

Michele Battisti

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

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Education

University LUISS

PHD HISTORY AND THEORY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rome

2005

University of L'Aquila

BA IN ECONOMICS

L'Aquila

2000

Professional Experience

- 2019-now **Full Professor of Economics**, University of Palermo
- 2015-2019 **Associate Professor of Economics**, University of Palermo
- 2018-2015 **Assistant Professor of Economics**, University of Palermo
- 2006-2008 **Post doc in Economics**, University LUISS, Rome

Visiting periods

- 2024 **Visiting Professor**, School of Economics, University of Surrey
- 2024 **Visiting Professor**, Department of Economics and Finance, Brunel University
- 2017 **Visiting Professor**, Department of Economics, Brown University
- 2015 **Visiting Professor**, Department of Economics, Brown University
- 2008 **Visiting Scholar**, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech
- 2004 **Visiting PhD Student**, Department of Economics, University of Southampton

Publications

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2025. Educational take-off and the role of wealth, **Journal of Economic Growth**, (with A.F. Gravina, A.M. Lavezzi, G. Maggio and G. Tortorici), *forthcoming*.
- 2023. Hierarchy, Tasks, Space: An analysis of tie formation in the Palermo Mafia, **Social Networks**, (with A.M. Lavezzi and R. Musotto), 82, 213-228.
- 2025. Unearthing the Nexus: Latifundia, Earthquakes, and the Emergence of the Sicilian Mafia, **Economics of Governance**, (with G. Bernardo, A. Kourtellos and A.M. Lavezzi), 26, 57-91.
- 2024. Robotic capital skill complementarity, **Macroeconomic Dynamics**, (with M. Del Gatto, A.F. Gravina and C. Parmeter), 29(e54), 1-30.
- 2023. Will the last be the first? School closures and educational outcomes under pandemic, **European Economic Review**, 154, 104405, (with G. Maggio).
- 2023. School-age Vaccination, School Openings and Covid-19 diffusion, **Health Economics**, 32, 1084-1100, (with E. Amodio, A.F. Gravina, A.M. Lavezzi and G. Maggio).
- 2022. Skill Biased Technical Change and Labor Market Inefficiency, **Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control**, 139, 104428 (with M. Del Gatto and C.F. Parmeter).
- 2022. Schools opening and Covid-19 diffusion: evidence from geolocalized microdata, **European Economic Review**, 143, 104003 (with E. Amodio, A. Kourtellos, G. Maggio and C.M. Maida).

