Sergio Galletta

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Research interests

• Political Economy • Public Finance • Applied Microeconomics • Machine Learning

Experiences

2022- present	Senior Researcher, ETH Zurich
2019-2022	Assistant Professor (Senior, RTD-B), University of Bergamo
2019	Post-doctoral Fellow, ETH Zurich
2015-2018	Post-doctoral Fellow SNF, Institut d'Economia de Barcelona (UB), Institut d'Anàlisi Econòmica (CSIC), ETH Zurich

Education

2010-2014	PhD in Economics, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano
2014	Visiting research student, McMaster University, Hamilton
2013	Visiting research student, University of Toronto, Toronto
2011-2012	Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics, Study Center Gerzensee
2007-2009	MSc in Economics, Catholic University of Milan
2004-2007	BSc in Economics, Catholic University of Milan

Research

SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

[25] E. Ash, S. Galletta and T. Giommoni "A Machine Learning Approach to Analyze and Support Anti-Corruption Policy", *forthcoming* **American Economic Journal: Economic Policy**

[24] E. Ash, S. Galletta, M. Pinna and C. Warshaw "From Viewers to Voters: Tracing Fox News' Impact on American Democracy" **Journal of Public Economics** *(2024)*

[23] A. Bochenkova, P. Buonanno and S. Galletta "Fighting Violence Against Women: The Role of Female Political Representation", **Journal of Development Economics** *(2023)*

[22] E. Ash and S. Galletta "How Cable News Reshaped Local Government", **American Economic Journal: Applied Economics** *(2023)*

[21] S. Galletta and T. Giommoni, "The effect of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic on Income Inequality: Evidence from Italy", **Review of Economics and Statistics** *(2022)*

[20] S. Galletta, "Decision-making Institutions and Voters' Preferences for Public Policies", **Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization** *(2021)*

[19] G. Daniele, S. Galletta and B. Geys "Abandon Ship? Party Brands and Politicians' Responses to a Political Scandal", **Journal of Public Economics** *(2020)*

[18] F. Cavalcanti, G. Daniele and S. Galletta "Popularity shocks and political selection", **Journal of Public Economics** *(2018)*

[17] S. Galletta, "Law enforcement, municipal budgets and spillover effects: Evidence from a quasi-experiment in Italy", **Journal of Urban Economics** *(2017)*

Current Working Papers

[16] "Media Slant is Contagious" with P. Widmer and E. Ash, *Revise & Resubmit* **Economic Journal**

[14] "War Violence Exposure and Tax Compliance" with T. Giommoni

[15] "Media Bias and Climate Change Skepticism" with E. Ash, A. Boltachka and M. Pinna

[13] "The Partisan Divergence in U.S. Local Policy" with E. Ash

[12] "The Unintended Consequences of Pandemic Lockdowns: Evidence on Domestic Violence in Italy" with A. Bochenkova, P. Buonanno and C. Deiana

[11] "Unexpected Fiscal Policies" with P. Bello and C. Marconi

[10] "One Person, One Vote: The Effect of Direct Elections on Political Discourse" with A. Amati

Other Peer-Reviewed Publications

[9] E. Ash, S. Galletta, D. Hangartner, Y. Margalit, and M. Pinna "The Effect of Fox News on Health Behavior During Covid-19", **Political Analysis** *(2023)*

[8] P. Buonanno, S. Galletta and M. Puca "The Role of Civic Capital on Vaccination", **Health Economics** *(2023)*

[7] E. Ash, S. Galletta and D. Chen "Measuring Judicial Sentiment: Methods and Application to U.S. Circuit Courts", **Economica** *(2022)*

[6] S. Galletta, "Direct Democracy, Partial Decentralization and Voter Information: Evidence from Swiss Municipalities", **International Tax and Public Finance** *(2020)*

[5] P. Buonanno, S. Galletta and M. Puca "Estimating the Severity of COVID-19: Evidence From the Italian Epicenter", **PLOS One** *(2020)*

[4] S. Galletta and A. Redonda, "Corporate Flat Tax Reforms and Businesses' Investment Decisions. Evidence from Switzerland", **International Tax and Public Finance** *(2017)*

[3] S. Galletta, "On the determinants of happiness: a Classification And Regression Tree (CART) approach", **Applied Economics Letters** *(2016)*

[2] S. Galletta and M. Jametti, "How to Tame Two Leviathans? Revisiting the effect of direct democracy on local public expenditure in a federation", **European Journal of Political Economy** *(2015)*

[1] S. Galletta, M. Jametti and A. Redonda, "Highway to Economic growth? Competition in public works tenders in the Democratic Republic of Congo", **South African Journal of Economics** *(2015)*

Working in Progress

"Hey! Governors! Leave them Kids Alone: Political Cycles and the Creation of Party Preferences" with G. Daniele and M. Le Moglie and F. Masera

"Beneath the Surface: Investigating Anti-Competitive Signals in Brazilian Public Procurement" with D. Gianicolo-Martins and T. Giommoni

