

ECOSTAT

PhD in Economics and Statistics

Research Group on
MICROECONOMICS
PUBLIC AND POLITICAL
ECONOMICS

- ✦ The Micro group offers a broad range of research opportunities
- ✦ **Strengths:**
- ✦ Team of researchers working on the frontier of economic theory
- ✦ Young, strong and motivated researchers in every subfield
- ✦ Wide network of collaboration
- ✦ Established relationships with international institutions where students are welcome as visitors
- ✦ **Subfields**
- ✦ Theory
- ✦ Applied Theory
- ✦ Public Economics
- ✦ Political Economy
- ✦ Risk, Banking and Finance

Group Members 1:

- 1. Stergios Athanasoglou (PhD in Operations Research, Columbia University)**
- 2. Pietro Battiston (PhD in Economics, DEFAP, University of Milan-Bicocca)**
- 3. Paolo Bertoletti (MPhil. in Economics, Oxford; PhD in Economics, Pavia)**
- 4. Bruno Bosco (Post graduate Diploma in Public Finance, Buckingham; DPhil in Economics, Oxford)**
- 5. Gianluca Cassese (Ph.D. Economics, Università di Ancona; M.Sc. Economics, LSE)**
- 6. Fausto Cavalli (PhD in Mathematics)**
- 7. Michela Cella (PhD in Economics, LSE)**
- 8. Vittoria Cerasi (PhD in Economics, LSE)**
- 9. Lucia Dalla Pellegrina (PhD in Economics, Bocconi University)**

Group Members 2:

- 10. Valeria Gattai (PhD in Economics, Bocconi University)**
- 11. Mario Gilli (PhD in Economics, Cambridge University)**
- 12. Marco Mantovani (PhD in Economics, ECARES - Université Libre de Bruxelles/Università degli studi di Milano (double degree))**
- 13. Elena Meschi (PhD in Economics)**
- 14. Ahmad Naimzada (Master in Economics)**
- 15. Piergiovanna Natale (Ph.D. in Economics, Exeter)**
- 16. Stefania Ottone (PhD in Economics)**
- 17. Irene Valsecchi (Ph.D. in Economics, York)**

General Research Topics (1)

1. Contract Theory, Mechanism Design and asymmetric information

- To study how economic agents can use contractual instruments to carry out economic transactions in presence of asymmetric information. Understanding how to design contracts and resource allocation rules to achieve efficiency goals . e.g. in auctions, procurement contracts, managerial compensations etc.

2. Theory of Organizations:

- Applies incentive theory and property rights theory to study the optimal structure of organizations, how should institutions be designed to improve performance and minimize conflicts

3. Game Theory:

- Learning and Evolutionary Models, the role of information, equilibrium concept, rational behaviour in strategic context, reputation, global games.

General Research Topics (2)

4. Decision Theory:

- Bounded rationality, decision under uncertainty.

5. Economic Dynamics:

- Evolutionary Games, Overlapping Generation Models, Tatonnement Mechanism, Adaptive Learning, Cultural Dynamics

6. Psychological games:

- Games with specific domain of the payoff functions

6. Risk and Finance

- Corporate finance; Banking and credit markets, Asset pricing and incomplete markets, bubbles, financial advice; Insurance markets

7. Behavioral economics

- introduction of new psychological aspects into the standard theory:
 - Irrational emotions, Overconfidence, Altruistic and reciprocal motives, Understanding how risk affects choices

General Research Topics (3)

8. Conflict theory

- Contests, insurrections, root of social, economic and political conflicts considering rational agents in strategic context
 - Domestic terrorism
 - Transnational terrorism
 - Revolts, insurrections and wars

8. Industrial organization

- Advertising and product differentiation: welfare implications of firms advertising strategies
- Collusion: understanding how cartels work and the mechanisms that reinforce them
- Technology and location choices: what drive firms technology, location and adoption choices
- Two-sided markets: intermediation platforms (e.g., credit cards)
- Vertical relationships: contracts between firms placed at different echelons of the production chain
- R&D, IPR and licensing: what drives firms R&D incentives, intellectual property rights and optimal licensing rule

Applied Theory, Public and Political Economics - 1

1. Government procedures

- Autocratic and democratic polities
- Populism
- Representative, direct democracies and judges

2. Fiscal federalism

The theory of fiscal federalism examines both normatively and positively the performance of decentralized systems in which governments are subject to fiscal and political incentives.