2022. Taking care of everyone's business: interpreting Sicilian Mafia embedment through spatial network analysis, **Global Crime**, 23(2), 171-192, (with A.M. Lavezzi and R. Musotto).
2022. Shooting Down the Price: Evidence from Mafia Homicides and Housing Market Volatility, **Papers in Regional Science**, 101(3), 659-683 (with G. Bernardo, A.M. Lavezzi and G. Maggio).
2022. Convergence and Divergence: New Data and New Results, **Macroeconomic Dynamics**, 26(4), 945-978 (with G. Di Vaio and J. Zeira).
2021. Do Robots Complement or Substitute for Older Workers? **Economics Letters**, 208, 110064, (with A.F. Gravina).
2021. Socio-Demographic Factors Involved in a Low-Incidence Phase of SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Sicily, Italy, **Healthcare**, 9(7), 867 (with E. Amodio, C.M. Maida, M. Zarcone, A. Casuccio and F. Vitale).
2020. Is the productivity premium of internationalized firms technology-driven? Unbundling technology and TFP at the firm-level **Empirical Economics**, forthcoming, (with F. Belloc and M. Del Gatto).
2020. Labor productivity and firm-level TFP with technology-specific production functions, **Review of Economics Dynamics** 35, 283-300 (with F. Belloc and M. Del Gatto).
2020. World Interest Rates and Inequality: Cross Country Evidences. **Macroeconomics Dynamics** 24(5), 1042-1072, (with T. Fioroni and A.M. Lavezzi).
2018. Resisting to the Extortion Racket: an Empirical Analysis, **European Journal of Law and Economics**, 46,1-37 (with A.M. Lavezzi, L. Masserini and M. Pratesi).
2018. Technology and Labor Regulations: Theory and Evidence. **Journal of Economic Growth**, 23(1), 41-78 (with A. Alesina and J. Zeira).
2018. Labor Productivity Growth: Disentangling Technology and Capital Accumulation, **Journal of Economic Growth**, 23(1), 111-143 (with M. Del Gatto and C.F. Parmeter).
2017. Decomposing Changes in the Conditional Variance of GDP over time. **Economic Modelling** 61, 376-387 (with C.F. Parmeter and S. Amini).
2015. Are per capita Carbon Dioxide Emissions converging in groups? A Finite Mixture Analysis, **Resource and Energy Economics**, 42, 31-52 (with M. Delgado and C.F. Parmeter).
2015. Unbundling technology adoption and tfp effects: do firm's intangibles matter? **Journal of Economics and Management Strategy** 24(2), 386-410 (with F. Belloc and M. Del Gatto).
2013. Flexible wage contracts and worker performance: evidence from Italian firms. **Industrial Relations**, 52(3), 736-763, (with G. Vallanti).
2013. Clustering and polarization in the distribution of output: a multivariate perspective, **Journal of Macroeconomics**, 35, 144-162 (with C.F. Parmeter).
2013. Reassessing segmentation in the labour market: an application for Italy 1995-2004, **Bulletin of Economic Research**, 65(s1), s38-s55.
2012. GDP clustering: a reappraisal. **Economics Letters**, 117(3), 837-840 (with C.F. Parmeter).
2010. Institutions and geography: empirical test of spatial growth models for European regions, **Economic Modelling**, 27(1), 12-21 (with G. Arbia and G. Di Vaio).
2008. A spatially-filtered mixture of β -convergence regressions for European regions, 1980-2002, **Empirical Economics** 2, 121-135 (with G. Di Vaio).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2020. Politiche di coesione e crescita economica: l'Italia nel panorama europeo, **Rivista di Politica Economica**, 2-2020, 185-206 (with A. D'Onofrio, C. Jona-Lasinio e S. Manzocchi).
2006. La proposta di direttiva Bolkestein tra nuove esigenze e paure di innovazione. **Economia dei Servizi** I(1), 9-29 (with V. Aniballi and F. Neri).
2006. Persistence in Italian rate of unemployment in presence of breaks and regional asymmetries, **Applied Econometrics and International Development**, 6.3, 67-85.
2005. Dualismo tra occupati: evidenze empiriche per il caso Italiano. **Economia, Società e Istituzioni** XVII(2), 199-228.

CHAPTERS AND BOOKS

2025. Criminalità organizzata e sviluppo economico, in *"Why the South still lags behind? Toward an Economic history of the Italian regional divide"* (with A.M. Lavezzi) ed. by E. Felice and T. Buscemi.
2020. Modeling return to education in heterogeneous populations. An application to Italy. In Springer Series **"Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization"** (with S. Ingrassia, A. Mazza and A. Punzo), ed. by F. Greselin, L. Deldossi, L. Bagnato, M. Vichi, 121-131.
2020. Inequality, social mobility and organized crime: evidence for Italy 1985-2015. In **Determinants of Organized Crime and Terrorism**, (with G. Bernardo, A. Kostantinidi, A. Kourtellos and A.M. Lavezzi) ed. by Savona, E., J. Weisburd, B. Hasisi, F. Calderoni, Springer-Verlag publisher.
2016. The Effects of Fiscal Redistribution. In **Inequality and Growth: Patterns and Policy**, vol. 1 Chapter 7, (with J. Zeira) ed. by K. Basu and J. Stiglitz, Palgrave McMillan publisher.
2015. Politica fiscale, distribuzione del reddito e povertà . In **Cittadinanza generativa: la lotta alla povertà** (with J. Zeira), Fondazione Emanuela Zancan, rapporto 2015, Il Mulino BOLOGNA.
2012. **Segmentazione del mercato del lavoro. Rassegna teorica ed evidenze empiriche per l'Italia dagli anni Settanta al nuovo millennio**. Aracne editrice.
2009. A spatially-filtered mixture of β -convergence regressions for European regions, 1980-2002. Reprinted as chapter in **Spatial Econometrics: Methods and Applications** (with G. Di Vaio) ed. by G. Arbia and B.H. Baltagi, Physica Verlag, Heidelberg publisher.

