

# ELIANA LA FERRARA

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## CURRENT AND PAST POSITIONS

### **Bocconi University**

- Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi Chair in Development Economics, current
- Scientific Director, Laboratory for Effective Anti-Poverty Policies (LEAP), current
- Dean of Research, 2014-2016

### **London School of Economics**

BP Centennial Professor, 2017-18

### **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, 2012-2013

## EDUCATION

**Harvard University**, *Ph.D. in Economics*, Cambridge, MA. June 1999

**Bocconi University**, *Dottorato in Economia Politica*, Milan, Italy. July 1997

**Bocconi University**, *Laurea in Discipline Economiche e Sociali*, Milan, Italy. *Cum laude* and recommendation for publication. March 1993

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics

Political economics

Public economics

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Articles in international journals*

“Entertainment, Education and Attitudes towards Domestic Violence” (with A. Banerjee and V. Orozco), *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, forthcoming.

“The Political Economy of Program Enforcement: Evidence from Brazil” (with F. Brollo and K. Kaufmann), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, forthcoming.

“Conflict, Climate and Cells: A Disaggregated Analysis” (with M. Harari), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100(4), 594-608, 2018.

“Customary Norms, Inheritance and Human Capital. Evidence from a Reform of the Matrilineal System in Ghana” (with A. Milazzo), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 9(4), 166-85, 2017.

“Mass Media and Social Change: Can We Use Television to Fight Poverty?”, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14(4), 791-827, 2016.

“Market-based Lobbying: Evidence from Advertising Spending in Italy” (with S. DellaVigna, R. Durante and B. Knight), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 8(1), 224-56, 2016. Winner of 2017 Best Paper Prize for AEJ: Applied Economics.

“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

- “The Media as a Tool for Institutional Change in Development”, in J.-M. Baland, F. Bourguignon, J.-P. Platteau and T. Verdier (eds), *Handbook on Development and Institutions*, Princeton University Press, forthcoming.
- “Social and Economic Impacts of the Media” (with S. DellaVigna), in S. Anderson, D. Stromberg and J. Walfogel (eds.), *Handbook of Media Economics*, Elsevier, 2015.
- “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*

- “Interaction, Stereotypes and Performance. Evidence from South Africa” (with J. Burns and L. Corno), BREAD Working Paper 549, 2018.
- “Revealing Stereotypes: Evidence from Immigrants in Schools” (with A. Alesina, M. Carlana and P. Pinotti), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2018.
- “Understanding Human Trafficking Using Victim Level Data” (with E. Artadi, M. Bjorkman and M. Kuecken), BREAD Working Paper 545, 2018.
- “The Entertaining Way to Behavioral Change: Fighting HIV with MTV” (with A. Banerjee and V. Orozco), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2018.
- “Learning Spillovers in Conditional Welfare Programs: Evidence from Brazil” (with. F. Brollo and K. Kaufmann), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2018.
- “Goals and Gaps: Educational Careers of Immigrant Children” (with M. Carlana and P. Pinotti), CEPR Discussion Paper 12538, 2017.
- “News vs. Novelas: Can Entertainment Media Undermine Dictatorships?” (with A. Chong, C. Ferraz, F. Finan and L. Meloni), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2016.
- “Violence Against Women: A Cross-cultural Analysis for Africa” (with A. Alesina and B. Brioschi), NBER Working Paper 21901, 2016.
- “Social links and group lending: Evidence from Chiapas” (with M. Bjorkman and M. Schuster), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2011.
- “Racial Segregation and Public School Expenditure”, (with A. Mele), mimeo, Bocconi University, 2009.

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

### **Bocconi University**

Scientific Director of the Laboratory for Effective Anti-poverty Policies (LEAP), current  
Dean of Research, Nov. 2014-Oct. 2016

### **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**

**President**, Bureau for Research in Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), current.

**President**, European Economic Association, 2018  
**Fellow**, Econometric Society, current  
**Fellow**, International Economic Association, current.  
**Fellow**, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), current.  
**Fellow**, Innocenzo Gasparini Institute for Economic Research (IGIER), current.  
**Affiliate**, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), current.  
**Executive Committee Member**, European Development Research Network (EUDN), current.  
**Executive Committee Member**, International Economic Association (IEA), 2011-17.