3. Regulation of public utility markets

Regulation and market architecture applied to recently liberalised/privatised industries such as electricity, railways and telecommunications.

Auction theory applied to wholesale electricity markets.

Empirical analysis of bidding behaviour and efficiency results.

Applied Theory, Public and Political Economics - 2

3. Law and economics

- Regulation: what instruments should be used to correct market failures
- Law enforcement: interaction between the design of a law and its economic implications . e.g., leniency programs, corruption etc.
- Consumer protection: what should be done to protect consumers
- Organized crime and terrorism: design of optimal enforcement policies to contrast crime and terrorism

4. Voting Theory

Voting theory focuses on the formal study of voting rules (both in committees and general elections) by means of non cooperative game theory. The major aim is to build theories capable to analyze the behaviour of "rational" agents involved in an election.

Applied Theory, Public and Political Economics - 3

5. Secession Theory

Traditionally, economists have taken the borders of national states as given. But as a matter of fact recent years have witnessed both process of unification, with the formation of supranational unions or federations, and process of division inside pre-existing countries. This topic studies the economic and political incentives for the separation or the unification of countries.

6. Tax Evasion

The theoretical and empirical analysis of the determinants and of the impact of tax evasion at national and regional level.

7. Institutional Aspect of EU Organization

- EU governance structure
- EU as a Political Union
- voting behaviour of EU legislators.

IMPORTANT SUGGESTION

Seminars at UNIMIB

- Attend our seminar series.
 1. DEMS seminar series (Wednesday at 12)
 2. CefES seminar and workshop
 3. ReLunch seminar series
 4. Ciseps seminars
- What do you get in return?
 1. Very useful to see what is the frontier of research in different fields
 2. Get ideas for your PhD thesis
 3. Learn by “osmosis”
 4. Learn how to deliver a good presentation (or how to avoid a bad one)
 5. ...

Information on members - 1

**Stergios Athanasoglou (PhD in Operations Research,
Columbia University)**

***Current position:* Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca**

***Past positions:* Research Fellow at Bocconi University**

Research Interests:

- Decision-making under Uncertainty,
- Microeconomic Theory,
- Environmental and Resource Economics,
- Applied Mathematics and Optimization

Identifying Publication:

- Solidarity and efficiency in preference aggregation: a tale of two rules, 2nd R&R
Games and Economic Behavior

Identifying Work in Progress:

- An axiomatic approach to allocating emission rights across countries

Stergios Athanasoglou: current research

✦ Stergios Athanasoglou is currently working on two projects:

1. The application of the axiomatic method to problems arising in environmental economics, e.g., the design of efficient, fair and incentive compatible environmental agreements.
2. An applied-theory paper on the effect of contract farming on sustainable water use. The analysis is conducted within an infinite-horizon dynamic-optimization framework.

Information on members - 2

Pietro Battiston (PhD in Economics, DEFAP, University of Milan-Bicocca)

Current position: Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Past positions: Research Fellow, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa

Research Interests:

- strategic network formation
- sunspot equilibria
- public goods

Identifying Publication:

- Boundedly Rational Opinion Dynamics in Social Networks: Does Indegree Matter?, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 119, 400-421.

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Learning to Believe: Experimental Evidence on the Emergence of Sunspot Equilibria

Pietro Battiston: current research

- Pietro's theoretical research mainly revolves around networks. This includes both strategic models of network formation, and the study of propagation over networks, in an interplay with empirical and experimental approaches.
- Pietro is also working on modeling sunspot equilibria in coordination games.