WORKING PAPERS

2024. Social Interactions and Crime Prevention, (with S.N. Durlauf, A. Kourtellos, A. M. Lavezzi and S. Piccolo).
2024. Anatomy of Heterogeneous Production Functions (with V. Dardanoni and S. Demichelis)
2024. Automation and young workers' job trajectories: The Italian case (with I. Brunetti, A.F. Gravina and P. Li Donni)
2023. Inequality and Public Policy, *new version* of CEPR Discussion paper DP13134 (with J. Zeira)

IN PROGRESS

2025. On the Determinants of Intergenerational Mobility (with V. Dardanoni, A. Lefranc and V. Prete)
2025. Behavioural Aspects of Vaccination Hesitancy: Survey Information Experiment Evidence from Italy (with G. Maggio and G. Moscelli)
2025. Structural Change and Growth Trajectories through Counterfactual Quantile Decomposition (with A.F. Gravina and M. Lanzafame)
2025. From Growth to Decline? Structural Change, Industrial Policy, and the Challenge of Premature Deindustrialization in Asia (with A.F. Gravina and M. Lanzafame)
2025. Supply-Side Misallocation Within and Across Farms: Evidence from Italian Agriculture using Output Distance Functions (with V. Dardanoni, S. Orr, and S. Rachapalli)

OP-ED

2021. School openings and Covid-19 diffusion, **VoxEU** article January 22th (with A. Kourtellos and G. Maggio).
2021. Does Opening Schools Spread COVID-19? New evidence from Sicily, CEPR **Video Vox**, Feb 25th.
2019. Governments Bear Much of the Responsibility for Rising Inequality - But Also Have the Tools to Reduce It, **Pro-Market:** the blog of the Stigler Center, University of Chicago Booth, School of Business, February 26th, 2019 (with J. Zeira).
2013. Countries divergence and convergence. **VoxEU** article December 15th (with G. Di Vaio and J. Zeira).

Honors, Awards, Professional Affiliation and Fellowships

2021-	ICEA, International Centre for Economic Analysis (CAN) , Senior Research Fellow
2020-2022	PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies, University La Sapienza , Board Member
2017-2018	Italian Academic National Scientific Qualifications as , Full Professor in Economic Policy, Economics, Applied Economics
2016-2019	Ph.D. in Economics, Management and Statistics, University of Messina , Board Member
2017-2018	Italian Academic National Scientific Qualifications as , Associate Professor in Economic Policy, Economics
2009-2017	CeLEG, Center for Labour and Economic Growth, University LUISS, Rome. , Research Fellow
2009-	RCEA Rimini Centre for Economic Analysis, Rimini (IT). , Member of the Economic Growth Study Group and Research Fellow