**Editorial Board/Associate Editor** of: *Economica*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *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, State program

**Toulouse School of Economics**, 2018-present  
Scientific Council Member

**International Economic Association**, 2011-2016.  
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.

**Hoepli**, 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

Walras-Bowley lecture, Econometric Society, June 2019 (invited)  
Economic Journal Lecture, Royal Economic Society, April 2019 (invited)  
Fellow of Econometric Society, November 2017  
Atkinson Lecture, LSE, November 2017  
European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant for “Aspirations, Social Norms and Development (ASNODEV)”, Principal Investigator, 2016-2021  
Economic Development and Institutions (EDI) grant on “Oppressive Gender Norms”, Principal Investigator, 2017-2020

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 (CIDAM)”, 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**

Econometric Society North American Meetings, June 2019 (Walras-Bowley lecture)  
Royal Economic Society Congress, Warwick University, April 2019 (Economic Journal Lecture)  
ASSA Meetings, Atlanta, January 2019  
Y-RISE Inaugural Conference, December 2018  
European Economics Association Congress, Cologne, August 2018 (Presidential address)  
Econometric Society Africa Meeting, Cotonou, July 2018 (keynote)  
CIFAR Conference, LSE, June 2018  
35<sup>th</sup> BREAD Conference on Development Economics, Columbia University, May 2018  
GlaD Conference (keynote), University of Goettingen, May 2018  
Cultural Transmission and the Economics of Cultural Change, Paris School of Economics, March 2018  
Impact Evaluation and Development Policy, University of Manheim, November 2017  
CEPR/TCD Conference on Development Economics, Trinity College Dublin, September 2017  
SEEDC Conference (keynote), University of East Anglia, April 2017  
Royal Economic Society Conference, Bristol, April 2017  
Spanish Economic Association Conference (keynote), Bilbao, December 2016  
ESOP Conference, Oslo, October 2016  
European Economic Association, Geneva, August 2016  
CSEF-IGIER Conference, Capri, June 2016  
Networks Conference, Aix-Marseille, May 2016  
European Public Choice Society (keynote), Freiburg, March 2016  
UNICEF- University of Zurich conference on gender discrimination in developing countries, Zurich, March 2016  
Economics and Conflict conference, Hebrew University, January 2016  
Economic Development and Institutions conference, Namur, January 2016

### **INVITED SEMINARS in the last three years**

University of Vienna, October 2018  
University of Uppsala, October 2018  
Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, September 2018  
Northwestern University, May 2018  
Wharton, May 2018  
WZB Berlin, May 2018

Northwestern University, May 2018  
Wharton, May 2018  
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, April 2018  
University of Bonn, November 2017  
London School of Economics, November 2017  
UCLA, November 2017  
University of Southern California, November 2017  
UC San Diego, November 2017  
Tinbergen Institute, October 2017  
Yale University, October 2017  
IIES Stockholm, September 2017  
University of Oslo, June 2017  
Université de Toulouse, March 2017  
University of Bonn, February 2017  
London School of Economics, November 2016  
Warwick University, November 2016  
UC Berkeley, HAAS, October 2016  
Tilburg University, October 2016  
Yale University, April 2016

#### **CONFERENCE ORGANISATION** (*selected recent ones*)

BREAD-CEPR-TCD Development Economics Conference, LSE, September 2018  
ThReD Conference, Bocconi University, June 2018  
BREAD-CEPR-PODER Conference, Bocconi University, September 2016  
NBER-BREAD Development Program Meeting, Cambridge MA, September 2015

#### **OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**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

#### **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in Italian and English. Fair knowledge of French.