Information on members - 3

Paolo Bertoletti (MPhil. in Economics, Oxford; PhD in Economics, Pavia)

***Current position:* Full Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca**

***Past positions:* University of Pavia, Turin University**

Research Interests:

- **Monopolistic Competition,**
- **Trade**
- **Regulation**

Identifying Publication:

- International Trade with Indirect Additivity (con Federico Etro e Ina Simonovska), American Economic Journal: Microeconomics

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Monopolistic Competition with GAS Preferences con Federico Etro

Paolo Bertoletti: current research

- ✦ Paolo Bertoletti is presently working on the model of monopolistic competition à la Dixit-Stiglitz. In particular, he is interested in the status of this model, and in its relationships with the strategic models of imperfect competition (Cournot and Bertrand). He is also interested in its extensions to the case of heterogeneous goods and heterogeneous consumers, in its welfare properties and in its applications to international trade.
- ✦ Paolo Bertoletti is also working on the properties of inverse and direct demand systems: in particular, he is interested in the possibility of monotonicity violations, and in the classification of goods according to their substitutability properties.

Information on members - 4

Bruno Bosco (Post graduate Diploma in Public Finance, Buckingham; DPhil in Economics, Oxford)

Current position: Full Professor of Public Economics, University of Milan
Bicocca

Past positions: Associate professor of Public Finance

Research Interests:

- Factor share income distribution
- Capital Theory and social confrontation
- Market failures and regulation

Identifying Publication:

- One size does not fit all: quantile regression estimates of cross-country risk of poverty in Europe, Economic Analysis and Policy

Identifying Work in Progress:

- A miracle or an optical illusion? The dynamics of the Labour Share of Income in Europe

Bruno Bosco: current research

✦ Bruno Bosco is currently working on the following research areas

- ✦ Poverty and income distribution
- ✦ Labor share of income
- ✦ Capital theory and social confrontation
- ✦ Natural monopoly and regulation with heterogeneous agents

Information on members - 5

Gianluca Cassese (Ph.D. Economics, Università di Ancona; M.Sc. Economics, LSE)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan
Bicocca

Past positions: Associate Professor, University of Lecce,

Research Interests:

- Theory of Finance
- Stochastic processes
- Probability Theory

Identifying Publication:

- Asset Pricing in an Imperfect World, Economic Theory

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Control measures on Boolean algebras

Gianluca Cassese: current research

✦ Gianluca Cassese is currently working on the following topics:

1. The Measure algebra problem of D. Maharam, in particular in connection with the existence of a dominating measure for a given set of prior beliefs;
2. Endogenous completion of financial markets with no exogenously given probability and with market imperfections;
3. Probabilistic ranking: when is it the case that a given partial order $f \succ g$ may be interpreted as the statement $P(f \succ g) = 1$, for a given probability P ?
4. Different mechanisms for updating beliefs in a sequence of experiments.

Information on members - 6

Fausto Cavalli (PhD in Mathematics)

Current position: Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics, University of Milan - Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant professor at Catholic University of Milan

Research Interests:

- Contest model
- Dynamic processes
- Bifurcation theory
- Dynamical systems on networks

Identifying Publication:

- Monopoly models with time-varying demand function" su "Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulation"

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Learning-by-doing and knowledge spillover networks in industrial districts

Fausto Cavalli: current research

✦ Fausto Cavalli is now working on four different research programs:

1. **Industrial districts**, with a focus on the modelling of the ID as a cognitive structure characterized by a network of social interactions and knowledge spillovers that affect its static properties and dynamic evolution
2. **Conflict theories**, with a focus on their modelling through a game-theoretic approach that allows understanding the emergence of different scenarios in terms of possible Nash equilibria, representing a stylized description of different conflict outcomes
3. **Multiphase markets**, with a focus on the modelling of classes of markets, like energy markets, characterized by seasonality, in order to understand the emergence of stylized facts in the time series
4. **Time multiscale modelling**, to provide a rigorous methodological approach suitable to describe economic phenomena in which different concurrent processes occur at different time scales. A prototypical example comes from oligopoly modelling, in which production decision and learning activities respectively take place at “continuous” and “discrete” time scales.

