

ELIANA LA FERRARA

Università Bocconi, IGIER
Via Roentgen 1
20136 Milano, Italy
eliana.laferrara@unibocconi.it

CURRENT AND PAST POSITIONS

Bocconi University, Department of Economics, current
- Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi Chair in Development Economics
- Dean for Research
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Economics, 2012-2013
Visiting Professor

EDUCATION

Harvard University, *Ph.D. in Economics*, Cambridge, MA. June 1999
Thesis: The economics of participation
Bocconi University, *Dottorato in Economia Politica*, Milan, Italy. July 1997
Thesis: Financial constraints in Sub-Saharan Africa
Bocconi University, *Laurea in Discipline Economiche e Sociali*, Milan, Italy. *Cum laude* and
recommendation for publication. March 1993
Thesis: The political economy of trade liberalization

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics
Political economics
Public economics

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in international journals

“Market-based Lobbying: Evidence from Advertising Spending in Italy” (with S. DellaVigna, R. Durante and B. Knight), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, forthcoming.
“A Test of Racial Bias in Capital Sentencing” (with A. Alesina), *American Economic Review*, 104(11), 3397-3433, 2014 (lead article).
“Soap Operas and Fertility: Evidence from Brazil” (with A. Chong and S. Duryea), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 4(4), 1-31, 2012 (lead article).
“Self-Help Groups and Mutual Assistance: Evidence from Urban Kenya” (with M. Fafchamps), *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 60(4), 707-733, 2012.
“A Generalized Index of Fractionalization” (with W. Bossert and C. D’Ambrosio), *Economica*, 78(312), 723-750, 2011.
“Detecting Illegal Arms Trade” (with S. DellaVigna), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2(4), 26-57, 2010.
“The Economic Effects of Violent Conflict: Evidence from Asset Markets Reactions” (with M. Guidolin), *Journal of Peace Research*, 47(6), 671-84, 2010.
“Television and Divorce: Evidence from Brazilian Novelas”, (with A. Chong), *Journal of the European Economic Association Papers & Proceedings*, 7(2-3), 458-468, 2009.
“Diamonds Are Forever, Wars Are Not. Is Conflict Bad for Private Firms?”, (with M. Guidolin), *American Economic Review*, 97(5), 1978-93, 2007.
“Descent Rules and Strategic Transfers. Evidence from Matrilineal Groups in Ghana”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 83(2), 280-301, 2007.

- “Ethnic Diversity and Economic Performance” (with A. Alesina), *Journal of Economic Literature*, 43(3), 762-800, 2005.
- “Preferences for Redistribution in the Land of Opportunities” (with A. Alesina), *Journal of Public Economics*, 89 (5-6), 897-931, 2005.
- “Kin Groups and Reciprocity: A Model of Credit Transactions in Ghana”, *American Economic Review*, 93(5), 1730-1751, 2003.
- “Self-Help Groups and Income Generation in the Informal Settlements of Nairobi”, *Journal of African Economies*, 11(1), 61-89, 2002.
- “Inequality and Group Participation: Theory and Evidence from Rural Tanzania”, *Journal of Public Economics*, 85(2), 235-273, 2002.
- “Who Trusts Others?”, (with A. Alesina), *Journal of Public Economics*, 85(2), 207-234, 2002.
- “Political Competition in Weak States” (with R.H. Bates), *Economics and Politics*, 13(2), 159-84, 2001.
- “Participation in Heterogeneous Communities” (with A. Alesina), *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 115, 847-904, 2000.
- “A Political Equilibrium Approach to Trade Liberalization in Developing Countries”, *Journal of International Trade and Economic Development*, 5(3), 287-318, 1996.

Articles in Italian journals

- “L’economia dei conflitti nei paesi in via di sviluppo”, *Rivista Italiana degli Economisti*, 12(3), 39-53, 2007.
- “Public Capital and Economic Performance: Evidence from Italy” (with F. Bonaglia and M. Marcellino), *Giornale degli Economisti e Annali di Economia*, 60(2), 221-44, 2000.