"Taxing Cross-border Commuters" with E. Di Carlo and E. Rubolino

"BallotBot: Can Chatbots Strengthen Direct Democracy?" with E. Ash and G. Opocher

Projects - Grants

Principal investigator

2024-2028 "Predictive Algorithms for Public Policy and Economic Research" - PI (SNSF)

2023-2025 "FACTS (Factual Transparent Statement)" - Co-PI (with A. Mattozzi, F. Sobbrio, E. Ash) (EMIF)

2021 "Machine Learning Approach for Social Sciences" - PI (GO FOR IT - Fondazione CRUI)

2019-2020	"The effect of media on voting behavior" - PI (Spark grant - SNSF)
2018-2019	"Citizens' preferences and direct democracy" - PI (Returning grant - SNSF)
2016-2017	"Political scandals and spillover effects" - PI (Advanced Mobility - SNSF)
2015-2016	"The Incentive Effects of Formula-based Equalization Schemes" - PI (Early Mobility - SNSF)

Others

2024	"Crime Research and Workshop" (Arnold Venture)
2024	"Government Ideology and Youth Political Attitudes" (Scientific Exchange - SNSF)
2023	"AI + Economics Workshop" (Scientific Exchange - SNSF)

Teaching

(2024-2025)	Microeconomics (UG- USI), Data Science for Public Policy: From Econometrics to AI (PG/PhD- ETHZ), Supervised Research (PG-ETHZ), Machine learning for Economics (PhD- UniBG)
2023-2024	Microeconomics (UG- USI), Data Science for Public Policy: From Econometrics to AI (PG/PhD- ETHZ), Supervised Research (PG-ETHZ), Data Science for Public Policy (CAS- ETHZ)
2022-2023	Microeconomics (UG- USI), Big Data for Public Policy (PG/PhD- ETHZ)
2021-2022	Labour Economics (UG- UniBG), Behavioral Economics (UG- UniBG), Empirical Methods (PhD- UniBG)
2020-2021	Labour Economics (UG- UniBG), Behavioral Economics (UG- UniBG), Political Economy (PhD- UniBG)
2019-2020	Microeconomics (UG - UniBG), Principles of Economics (UG- UniBG)

Conferences, workshops and seminars

ORGANIZATION

2024	15th Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime (ETHZ), 3rd AI + Economics Workshop (ETHZ/UZH)
2023	2nd AI + Economics Workshop (ETHZ/UZH)
2022	1st AI + Economics Workshop (ETHZ), Winter Symposium (Uni. Bergamo)
2019-2022	Department of Economics Seminar Series (Uni. Bergamo)

PARTICIPATION

Conferences and Workshop

AI + Economics Workshop Zurich, AI Lab for Human and Social Sciences, 9th Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries (Zurich), Workshop in Narrative Economics (Zurich), Workshop on the Impact of Infectious Diseases on Health and Economic Development (Cagliari), Politics in Proximity Workshop (Zurich), Siep Verona, Petralia Workshop, AI + Economics Mini Workshop (Zurich), 8th Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries (Zurich), TWEC Bocconi-Milano, Workshop on Gender Discrimination (Bergamo), Siep L'Aquila, Advances in Economics Winter Symposium (Bergamo), Political Economy Workshop (Brunico), Swiss Workshop on Local Public Finance and Regional Economics (USI-Lugano), SIEP Bari, Workshop on Elections, Institutional Reforms, and Public Policy (Ruhr University Bochum), Workshop on Political Economy (IEB-Barcelona), ASSA San Diego, Political Economy Workshop (Bologna), Media and Digitization Meeting (UZH Zürich), Workshop on the Causes and Consequences of Populism (Bocconi-Milan), Swiss Workshop on Local Public Finance and Regional Economics (USI-Lugano), Workshop on Political Economy (IEB-Barcelona), Workshop on Political Economy (ETH-Zürich), Workshop on the Economics of Organized Crime (Bocconi-Milano), Petralia Workshop (Siracusa), SIEP Padova, ASSA Chicago, SSES Lausanne, Workshop on Political Economy & Fiscal Federalism (Barcelona), SEA Lugano, ZEW PFC Mannheim, Economics of Organized Crime (Bergamo), SSES Lugano, IIPF Lake Tahoe, SIEP Lecce, YSEM Zürich, EPCS Groningen, SIEP Ferrara, CESifo Dresden, IIPF Lugano, CPEG Ottawa, CIRANO Fiscal Rules (Montreal), CAE Montreal, PCS New Orleans, SIEP Piava

Seminars

Milan Politecnico, Queen Mary University of London, University of Cagliari, Bocconi University, University of Pavia, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research, University of Bergamo, Norwegian School of Economics, Università Cattolica Milano, Collegio Carlo Alberto, IAE-CSIC Barcelona, Universita' di Ferrara, JRC Ispra, IAE/UAB Barcelona, KOF-ETH Zürich, IEB Barcelona, McMaster University.

Last update - January 2025