Information on members - 7

Michela Cella (PhD in Economics, London School of Economics)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan
Bicocca

Past positions: University of Oxford, University of Essex, University of Milan

Research Interests:

- contract theory,
- theory of organizations
- Political economics

Identifying Publication:

- Do the Right Thing – Incentives for policy selection in presidential and parliamentary systems *Economica* 84: 430-453

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Gender bias and women political performance (2019) (con E. Manzoni)

Michela Cella: current research

✦ Michela Cella is currently working on politics and gender:

1. One project is a theory model that incorporates a gender bias due to stereotypes in a voting model, the results are compatible with many empirical facts that the political science and economics literature on underrepresentation of women in politics has found;
2. A very preliminary project will try to understand using google searches which issues were salient during the 2018 midterm elections that saw an unprecedented number of women elected to the House of Representatives;
3. A tentative project will study a UNDP project in Armenia that had the goal of increasing the number of women in parliament through an empowerment program for candidates.

Information on members - 8

Vittoria Cerasi (PhD in Economics, London School of Economics)

Current Position: Full Professor of banking and finance, Bicocca University

Past Position: Post-doc fellow at IGER (Bocconi University), Post-doc Human capital mobility at IDEI (Toulouse), Visiting researcher (LSE), Assistant professor at UNIMI, Associate professor in Economics at Bicocca.

Research Interest:

- microeconomics of banking, industrial organization applied to banks and banking regulation.

Identifying Publication (for this cluster; see also strategy cluster):

- Do Rivals Enhance Your Credit Conditions? Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Vol. 157 (1), pp.228-243, 2019

Identifying Work in Progress (for this cluster; see also strategy cluster):

- Endogenous Interlocking Directorates (with Maria Rosa Battaggion), DEMS WP. 380

Vittoria Cerasi: current research

✦ Vittoria Cerasi is currently working on 3 different research projects:

1. **Corporate governance.** In a DEMS WP I have shown that interlocking directorates (i.e. one executive sits in the board of the rival) arise as an equilibrium outcome when firms gain by disclosing private information on their costs to the rival. As a follow up, I plan to study the relation between cross-ownership and interlocking directorates, since this is of interest for the antitrust policy.
2. **Banking and collateral channel.** The collateral channel (i.e. the resale value of collateralized assets) is important for the access to credit of Small and Medium Enterprises. After having published 2 papers on this, I am studying how specific investments on collateralized assets affect product differentiation through the collateral channel.
3. **Banking regulation.** The recent change in banking crisis resolution from bail-out to bail-in has an unintended effect on banking integration. Bail-in increases the cost of funding for banks and this may reduce the incentive to expand abroad, hence reducing bank diversification. I study this from the prudential regulation point of view.



Information on members - 9

Lucia Dalla Pellegrina (PhD in Economics, Bocconi University)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca;
Post doc Bocconi University

Research Interests:

- Law and Economics
- Courts
- Microfinance
- Banking

Identifying Publication:

- An Empirical Analysis of Judicial Transformation in Turkey, American Journal of Comparative Law

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Unfolding Judicial Ideology in the Brazilian Supreme Court (with Damares Medina and Nuno Garoupa)

