.

## **Health and labor market consequences of low-value care: The role of practice style**

with Pieter Bakx, Fabrizio Mazzonna

*available upon request*

Abstract: We evaluate the labor market and health consequences of benzodiazepine treatment after the loss of a close relative, by comparing patients exposed to general practitioners with different prescribing style. We link Dutch general practitioners' records to Dutch administrative data on labor market and health insurance expenditure, and identify about 120,000 individuals who lose a close relative between 2010-2019. Using a dynamic difference-in-differences model, we find that individuals exposed to general practitioners with a higher propensity to prescribe benzodiazepines are more often treated with benzodiazepines after the death of a close relative. Furthermore, they more often receive out-of-guidelines prescriptions for benzodiazepine. These patients also show larger increases in health care expenditure, and after 3-4 years, worse labor market trajectories and increasing probability of receiving disability benefits.

Presented at: European Health Economic Association (EuHEA) PhD Conference (Galway) • CEPRA/NBER Workshop on Aging and Health (Lugano) • CBS Department seminar (Copenhagen) • Research seminar (Tokyo) • CEPR-TSE Health Economics Conference (Toulouse) • Essen Health Conference (Essen) • IdEP Brown Bag Seminar (Lugano).

## **Trust Issues: How Unveiling Organized Crime Infiltration in Politics Increases Abstention**

with Andrea Ghisletta

Abstract: This paper investigates how the unveiling of infiltration by the organized crime in Italian municipalities influences voter participation. We claim that the public disclosure of the infiltration represents an informational shock for the local voters, affecting their level of trust in political institutions and – in turn – their level of political participation. We leverage the timing of dismissal of the infiltrated city councils in an event-study design and estimate its effect on turnout in elections at national and regional level. We find that, on average, turnout drops by about 2 percentage points in municipalities where the city council was dismissed for infiltrations by the organized crime. This effect is registered in following 12 months from the dissolution and persists up to 4 years. The effects are intensified in more recent years, reflecting a higher salience of mafia crimes following early 2000s. We finally document relevant spillover of the policy in neighboring municipalities, that display similar reductions in voter's turnout. In sum, our findings suggest that the public disclosure of anti-mafia interventions, regardless of the evident benefits, also carry unintended consequences for political engagement. The public revelation of the depth of organized crime's infiltration into local governance likely leads to widespread disillusionment, reducing voter participation.

Presented at: IdEP Brown Bag Seminar (Lugano).

## **Work in progress**

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### **Cross-Border Commuting and Firm Adaptation: The Impact in the Origin Country**

### **Depression's spillovers: evidence from Partners**

### **The labour market effects of religion: Evidence from Radio Maria**

with Riccardo Di Cato

### **The Capitalization of Natural Hazards in the Real Estate Market: Public or Private Insurances?**

with Mario Jametti

## Conferences

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- 2024 The Economics of Migration, Junior Webinar • InSight Meeting of the Institute of Public Health, Lugano (CH) • IdEP Brown Bag Seminar, Lugano (CH)
- 2023 17th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Toronto (CAN) • 12th European Meeting of the Urban Economic Association, Bocconi University, Milan (IT) • CEPRA/NBER Workshop on Aging and Health, Lugano (CH) • NetCIEEx Workshop by the Competence Centre on Microeconomic Evaluation (CC-ME), Ispra (IT) • Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics, Neuchâtel (CH) • IdEP Brown Bag Seminar, Lugano (CH) • 6th Swiss Conference of the Swiss Society of Health Economics, Bern (CH)
- 2022 European Health Economic Association (EuHEA) PhD Conference, Galway (IRL) • Swiss Workshop on Local Public Finance and Regional Economics, Bern (CH) • IdEP Brown Bag Seminar (CH)

## Teaching experience

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- 2021- Microeconomics (TA), Bachelor, Università della Svizzera italiana.  
*Student Evaluation* available
- 2023- Macroeconomics (TA), Bachelor, Università della Svizzera italiana.  
*Student Evaluation* ongoing
- 2021- Textual Analysis and Spatial Data for Economists (TA), Master, Università della Svizzera italiana.  
*Student Evaluation* available

## Professional experience

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- 2019 Research Assistant, Institute of Economic Policy, Università della Svizzera italiana.

## Additional courses

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- 2024 Machine Learning in Health Economics, Helmut Farbmacher, TUM School of Management.
- 2024 Dynamic Economics: Solving and Estimating Dynamic Models, Mario Padula, Università Ca' Foscari.
- 2024 Health Economics and Policy, Andrew Street, London School of Economics, Fabrizio Mazzonna, Università della Svizzera italiana.
- 2023 Mini-Course on Machine Learning, Max Kasy, Oxford University.
- 2022 Reading group on recent advances in causal inference, Fabrizio Mazzonna, Università della Svizzera italiana.
- 2020 Advanced Convex Optimization Methods with Python, Digitise Optimize and Visualize Summer School, Fabio Trojani, Università della Svizzera italiana.
- 2020 Python Bootcamp, Digitise Optimize and Visualize Summer School, Peter Gruber, Università della Svizzera italiana.

## IT & Language Skills

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**Languages:** Italian (native), English (C1), Spanish (B1)

**Softwares:** MS Office, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

**Programming:** *Advanced:* Stata, R; *Intermediate:* Python, Matlab, SQL; *Basic:* Julia

## References

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**Fabrizio Mazzonna** - Università della Svizzera italiana (Lugano)

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**Raphaël Parchet** - Università della Svizzera italiana (Lugano)

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