

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information

Full name: **Marco Colleoni**

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Education

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| • 2019-2024 | European University Institute, Florence | Ph.D. in Economics |
| • 2016-2018 | Ecole Polytechnique & ENSAE, Paris | M.A. in Economics |
| • 2013-2016 | University of Milan | B.A. in Economics |

Current position, research activity, and scientific output

I hold a PhD in Economics from the EUI in Florence under the supervision of Prof. Andrea Mattozzi and Prof. David Levine. Currently, I am a Post-doctoral Fellow at the University of Bologna. My research agenda deals with the analysis of the mutual relations of the state and market actors, and contributes to the literature of political economy, development economics, and economic history.

Publication

- “The long-term effects of colonial state capacity: Evidence from Central India”
Journal of Development Economics, 166 (2024) 103170

In Central India, the Narmada River separates two regions that have been ruled by different types of government only during the colonial period, and for reasons independent of their initial economic development. I implement a spatial RDD on village population in the Nineteenth Century as well as in 1901, and I run the same model on proxies of welfare in 2015. My results highlight that divergence has realised where the river overlapped with the colonial border, but not in a neighbouring area where the same Narmada River separates two shores with the same type of former colonial institution. I discuss the following transmission mechanism. The treated group was directly administered by the British with more modern state tools- such as the enforcement of property rights and a transparent taxation system- that made it easier to develop private investment. The most prominent example is the mixed-capital enterprise in charge of the construction of the first trans-continental railway. Infrastructure endowment seems to be crucial for the long-term transmission of the colonial institutional characteristics to the outcomes measured in 2015, which show better average welfare outcomes, as well as higher wealth inequality in the treated group. My work provides an explanation of how the improvement in the quality of the institutions of an embryonic state may sustain the growth of the local markets it deems relevant.

Working paper

- “Targeted spending: The effect of the electoral timing on the distribution of discretionary jobs within the Italian bureaucracy”, available on SSRN, with id 5081346. Under review

Last update: January, 2025

I study tentative vote-buying through patronage in public administration. To this purpose, I consider the hiring selection made by the regional public offices of Italy, under a specific legal provision. It allows the job recipients to be discretionarily chosen, but requires the contracts to be short termed. I dispose of all such contracts signed between 2019 and 2021. The outcome of interest is the share of the new jobs given to individuals born in the same region where the office that posts the vacancy is located. This is intended to proxy the amount of people who could cast a vote in favour of the administration that hired them. As seven regional elections due to take place in May 2020 have been postponed because of the Covid pandemic, I am able to measure the impact of this exogenous shift on the outcome of interest. To strengthen the argument of exogeneity, I evidence that the seven treated regions are quasi-randomly selected across the country. Then, I implement two estimation strategies. The DID approach shows that the difference in the probability of being a locally born job recipient right after the deferral of the elections drops by as much as 30 percentage points, and surges by nearly the same amount immediately after the announcement of the new election date. This conclusion is robust to different time specifications and to the elimination of even loosely Covid-related contracts. In addition, I implement RDD, using the deferral and new announcement dates as time-based thresholds. No significant change appears by implementing this empirical design in the control group. Instead, a similar evidence of drop and surge as that anticipated in DID emerges in the treated group. As the McCrary test highlights, the quantity of contracts is stable at all cutoffs. These findings highlight compositional changes in the job recipients' pool happening coincidentally with exogenous changes in the electoral timing. Therefore, they highlight a politically motivated manipulation of the geographical composition of the job recipients.

Conferences and presentations

The papers above have been presented in conferences and seminars across different departments and research units, of which I mention: Sciences Po Paris (April 2023), University of Milan (May 2023), Queen Mary University of London (May 2023), Free University of Bolzano (March 2024), ETH Zurich (June 2024).

Refereeing activity

I have been contributing to the academic profession by refereeing papers in peer-reviewed journals, including the European Economic Review and the Journal of the European Economic Association.

