

ZACHARY PORRECA

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Bocconi University

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (Assegno di Ricerca)

Spring 2023-present

Affiliation: Researcher at CLEAN Research Unit

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Centro Ricerche Economiche Nord Sud (CRENoS),
Associated Researcher

Spring 2025-present

International Center for Law & Economics (ICLE),
Affiliated Researcher

Fall 2024-present

Social Sciences Research Council (SSRC),
SSRC-Arnold Ventures Criminal Justice Innovation Fellow

Fall 2024-present

Global Labor Organization (GLO), Fellow

Spring 2024-present

Institute for European Policymaking (IEP@BU), Fellow

Fall 2023-present

EDUCATION

West Virginia University

Doctor of Philosophy, Economics

Spring 2023

Fields: (Public and Urban/Regional Economics)

Master of Arts, Economics

Summer 2022

Bloomsburg University

Bachelor of Arts, Economics

Spring 2020

PUBLICATIONS

“Identifying the General Equilibrium Effects of Narcotics Enforcement”

(*Forthcoming at Journal of Urban Economics*)

“Economics of Criminal Governance”

with Henry Thompson (in *Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics*, 2024)

“The Right to Counsel: Criminal Prosecution in 19th Century London”

with Bryan McCannon (*Economica*, 2024)

“Bride Kidnapping and Informal Governance Institutions”

(*Contemporary Economic Policy*, 2024)

“Gentrification, Gun Violence, and Drug Markets”

(*Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2023)

“Synthetic Difference-In-Differences Estimation With Staggered Treatment Timing”

(*Economics Letters*, 2022)

“Assessing Ocean Temperature’s Role in Fishery Production”

(Journal of Bioeconomics, 2021)

WORKING PAPERS

“Murder in the Marketplace”

(with V. Biagi and A. Cardazzi; BAFFI CAREFIN Centre Research Paper No. 239)

Revisions requested at Public Choice

“The Departed: Italian Migration and the American Mafia”

(with M. Anelli and P. Pinotti; CESifo Working Paper No. 12364, CEPR Discussion Paper No. DP20972; Rockwool Foundation Berlin Discussion Paper No. 165/25)

OTHER WRITING

“Se il Fentanyl arriva in Europa” *(written in Italian)*

(Eco Rivista, 2024)

“Precision policing: The Kensington Initiative’s targeted approach to combating the opioid epidemic”

(Commentary for the Niskanen Center, 2024)

“Policy Brief - Inelastic Demand, Rational Consumers, and Drug Policy”

(IEP@BU Policy Brief, 2024)

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

- 2026** American Economic Association/ Allied Social Science Association
- 2025** Alpine Population Conference; Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars; IBEO: Urban and Regional Economics; Dondena-Cornell Gathering
- 2024** Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management; Southern Economic Association; IBEO: Urban and Regional Economics; Workshop on the Econ of Crime for Junior Scholars; Workshop on the Economics of Organized Crime; Bocconi Summer Crime Workshop; Texas Economics of Crime Workshop; Bocconi Crime Before Christmas Workshop
- 2023** Brucchi Luchino Workshop; Southern Economic Association; Bocconi University Summer Crime Workshop; Society of Labor Economists
- 2022** Bocconi University Crime Before Christmas Workshop; Southern Economic Association; Ethics, Law, and Social Science of Self-Defense and Firearms Workshop at Saint Anselm College; Slovak Economic Association; Eastern Economic Association; Institute for Humane Studies GradCon; Association of Private Enterprise Education; Texas Economics of Crime Workshop
- 2021** 24Hr Conference on Global Organized Crime; North American Association of Fisheries Economists

INVITED SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

2026	University of Kentucky	
2025	City, University of London; University of Southampton; Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; DataLab of the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office; Virtual Crime Economics Seminar Series (ViCE); University of Pavia	
2024	Brown University; Applied Young Economists Webinar; Virtual Crime Economics Seminar Series (ViCE); University of Bari Aldo Moro; University of Bolzano; Young Irish Economists Seminar Series (Trinity College); University of Sassari;	
2023	Johannes Kepler University Linz; Masaryk University	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

West Virginia University

ECON 201: Introductory Microeconomics (Instructor of Record/ Lecturer, 45 hours, Online and asynchronous)	Spring 2023
ECON 225- Elementary Business and Economics Statistics (Instructor of Record/ Lecturer, 45 hours)	Fall 2022
Undergraduate Research Mentor Advancing Diversity in Geriatric Research program	Summer 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE- GUEST LECTURES

Brown University

Narcotics Enforcement in the Era of the Opiate Epidemic (Undergraduate level)	Fall 2024
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Bocconi University

