

# NICOLE STOELINGA

European University Institute, Department of Economics, Via delle Fontanelle 18, 50014 Fiesole, Italy  
www.nicolestoelinga.com   o   nicole.stoelinga@eui.eu   o   +31 (0)6 30458528

---

Placement director:	Placement Administrative Officer:
David K. Levine	Martina Zucca
david.levine@eui.eu	martina.zucca@eui.eu
+39 055 4685 913	+39 055 4685 982

## Research interests

---

Applied microeconomics, development economics, international economics, political economy

## References

---

David Levine	Thomas Crossley	Saumitra Jha
European University Institute	European University Institute	Stanford GSB
Via delle Fontanelle 18	Via delle Fontanelle 18	655 Knight Way
50014 Fiesole, Italy	50014 Fiesole, Italy	Stanford, CA 94305, USA
david.levine@eui.eu	thomas.crossley@eui.eu	saumitra@stanford.edu

## Education

---

<b>European University Institute</b>	2017 - PRESENT
Ph.D. in Economics	
Expected completion date: Spring 2023	
<b>Stanford University</b>	2022
Visiting scholar	
<b>European University Institute</b>	2017 - 2018
M.Res. in Economics	
<b>VU University</b>	2015 - 2016
M.Sc. in Economics	
Specialization: International and macroeconomic policy	
<b>University of Amsterdam</b>	2009 - 2012
B.Sc. in Communication Science	

## Additional coursework & short visits

---

<b>University of Lausanne</b>	2021
Short visit to Prof. Dominic Rohner	
<b>Max Planck Institute</b>	2021
Summer School on the Political Economy of Conflict and Redistribution	
<b>European University Institute</b>	2019
Introduction to Teaching in Higher Education	
<b>Leidse Onderwijs Instellingen</b>	2016 - 2017
Mathematics and Statistics	
<b>Stanford University</b>	2014
Intensive program, International Management	

## Teaching experience

---

<b>New York University</b>	2019 - 2020
International Economics, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Giampiero Gallo	

## Research and professional experience

---

<b>Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies</b>	2020
Academic Assistant for David Levine	
<b>Dutch Central Bank</b>	2017
Research Assistant for Iman van Lelyveld	
<b>VU University</b>	2016 - 2017
Junior Researcher, Sociology department	
<b>VU University</b>	2016
Research Assistant for Steven Poelhekke, Economics department	
<b>LeasePlan Corporation</b>	2012 - 2015
Various corporate communication roles	

## Conference and seminar presentations

---

Stanford University Development Economics Seminar, Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA)	2022
University of Lausanne Public Economics and Policy Seminar, International Economics, Workshop of the Households in Conflict Network on Conflict, Migration, and Displacement, 3rd International Conference on Globalization and Development, XXIII Applied Economics Meeting (ALdE), Canadian Economic Association Conference, 69th Annual Meeting of the French Economic Association, 91st International Atlantic Economic Conference	2021
EUI Microeconometrics Working Group	2020

## Academic service

---

**Referee:** European Economic Review

## Grants and scholarships

---

Department Visiting Grant (EUI)	2021
Early Stage Research Grant (EUI)	2020
Ph.D. Completion Grant (EUI)	2020
Ph.D. Scholarship (Nuffic)	2017 - 2020

## Other

---

**Software:** R, Stata, MATLAB, QGis, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

**Languages:** Dutch (native), English (fluent), German (Advanced), Italian (basic), French (basic)

## Job market paper

---

### **Education during conflict: the effect of territorial occupation by insurgents on schooling**

This paper studies the short and long-run effect of Islamic insurgents' occupation on educational outcomes, by exploiting the temporary occupation of territory in North East Nigeria by Boko Haram. Comparing children exposed to the occupation and insurgency with children solely affected by the insurgency, the results show that children exposed to Boko Haram's occupation accumulate 0.76 fewer years of education during, and are 29% less likely to return to school after, the occupation. Educational outcomes of Muslim children, who share a social identity with Boko Haram, decrease during the occupation, and this effect persists after the occupation has ended. Those experiencing social pressure to adhere to Boko Haram's anti-educational rule suffer similar initial set-backs, but return to school later. Schooling outcomes of children that experienced school-targeted violence decrease in the short and long-run. Well-documented mechanisms linking exposure to violence and the demand and supply of education during conflict do not explain these results.

## Publications

---

### **Estimating the Alliance Effect: a Synthetic Control Approach** *Defence Studies*, 2022.

In a time of rising threat, recurring discussions about burden sharing within NATO and almost twenty years after the start of the 'war on terrorism', I explore a novel idea in the field of alliance and defense spending: the effect of alliance-membership on defense spending in response to a threat. This paper focuses on two types of states (small and large) and how alliance membership shapes their response to threat. Using the synthetic control method, I find that both types of states have stronger (positive) response to threat as NATO members, compared to if they would not have been part of the alliance.

## Working papers

---

### **The Olympic effect: fact or fiction?** (with Mustafa Kaba). *Under review*.

Hosting the Olympic Games implies tremendous costs and uncertain profits, yet countries historically have been striving to host this mega event and bidding decisively. More recently though, countries are withdrawing their bids from the election procedure. This puzzling historical interest in hosting the games and the recent trend of withdrawals cast doubt on the existence of the so-called Olympic effect: the positive impact of the Olympics on international trade. In this paper, we estimate the Olympic effect on long-term exports using the synthetic control method. We show that the Olympic effect is more pronounced for countries that stand to gain from an international publicity. The results also present the novel insight that a substantial positive Olympic effect is only associated with earlier games.

### **Cultivation and competition in Colombia: disentangling the effects of coca price changes on violence.** *Under review. This research was supported by an Early Stage Research Grant.*

Evidence indicates that the presence of coca in Colombian municipalities increases violence, while changes to the price of coca products can have both negative and positive effects on conflict. Using novel data on local prices of coca products, production and supply chains, I disentangle returns to employment in the agricultural and in the criminal sector and examine the effects of changes to these returns. I find suggestive evidence that higher income for cultivators leads to higher school attendance rates; but increasing returns in the criminal sector leads to school dropout rates, more violence, and increased competition among armed groups.

## Work in progress

---

### **Reputation signalling and contract-intensive industries** (with Mustafa Kaba)

### **Religious violence and the spread of ideology**

### **It was better back in my day: heterogeneity in support for democracy** (with Tuuli Tähtinen)

### **Shocks to international food prices: food security in sub-Saharan Africa**