Lucia Dalla Pellegrina: current research

1. Concerning the first research interest, Lucia has recently conducted randomized control trials (RCTs) and quasi-natural experiments aimed at understanding the effectiveness of financial literacy pilot programs and other programs supporting credit services on borrowers' repayment performance. She worked with two Indian institutions, the Institute for Indian Mother and Child and Prayas, and the Small Enterprise Foundation, based in South Africa. She used Bayesian techniques for measuring the – mainly cognitive – skills developed by the beneficiaries during the training programs. These techniques have also been applied to the second research line outlined below. Lucia has also conducted empirical studies on the micro-credit sector in Italy and Bangladesh. Still with reference to the micro-banking sector, Lucia has dealt with issues concerning credit rationing for small and medium-sized enterprises in Italy, and has studied the problem of usury in the presence of judicial delays and inefficiency the mechanism for credit recovery.
2. Regarding the second line of research, Lucia has studied the voting mechanism in the courts of last resort in various countries (Italy, Spain, Argentina, Taiwan, Philippines, Belgium, UK, and more recently Brazil and Catalonia) to understand the degree of judicial independence. She has used Bayesian estimation techniques (Item Response Theory) to estimate the latent phenomena of interest, namely various forms of – mainly political – ideology that can interfere with the expression of judges' vote.
3. Lucia is also currently working on the estimation of crime diffusion models, with particular attention to the phenomenon of money laundering, a research for which she won a grant for the period 2017-2020 (PRIN), in consortium with a group of scholars of Bocconi University.

Information on members - 10

Valeria Gattai (PhD in Economics, Bocconi University)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan
Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Research Interests:

- Trade
- FDI and multinational enterprises
- contract theory
- theory of the firm

Identifying Publication:

- A new cinderella story: Joint ventures and the property rights theory of the firm. Journal of Economic Surveys, 31(1), 281-302.

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Board Diversity and Outward FDI: Evidence from the European Union

Valeria Gattai: current research

✦ Valeria Gattai is currently working on four different research programs:

1. **FDI premia in Europe**: Empirical analysis of the relationship between inward FDI, outward FDI and firm-level performance, using firm-level panel data on European enterprises. Both sides of causality are addressed.
2. **Ex-ante and ex-post effects of Chinese outward FDI**: Empirical analysis of the “self-selection” and “learning” hypotheses to figure out the direction of causality between outward FDI and a number of firm’s characteristics (innovation, productivity, size, capital etc.). The analysis is based on panel data on Chinese enterprises.
3. **Board diversity and outward FDI in Europe**: Empirical analysis of the effects of board diversity (in terms of gender and nationality) on the decision to open subsidiaries abroad. The analysis is based on panel data on European enterprises.
4. **Global sourcing, firm’s characteristics and local context**. Empirical analysis on the effects of firm’s characteristics (economic, financial and innovation variables), and local context (province level indicators of development) on sourcing strategies. The analysis is based on primary data on Italy, collected through survey interviews.

Information on members - 11

Mario Gilli (PhD in Economics, University of Cambridge)

Current Position: Full Professor of Economics, Bicocca University.

Past positions: Bocconi University, University of Cambridge, Bari University.

Research Interests:

- **Game Theory:** equilibrium concepts, computation, learning
- **Economics of Information**
- **Conflict Theory:** contest model and political violence
- **Political economics:** accountability and responsiveness in autocratic and in democratic systems

Identifying Publication:

- “Coups, Revolutions and Efficient Policies in Autocracies” *European Journal of Political Economy*

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Populism and the Backlash against the Elites

Mario Gilli: current research

- ✦ **Mario Gilli is currently working on four different research programs:**
- 1. **On the equilibrium concepts in games, in particular on using the sequence form to characterize equilibrium concepts such as Quasi Perfect Equilibria and Self Confirming Equilibria**
- 2. **Cross fertilizations between game theory and psychoanalysis, in particular on the analysis of the evolving knowledge in working teams, with applications to the relationship analyst - analysing and to the defensive attitudes of groups (Freud “Civilization and Its Discontents”, “Totem and Taboo”)**
- 3. **Conflict theories with different possible focus: general conflict models, terrorism both domestic and transnational, insurgency and manifestations within democracies and autocracies.**
- 4. **Political Economics with a particular attention to the analysis of organizations and institutions such as the European Union and the inner working of dictatorships and of democracies. Of particular interest is the joint effects of accountability and responsiveness on the performance of different polities and institutions**



