

Mattia Albertini

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Current Position

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

Education

- 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

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Health.

Working Papers

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 the housing markets in a transnational economy. We leverage the 2015 Swiss franc appreciation as a natural experiment, which affected the Swiss wages relative to those of 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. The results indicate that, after the currency shock, Swiss residents with an European nationality relocated to neighboring countries but maintained employment in Switzerland, turning into cross-border workers. As a result, housing prices in Swiss border areas dropped, while increased in adjacent Italian 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, and display a distance gradient. The evidence suggests that shocks in international wages affect migration and housing demand in strategic locations, which in turn affects housing affordability for local residents. Stricter cross-border work regulations could encourage long-term migration, and mitigate housing markets distortions.

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 investigate the health and labor market consequences of primary care variation in benzodiazepine prescriptions, a common type of low-value care. Linking Dutch general practitioners' records to administrative data, we construct an exogenous measure of prescribing behavior that exploits institutional constraints limiting patient choice. Using the loss of a close relative as a common mental health shock and a dynamic difference-in-differences approach, we find that patients treated by high-prescribing GPs are more likely to receive out-of-guidelines benzodiazepine prescriptions, become long-term users, and are less likely to access specialized mental health care. These patients also experience worse labor market outcomes, including increased short-term reliance on unemployment benefits and substantial long-term declines in earnings, primarily driven by reduced wages.

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 turnout. In sum, our findings suggest that the public disclosure of anti-mafia interventions, despite the benefits documented in the literature, also carry unintended consequences for political engagement.

Presented at: IdEP Brown Bag Seminar (Lugano).

Work in progress

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

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

Depression's spillovers: evidence from Partners

Conferences

- 2025 IdEP Brown Bag Seminar, Lugano (CH)
- 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

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

Professional experience

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

Additional courses

- 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

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

Softwares: MS Office, L^AT_EX

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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