

# ZACHARY PORRECA

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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### Bocconi University

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (Assegno di Ricerca)

Spring 2023-present

**Affiliation:** Researcher at CLEAN Research Unit

## OTHER AFFILIATIONS

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**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

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### 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

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### “Identifying the General Equilibrium Effects of Narcotics Enforcement”

(*Journal of Urban Economics*, 2026)

### “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**

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#### **“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**

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#### **“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)**

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- 2026** American Economic Association/ Allied Social Science Association; Texas Economics of Crime Workshop
- 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)**

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- 2026** University of Kentucky; Konkuk University  
**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**

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### **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**

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### **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**

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### **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

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<b>Arnold Ventures Planning Grant (2026)</b>	\$99,575 (as co-PI)
<b>Cosmos x IHS AI-Accelerated Scholarship Grant (2025)</b>	\$4,000
<b>Arnold Ventures Planning Grant (2025)</b>	\$98,038 (as PI)
<b>Arnold Ventures Grant (2024)</b>	\$24,670; For organizing a small workshop
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2024)</b>	Short Term Residency Grant, \$3600
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2024)</b>	Hayek Fund, \$1000
<b>ICLE Law &amp; Economics Fellow (2024)</b>	\$2500
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Grant (2023)</b>	Hayek Fund, \$750
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2023)</b>	Summer Research Fellowship, \$6000
<b>Mercatus Center Fellowship (2022)</b>	Oskar Morgenstern Fellow, \$2500
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2022)</b>	Publication Accelerator Grant, \$5000
<b>APEE Young Scholars Program (2022)</b>	
<b>Center for Free Enterprise Grant (2021)</b>	\$800
<b>Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (2021)</b>	Daniel Searle Fellow, \$2500
<b>Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship (2020)</b>	\$8500
<b>Adam Smith Award in Economics (2020)</b>	Bloomsburg University award
<b>Margaret Minner Memorial Scholarship (2019)</b>	

## INVITED EVENTS AS A PARTICIPANT

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

## VISITING PERIODS

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**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

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<b>Journal Referee</b>	<i>American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; Applied Economics; Advances in Applied Sociology; Contemporary Economic Policy; Crime &amp; 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>
<b>R Package Contributor</b>	In bacondecomp package, implementation of fixest::feols processes
<b>R Package Author</b>	“staggeredSynthDid”, Staggered treatment timing for Synthetic DiD; “lpdid”, Local Projections DiD Estimator, w/ Alex Cardazzi
<b>Conference Session Organizer</b>	Southern Economic Association Conference 2024 (4 sessions)
<b>Workshop Organizer</b>	Workshop on the Impacts of the Opiate Epidemic (Fall 2024)

## MEMBERSHIPS (PAST AND PRESENT)

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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

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R, Julia, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Textual Analysis, Spatial Analysis, Causal Inference, High Performance Computing

## REFERENCES

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

## LANGUAGES

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