Information on members - 12

Marco Mantovani (PhD in Economics, ECARES - Université Libre de Bruxelles/Università degli studi di Milano (double degree))

***Current position:* Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca**

***Past positions:* Postdoc: University of Milan Bicocca, Académie de Louvain (COFUND-Marie Curie action), TUBerlin (visiting).**

Research Interests:

- **Experimental economics**
- **Market design**
- **Strategic reasoning**

Identifying Publication:

- "Cognitive ability and games of school choice", Games and Economic Behavior

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Risk Aversion and Information Aggregation in Asset Markets

Marco Mantovani: current research

- ✦ Marco is currently working on different research programs in [experimental economics](#):
- 1. On the information aggregation properties of markets (with Antonio Filippin). Can we infer traders beliefs from market prices? How do individual preferences and institutional features affect the relation between the two? (+ a revisitation of some classical results)
- 2. On the neural basis of strategic behaviour (with Carlo Reverberi and Aldo Rustichini). How does the brain code strategic features, such as the stage game or the type of opponent? Can we relate the features of this neural map to strategic performance?
- 3. On voting rules (with Christian Basteck). How does the voting system affect the outcome of elections when voters are only partially sophisticated?
- 4. On stability in school choice (with Martin van der Linden and Benoit Decerf). Can we rank mechanisms based on the stability of their outcomes when a) full stability cannot be granted and b) subjects' choices are suboptimal?
- 5. On morals in market and non-market institutions
- 6. On the use of symbols to sustain cooperation (with Frederke Mengel and Tom Truyts). Can players exploit payoff-irrelevant symbols to sustain cooperation within a group through inter-group segregation?

Information on members - 13

Elena Meschi (PhD in Economics)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Past positions: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Venice Ca Foscari; Post doc at University of Milan; Research officer at Institute of Education, University College London (UCL)

Research Interests:

- Applied micro-econometrics
- Economics of education (mainly on determinants of education inequality)
- Trade and labour market
- Working conditions, retirement and health

Identifying Publication:

- The effect of immigrant peers in vocational schools”, European Economic Review, Vol 113, 2019, 1-22

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Do Non-tariff barriers to trade save American jobs and wages?

Elena Meschi: current research

✦ Elena Meschi is currently working on three main research areas:

✦ **Trade and labour market:**

- Import shocks, non-tariff barriers, and manufacturing employment in the US

✦ **Education:**

- Effect of public childcare services on cognitive and non-cognitive skills of immigrant children
- Ability composition in the class and the school performance of immigrant children
- Gender gap in education

✦ **Health:**

- Change in working conditions and health of older workers

Information on members - 14

Ahmad Naimzada (Master in Economics)

Current Position: Associate Professor of Applied Mathematics, University of Milan Bicocca.

Past positions: : Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics, University of Milan Bicocca.

Research Interests:

- Economic Dynamics in Games and in Social Situations.

Identifying Publication:

- “Eductive stability may not imply evolutionary stability in the presence of information costs”, ECONOMICS LETTERS

Identifying Work in Progress:

- A general equilibrium evolutionary model with generic utility functions and generic bell-shaped attractiveness maps, generating fashion cycle dynamics

Ahmad Naimzada: current research

- ✦ Ahmad Naimzada is now working on four different research programs:
- 1. **Industrial districts**, with a focus on the modelling of the ID as a cognitive structure characterized by a network of social interactions and knowledge spillovers that affect its static properties and dynamic evolution
- 2. **Conflict theories**, with a focus on their modelling through a game-theoretic approach that allows understanding the emergence of different scenarios in terms of possible Nash equilibria, representing a stylized description of different conflict outcomes
- 3. **Multiphase markets**, with a focus on the modelling of classes of markets, like energy markets, characterized by seasonality, in order to understand the emergence of stylized facts in the time series
- 4. **Time multiscale modelling**, to provide a rigorous methodological approach suitable to describe economic phenomena in which different concurrent processes occur at different time scales. A prototypical example comes from oligopoly modelling, in which production decision and learning activities respectively take place at “continuous” and “discrete” time scales.
- 5. **Fashion cycle models**.