Grants

€1,999,980	2024-2026. BEHAVIOUR AND SENTIMENT MONITORING AND MODELLING FOR OUTBREAK CONTROL (BEHAVE-MOD) , Cascade grant PNRR Ministry of University	<i>Team member</i>
€2,763,928	2024-2026. SERICS aSecurity and Rights in the CyberSpace , Cascade grant PNRR Ministry of University	<i>Team member</i>
€241,997	2023-2025. MITAD Misallocation and Techniques in Agricultural gap Determinants Analysis , PRIN-PNRR Ministry of University	<i>Principal Investigator</i>
€232,820	2023-2025. AUTomation, PROductivity and Wage INequality (AUTOPROWIN): Firms and Workers in Times of Economic Turmoil , PRIN Ministry of University	<i>Vice-Principal Investigator</i>
€8,433,453	2022-2023. JUST SMART, PON Project on "Giustizia Smart: Strumenti e modelli per ottimizzare il lavoro dei giudici" , PON Ministry of Justice	<i>Team member</i>
€30,000	2021-2022. GO FOR IT. Grants for post doc supervision. , CRUI Network Italian University Foundation	<i>Principal Investigator</i>
€4,094,811	2016-2019. PROTON (Modelling the PRocesses leading to Organised crime and TerrOrist Networks) , European Commission	<i>Team member</i>
€35,000	2011-2013. Cambiamento strutturale e crescita , PRIN Ministry of University	<i>Team member</i>

Presentations

INVITED SEMINARS University of Surrey, University of Brunel (2), Università degli Studi di Bergamo, Università Parthenope di Napoli, Università degli Studi di Verona, Università degli Studi di Siena, Università La Sapienza (2), Brown University, University of Cyprus UCY Nicosia (2), Università degli Studi di Catania, Università G.D'Annunzio di Pescara, Università degli Studi di Padova, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Università degli Studi di Pisa, ISAE Istituto di Studi e Analisi Economica, Roma, Università Luiss Guido Carli Roma, Università degli Studi de L'Aquila.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS AND ORGANIZATION 2024. **CORA** Conference on Robots and Automation, Frankfurt (GER). 2023. **WMMF V** Warsaw Money-Macro-Finance, member of scientific committee; **NAPW** North American Productivity Workshop, Miami (USA) XII conference. 2022. **ICEA** International Center for Economic Analysis. The Future of Work conference. 2021. **ICEA** International Center for Economic Analysis. Inequality conference. 2020. **CEPR** Macroeconomics and Growth Meeting; **ESCOE** virtual Conference on Economic Measurement; **CEPR** Structural Transformation and Economic Growth **STEG** virtual workshop on "Data measurement and conceptual framework"; **NAPW** North American Productivity Workshop, Miami (USA) XI virtual conference. 2018. **NAPW X** North American Productivity Workshop, Miami (USA). 2017. **IEA** International Economic Association, Mexico City (MEX). Inequality, Social Mobility and Organized Crime Workshop, Trapani (ITA), organizer. 2016. Economics of Organized Workshop, Bergamo (ITA). 2015. **ESSIM** European Summer Symposium in International Macroeconomics CEPR, Tarragona, (ESP). 2014. **IEA** International Economic Association, Dead Sea (JOR), Invited participant to the World Bank Round Table on Shared Prosperity and Growth. 2013. **SIE** Società Italiana degli Economisti, Bologna (ITA); **DEGIT** Dynamics, Economic Growth and International Trade, Lima (PER); **SCDEG** Structural Change Dynamics, Economic Growth, Livorno (ITA); **RCEA** Advances in Business Cycles and Economic Growth Analysis, Rimini (ITA). 2012. **DEGIT** Dynamics,

Economic Growth and International Trade, Milan (ITA). 2011. **RCEA** Advances in Business Cycles and Economic Growth Analysis, Rimini (ITA); **IAB** Increasing Labor Market Flexibility - Boon or Bane?, Nuremberg (GER). 2010. **SIE** Società Italiana degli Economisti, Catania (ITA); **RCEF** Rimini Conference in Economics and Finance, Rimini (ITA). 2009. **CFE** Computational and Finance Econometrics, Limassol (CYP); **CICSE** Lecture on Unified Growth Theory held by O.Galor, Naples (ITA); **SEA** Spatial Econometric Association, Barcelona (ESP). 2007. **ISDGD** Institutional and Social Dynamics of Growth and Distribution, Lucca (ITA); **SEA** Spatial Econometric Association, Cambridge (GBE); **RUM** Regional and Urban Modeling, Bruxelles (BEL). 2006. **SEA** Spatial Econometric Association, Rome (ITA); **AEA** Applied Econometric Association, Naples (ITA); **AIEL** Associazione Italiana Economisti del Lavoro, Udine (ITA). 2003. Research in Economics: Methodology, Coherence, Effectiveness, Phd Conference, Siena (ITA).