Reviews and Chapters in books

- “Social and Economic Impacts of the Media” (with S. DellaVigna), in S. Anderson, D. Stromberg and J. Walfogel (eds.), *Handbook of Media Economics*, Elsevier, forthcoming.
- “Financial markets and conflict in the developing world”, in T. Besley and R. Jayaraman (eds.), *Institutional Microeconomics of Development*, MIT Press, 2010, ch. 3.
- “Family and kinship ties in development: An economist’s perspective”, in J.-P. Platteau (ed.), *Culture, Institutions and Development*, Routledge, 2010, ch. 5.
- “TFP, Costs, and Infrastructure: An Equivocal Relationship” (with M. Marcellino), in M. Artis, A. Banerjee and M. Marcellino (eds.), *The Central and Eastern European Countries and the European Union*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- “Solidarity in Heterogeneous Communities”, in Ph. Van Parijs (ed.), *Cultural Diversity versus Economic Solidarity*, Bruxelles: De Boeck, 2004.
- Book Review of “Income Distribution and High Quality Growth” (edited by V. Tanzi and K. Chu), *The Economic Journal*, 110(461), F234-6, 2000.
- “Exchange Allocation Mechanism Reform” (with G. Castillo and J. Nash), in J. Nash and F. Foroutan (eds), *Trade Policy and Exchange Rate Reform in Sub-Saharan Africa*, ch.4, National Centre for Development Studies, The Australian National University, 1997.
- “Public Debt”, in R.E. Hall e J.B. Taylor, *Macroeconomics*, Milan: Hoepli, ch.14, 1995

Books

- Social norms, economic development and nutrition* (with A. Milazzo), Egea publishing, 2015.

Working Papers

- “Customary Norms, Inheritance and Human Capital. Evidence from a Reform of the Matrilineal System in Ghana” (with A. Milazzo), CEPR Discussion Paper 10159, 2014.
- “Interaction, Prejudice and Performance. Evidence from Randomly Assigned Peers in South Africa” (with J. Burns and L. Corno), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2013.
- “Conflict, Climate and Cells: A Disaggregated Analysis” (with M. Harari), CEPR Discussion Paper 9277, 2013.

- “Learning about the Enforcement of Conditional Welfare Programs Evidence from Brazil” (with F. Brollo and K. Kaufmann), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2011.
- “Social links and group lending: Evidence from Chiapas” (with M. Bjorkman and M. Schuster), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2011.
- “Factors of vulnerability to human trafficking and prospects for reintegration of former victims. Evidence from the Philippines” (with E. Artadi and M. Bjorkman), IGER Working Paper 374, 2010.
- “Racial Segregation and Public School Expenditure”, (with A. Mele), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2009.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Bocconi University, Nov. 2014-Nov. 2016

Vice-rector for Research

Bocconi University, Department of Economics, 1998-present

Taught courses in: Microeconomics (undergraduate), Development Economics (undergraduate), Development economics (graduate), Political Economics (graduate)

MIT, Department of Economics, 2012-13

Visiting Professor, taught Political Economics (graduate) and Development Economics (undergraduate)

University of Oslo, Department of Economics and ESOP, July 2012 and Sept. 2013

Visiting Professor, taught Development Economics and Political Economics (graduate)

Bocconi University, Department of Economics, 2006-2008

Director of Undergraduate Studies, programme in Economics and Social Sciences (CLES)

Bocconi University, Department of Economics, 2003-2006

Deputy-Director of the Ph.D. programme in Economics

University of Namur, Department of Economics, Jan-Feb 2006

Visiting Professor, taught “Economie de la population et politiques agricoles”

Harvard University, Department of Economics, 1997/98

Teaching Fellow in Social Analysis 10 (undergraduate)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND AFFILIATIONS

Fellow, Innocenzo Gasparini Institute for Economic Research (IGIER), current.

Fellow and Board Member, Bureau for Research in Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), current.

Fellow, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), current.

Member, European Development Research Network (EUDN), current.

Executive Committee Member, International Economic Association (IEA), current.

Editorial Board of: Italian Economic Journal, Journal of African Economies, The World Bank Economic Review, World Development

Refereed articles for: American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Political Science Review, B.E. Journals, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Journal, Economics Letters, European Economic Review, Games and Economic Behavior, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Law Economics and Organization, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, Science.

International Growth Centre, 2008-present

Research Program Co-Director, “Governance, Accountability and Political Economy”

International Economic Association, 2011-present.

Executive Committee Member

Econometric Society, 2014

Member of the Program Committee for the Winter Meetings of the Econometric Society
European Research Council, 2009-2010
Member of the SH1 Evaluation Panel for the ERC Starting Grants
Inter American Development Bank, 2005-06
External Coordinator of the Research Project “Does Society Win or Lose as a Result of Privatization? Provision of Public Services and Welfare of the Poor”
Econometric Society, 2005
Member of the Program Committee for the 9th World Congress of the Econometric Society
Global Development Network, 2004
Member of the Selection Committee for the Global Development Awards 2004
The World Bank, Washington, D.C., Jul.-Sept. 1996
Summer Intern. PRD Macroeconomics and Growth Division.
Hoeppli, Milan, Italy, Sept.1993-Jul.1994
Editor of the 2nd Italian edition of Hall-Taylor, *Macroeconomics*
The World Bank, Washington, D.C., Jul.-Sept. 1993
Consultant. Trade Policy Division.
The World Bank, Washington, D.C., Oct.-Nov. 1992
Visiting researcher. Development Policy Group.