Information on members - 15

Piergiovanna Natale (PhD in Economics, Exeter)

Current position: Full Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant Professor Catholic University Milan

Research Interests:

- contract theory,
- theory of firm
- Design of institutions

Identifying Publication:

- Investment spillovers and the allocation of property rights. *Economics Letters*, 145, 109-113.

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Estimating the Ex-ante and the Ex-post Effects of Chinese Outward FDI

Piergiovanna Natale: current research

✦ Piergiovanna Natale is currently working on four different research programs:

1. **FDI premia in Europe**: Empirical analysis of the relationship between inward FDI, outward FDI and firm-level performance, using firm-level panel data on European enterprises. Both sides of causality are addressed.
2. **Ex-ante and ex-post effects of Chinese outward FDI**: Empirical analysis of the “self-selection” and “learning” hypotheses to figure out the direction of causality between outward FDI and a number of firm’s characteristics (innovation, productivity, size, capital etc.). The analysis is based on panel data on Chinese enterprises.
3. **Board diversity and outward FDI in Europe**: Empirical analysis of the effects of board diversity (in terms of gender and nationality) on the decision to open subsidiaries abroad. The analysis is based on panel data on European enterprises.
4. **Trustworthy firms and wage compensating differentials**: Firms have private information about worker’s performance; trust endogenously arises as a consequence of firm’s investment in truth-telling about worker’s performance to counter-act wage compensating differentials; empirical evidence from workplace employment relations surveys is provided.

Information on members - 16

Stefania Ottone (PhD in Economics)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant Professor University of Milano-Bicocca, Research fellow European University Institute

Research Interests:

- Behavioral and experimental analysis of tax compliance in different Countries
- Legal procedures in the Lab and Judicial errors
- Neuroeconomics of punishment
- Immigration, demand for protection, security and integration

Identifying Publication (for this cluster):

- Ottone S., Ponzano F., Zarri L., Power to the People? An Experimental Analysis of Bottom-Up Accountability of Third-Party Institutions, 2015, Journal of Law, Economics and Organization, 31, 347-382

Identifying Work in Progress (for this cluster):

- Miscarriage of Justice in Judges' Mind: Theory and Evidence from the Lab (with F. Ponzano, M. Saraceno and L. Zarri)

Stefania Ottone: current research

- ✦ Stefania Ottone is currently working on five different research programs:
 - 1) Mirror neurons and third-party punishment: a TMS investigation (with F. Ponzano, L. Romero, E. Lo Gerfo and L. Zarri)
 - 2) Legal procedures in the Lab (with P. Lewisch and F. Ponzano)
 - 3) Miscarriage of Justice in Judges' Mind: Theory and Evidence from the Lab (con F. Ponzano, M. Saraceno and L. Zarri)
 - 4) Tax evasion (with F. Ponzano)
 - 5) Immigration and demand of social security (with M. Gilli and M. Saraceno)

Information on members - 17

Irene Valsecchi (PhD in Economics, York)

Current position: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Milan
Bicocca

Past positions: Assistant Professor University of Milan

Research Interests:

- Economics of information
- Theory of organizations
- Game Theory

Identifying Publication:

- Non-uniqueness of equilibrium action profiles with equal size in one-shot cheap-talk games. THEORY AND DECISION

Identifying Work in Progress:

- Sequential cheap talk games with different priors

Irene Valsecchi: current research

✦ Currently Irene Valsecchi is working on two different research topics:

1. Cheap Talk in Dynamic Games with Different Priors :

role of instrumental reputation in repeated interaction between sender and receiver)

2. Information in Bayesian Games:

the relevance of the distribution of information in Bayesian games makes the rankings of information structures from decision theory not sufficiently adequate)