Previous work experience

- *June 2023 – May 2024* *Research Fellow at the **Free University of Bolzano***

I have been working with Prof. Giacomo De Luca on the study of the effects of political dynasties on public spending and public good provision in a developing country. The issue has been addressed with unique district-level data from Indonesia, with particular interest to the following research questions. Are dynastic politicians in quest for personal enrichment and power accumulation through public policy? Or are they more expert in the field, hence capable of delivering more efficient administration? Overall, we do not conclude that dynastic politicians adversely impact on the economic environment of their districts in the short term. Yet, the effects become more evident in the long run, possibly involving a change in the bureaucratic environment and culture of the districts.

- *Sept. 2021-May 2022* *Senior Teaching Assistant at **Johns Hopkins University - SAIS Europe, Bologna***

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During the Fall Term of academic year 2021/2022, I assisted Prof. Cristino Arroyo in the master's course "International Finance" (macroeconomics in open economies). My tasks included preparing weekly exercise classes, holding office hours, as well as grading biweekly assignments. I have then been confirmed in the same role during the Spring Term.

- *May 2021, 2022 & 2023 Researcher at **Fondazione Feltrinelli, Milan***

In the framework of an ERC project, I have been among the coders in charge of classifying the debate over Covid-related measures put in place by governments across Europe. My focus has been on French and Italian politics.

- *Sept. 2018 - Aug. 2019 Consulting Associate Intern at **Charles River Associates, Brussels***

As part of the competition division, I have been mainly concerned with the analysis of data for the study of the pro- or anti-competitive effects stemming from then undergoing mergers, including one in Phase Two. I have also worked on a case of cartel sanctions.

- *May-July 2018 Research Assistant at **CREST, Paris***

My research idea has been to estimate the effect of new university openings on firm creation by exploiting a quasi-experimental setting across two regions in France, which has become the object of my master's thesis under the supervision of Prof. Francis Kramarz.

- *Apr.-Aug. 2017 Economic Research Intern at **Natixis, Frankfurt***

I have analysed economic policies on behalf of the clients and helped producing forecasts of the French and German economies in view of the elections of 2017. I realised a working paper on the convergence in core inflation and labour cost growth across the Eurozone, which was awarded the Prix de Stage de Recherche of Ecole Polytechnique.

- *Sept.-Dec. 2015 Research Intern at **CSIL – Centre for Industrial Studies, Milan***

The project I was assigned to was part of a public-policy evaluation scheme requested by the European Commission. It assessed fifty regional development plans financed by the EU, highlighting the most consistent with the final aim of sustaining innovation in SMEs.

Other competences

- *Spoken languages:* Italian (native), English (C1), French (B2), German (B1)
- *Certifications:* TOEFL 105/120, IELTS 7.5/9
- *Known software:* Stata, Microsoft Office, QGIS, R, SAS

Grants and Awards

- *2024* Post-doctoral Fellowship, Università di Bologna
- *2023* Research Fellowship, Libera Università di Bolzano

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- 2019 PhD Scholarship, Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, Paris
- 2017 Prix de Stage de Recherche, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris
- 2015 Global Korean Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Seoul

Academic exchange periods

- Feb.-Jun. 2023 Sciences Po, Paris (PhD level)
- Feb.-Jun. 2015 Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul (Bachelor level)

Extracurricular activities and hobbies

At the EUI, I have been the students' representative at the Executive Committee in the year 2020. At Ecole Polytechnique, I have been a member of the students' choir. At Hankuk University, I was part of the International Student Organisation. During high-school, I attended drama and music clubs.

I practice skiing, cycling, and running. I am passionate about open-air activities such as hiking. I have a strong interest in philosophy and literature, especially theatre, and I am keen on discussing these topics. I like travelling to gain enriching human interactions and be in contact with different cultures. I am fond of music, and I have sung in many choirs - including the Tuscany Youth Choir.