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

FBBVA Lecture, Madrid, May 2015
JEEA-FBBVA Lecture at the ASSA Meetings 2015, Boston
European Commission FP7 Initial Training Network grant for “Policy Design and Evaluation Research. (PODER)”, Network Coordinator, 2013-2017
European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant for “Conflict, Identity and Markets”, Principal Investigator, 2008-2013
European Commission FP7 Initial Training Network grant for “Actors, Markets, and Institutions in Developing Countries: A micro-empirical approach. (AMID)”, Network Coordinator, 2008-2012
PRIN Grant for “The effects of poverty and information on human trafficking in developing countries”, 2008-2010.
COFIN Project “Institutions, social norms and income distribution in developing countries,” Italian Ministry of Education, 2004
European Commission FP6 grant for Specific Targeted Research or Innovation Project “Polarization and Conflict”, 2003
Prize “Indennità di eccellenza nella ricerca”, Bocconi University, 2001, 2004, 2012
Prize “Incentives to research”, Bocconi University, 2000
Harvard-MIT Research Training Group in Positive Political Economy Scholarship, 1996
Harvard University Scholarship, 1995 and 1997
D. Menichella Scholarship, Bank of Italy, 1994
I. Gasparini Award, Bocconi University, 1990

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES in the last three years

EDePo Conference on Productivity in Developing Countries (keynote), London, July 2015
Political Economy of Conflict Conference, Berlin, June 2015
Warwick-Princeton Political Economy Conference, Venice, March 2015
Political Economy of Conflicts and Development, Villars, January 2015
CEPR Public Economics Annual Symposium, Warwick, December 2014
Essex Development Workshop, Essex, June 2014
World Congress of the International Economic Association, Amman, June 2014
Workshop on Political Economy of Development and Conflict, UPF, May 2014
Conference on Social Networks and Matching Processes, Oxford, March 2014
CAGE Conference on Human Capital and Productivity, Warwick, September 2013
SITE Conference on Governance and Development, Stanford, June 2013
NBER Political Economy Program Meeting, Cambridge MA, April 2013

WGAPE Conference, MIT, November 2012
Conference on Climate and the Economy, IIES Stockholm, September 2012
Nemmers Conference, Northwestern University, May 2012
Conference on Social Economics, MOVE Barcelona, April 2012

INVITED SEMINARS in the last three years

PUC, Rio de Janeiro, May 2015
Oxford University, May 2015
Stanford GSB, March 2015
Stockholm University, March 2015
IRVAPP, July 2014
Universidade Nova de Lisboa, April 2014
INSEAD, March 2014
Sciences Po, March 2014
University of Maryland, April 2013
Boston University, March 2013
Tufts, March 2013
Inter-American Development Bank, February 2013
The World Bank, February 2013
Harvard (political economy), February 2013
Harvard-MIT (development), December 2012
University of Michigan, November 2012
University of Connecticut, September 2012
Toulouse School of Economics, May 2012
Paris School of Economics, May 2012
UCL/LSE, February 2012
Sciences Po, February 2012

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Abeokuta, Nigeria, 2014. Survey design and fieldwork on the impact of educational entertainment.

Kigali, Rwanda, 2010-2011. Survey design and fieldwork on the impact of the Land Tenure Regularization program.

Cebu, Philippines, Jan. 2009-September 2010. Survey design and fieldwork on former victims of human trafficking.

Nairobi, Kenya, Jul.-Aug. 1999. Survey design and fieldwork on self-help groups and income generation in informal settlements.

Centre for Social Studies, Calcutta, India, and **Centre for Women's Development Studies**, New Delhi, India, Jul.-Aug. 1995
Research on the topic: The Impact of Structural Adjustment in the 1990s on Women's Participation Rates

University and Development, Milan, Italy, 1991-92
Founding member. Organized seminars and conferences on the theme: Project Evaluation in Developing Countries.

Conservatorio "Dall'Abaco", Verona, Italy, Jun. 1991
Diploma in pianoforte

Lukanga, North Kivu, Zaire, Jul.-Aug. 1990
Voluntary worker for an Italian NGO

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Italian and English. Fair knowledge of French.