Economics of Crime- Drug Market Disruptions (Masters level)	Spring 2024
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University of Sassari

Practical Guide to Difference-in-Differences Designs (Masters level)	Spring 2024
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Masaryk University

Labor Economics- Wage Distribution (Undergraduate level)	Spring 2023
Staggered Difference-in-Differences Designs (Masters level)	Spring 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE- WORKSHOP

Center for Free Enterprise Summer Empirical Workshop

Text Analysis and Data Basics in R	Summer 2022
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University of Sassari and University of Cagliari

Text Analysis with Economic Applications Workshop	Spring 2022
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HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Cosmos x IHS AI-Accelerated Scholarship Grant (2025)	\$4,000
Arnold Ventures Planning Grant (2025)	\$98,038; project on drug market interventions
Arnold Ventures Grant (2024)	\$24,670; For organizing a small workshop
Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2024)	Short Term Residency Grant, \$3600
Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2024)	Hayek Fund, \$1000
ICLE Law & Economics Fellow (2024)	\$2500
Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2023)	Hayek Fund, \$750
Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2023)	Summer Research Fellowship, \$6000
Mercatus Center Fellowship (2022)	Oskar Morgenstern Fellow, \$2500
Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2022)	Publication Accelerator Grant, \$5000
APEE Young Scholars Program (2022)	
Center for Free Enterprise Grant (2021)	\$800
Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2021)	Daniel Searle Fellow, \$2500
Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship (2020)	\$8500
Adam Smith Award in Economics (2020)	Bloomsburg University award
Margaret Minner Memorial Scholarship (2019)	

INVITED EVENTS AS A PARTICIPANT

Arnold Ventures Bridge Event: Fentanyl Epidemic	Fall 2025
Arnold Ventures Bridge Event: Capacity Crisis in Corrections	Spring 2025
Partnering to Transform Corrections Culture in North Dakota	Summer 2024
Dondenna- Cornell Gathering	Summer 2024
Institute for Humane Studies: Economic and Human Costs of Incarceration Research Discussion	Spring 2024
Institute for Humane Studies: Policing Reform Research Discussion	Fall 2023
University of Michigan CJARS Training Workshop	Fall 2023
International Center for Law and Economics: Big Ideas Workshop on the Economics of Information	Fall 2023
Institute for Humane Studies Summer Seminar Series	Summer 2022
American Institute for Economic Research <i>Harwood Graduate Colloquium</i>	Spring 2022

VISITING PERIODS

City University, London in London, UK (Spring 2025); **Brown University** PPE Center in Providence, Rhode Island, USA (Fall 2024); **University of Sassari** in Sardegna, Italy (Spring 2024); **Masaryk University** in Brno, Czech Republic (Spring 2023)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal Referee	<i>American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; Applied Economics; Advances in Applied Sociology; Contemporary Economic Policy; Crime & Delinquency; Economic Inquiry; Explorations in Economic History; Journal of Policy Analysis and Management; Journal of Quantitative Criminology; Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy; Journal of Place Management and Development; Management Science; Marine Resource Economics; Oxford Economic Papers; Public Choice; Southern Economic Journal; Urban Studies</i>
R Package Contributor	In <code>bacondecomp</code> package, implementation of <code>fixest::feols</code> processes
R Package Author	“ <code>staggeredSynthDiD</code> ”, Staggered treatment timing for Synthetic DiD; “ <code>lpdid</code> ”, Local Projections DiD Estimator, w/ Alex Cardazzi
Conference Session Organizer	Southern Economic Association Conference 2024 (4 sessions)
Workshop Organizer	Workshop on the Impacts of the Opiate Epidemic (Fall 2024)

MEMBERSHIPS (PAST AND PRESENT)

American Economic Association, Eastern Economic Association, Association of Private Enterprise Education, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, North American Association of Fisheries Economists, Southern Economics Association, Western Economics Association,

TECHNICAL SKILLS

R, Julia, \LaTeX , Textual Analysis, Spatial Analysis, Causal Inference, High Performance Computing

REFERENCES

Dr. Paolo Pinotti	Bocconi University	paolo.pinotti@unibocconi.it
Dr. Bryan McCannon	Illinois Wesleyan University	bmccanno@iwu.edu
Dr. Jennifer Doleac	Arnold Ventures	jdoleac@arnoldventures.org
Dr. Analisa Packham	Vanderbilt University	analisa.packham@vanderbilt.edu
Dr. Gianmarco Daniele	Bocconi University	gianmarco.daniele@unibocconi.it
Dr. Massimo Anelli	Bocconi University	massimo.anelli@unibocconi.it

LANGUAGES

English (native); Italian (intermediate; *Certificazione PLIDA CEFRL B1*)