Teaching Experience

POSTGRADUATE

2021	Organized Crime and socio-economic impacts , Phd Economics and Law	Kore University
2020, 2021	Topics in Economic Growth , PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies	University La Sapienza
2017, 2019	Economic Development in the South of Italy , Master in Economics and policies for Development	University LUISS, Rome
2016, 2017	Applied Economic Growth , PhD in Economics	University of Messina
2008, 2011	Principles of Economics , Master of European Studies	University LUISS, Rome
2007	Theory and Empirics of European Regional Convergence , Ph.D. in History and Theory of Economic Development	University LUISS, Rome
2005	Environmental Economics , Master in Economics and Management of Touristic Services	University of L'Aquila

UNDERGRADUATE

2023-2024	Principles of Economics , Degree in Global Studies	University of Palermo
2008-2024	Principles of Economics , Degree in Law	University of Palermo
2016-2019	Regional Economics , Degree in Law Firm Consultancy	University of Palermo
2016-2017	International Economics and Industrial Dynamics , Degree in Economics and Business	University LUISS, Rome
2013-2016	Economic Growth and Development , Degree in Economics and Business	University LUISS, Rome
2012-2016	Principles of Economics - pre course , Degree in Economics and Business	University LUISS, Rome
2009-2012	Economic Policy , Degree in Political Science	University LUISS, Rome
2009-2011	Economic Policy , Degree in Law	University of Palermo
2008-2011	Labour Economics , Degree in Economics and Business	University LUISS, Rome

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

, 2005-2008	Labour Economics , Teaching Assistant	University LUISS, Rome
2004-2005	Macroeconomics , Teaching Assistant	University LUISS, Rome
2006-2007	European Policy Integration , Teaching Assistant	University LUISS, Rome

PhD Supervision

2021-2024	Renan Serenini , University La Sapienza
2018-2021	Antonio Francesco Gravina , Assistant Professor, University of Palermo
2015-2017	Roberto Musotto , Director Cyber Security Department of the Premier and Cabinet of Western Australia

Consultancy Activity

2024-2025	ADB Asian Development Bank , Consultant on Industry, Services, and the Future of Development in Asia.
2022	WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization , Consultant on IP, R&D and resilience to Covid crisis.
2019-2022	FWO Research Foundation Flanders , Member of Expert Panel on Economics, Business Economics and Management.
2016-2017	Invitalia Osservatorio per le dinamiche del Mezzogiorno , Consultant.

Reviewer activity

Referee for *African Journal of Agricultural Research*, *African Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *Annals of Regional Sciences*, *Applied Economics*, *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*, *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, *Bulletin of Economic Research*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Econometric Reviews*, *Economics Letters*, *Economic Notes*, *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*, *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade*, *Empirical Economics*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *Growth and Change*, *Industrial Relations*, *International Economic Review*, *International Review of Economics and Finance*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of European Economic Association*, *Journal of International Economics*, *Journal of Money Credit and Banking*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Productivity Analysis*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Papers in Regional Science*, *PLOS ONE*, *Research Policy*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Rivista Bancaria Minerva*, *Services Industries Journal*, *Sustainability*.

PAST AND ACTUAL PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

European Economic Association, Spatial Econometric Association, Italian Economic Association, Italian Labor Economics Association

LANGUAGES Italian mother tongue
English fluent