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RESEARCH AT THE BANK OF ITALY
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR ECONOMICS, STATISTICS AND RESEARCH
NEWSLETTER

Contents

Highlights

Workshop on 'Public procurement: participation, quality and efficiency'

(Rome, 29 March 2017)

The World Bank has recently published the Benchmarking Public Procurement 2017 report which assesses the adequacy of the public procurement regulatory framework for a large group of countries in relation to the ability to promote firms' participation in the market. The publication of the report coincides with the implementation in Italy of important policy changes aimed at increasing the quality and efficiency of procurement processes. On 29 March 2017 the Bank of Italy hosted a workshop on '**Public procurement: participation, quality and efficiency**' which brought together academics, institutional experts, policymakers and representatives of the private sector and served as an opportunity to present the results of the exercise carried out by the World Bank. The workshop facilitated the exchange of ideas on key aspects of the reforms under way in Italy, notably the establishment of a system of buyer and purchasing agent qualification and the introduction of a vendor rating system based on past performance.

The programme is available here.

Workshop on 'Investment and Investment Finance in Italy: Challenges and Opportunities'

(Rome, 27 March 2017)

The main objective of the workshop – organized jointly by the Bank of Italy and the European Investment Bank (EIB) – was the presentation of the EIB's report on '**Investment and Investment Finance in Europe**' and of its new survey on firms' investment. The workshop also provided the opportunity for an open discussion among economists and policymakers on the obstacles that are still holding back investment in Italy and Europe and on how public intervention could be more effective in supporting private capital expenditure. By comparing Italy with other EU countries, the speakers pointed to a slower recovery in investment, wide investment gaps in infrastructure and intangible assets, and more significant financial constraints in Italy. A broad consensus emerged on the need to further stimulate capital expenditure through a carefully balanced policy mix at national and European level with a view to supporting productive investment, revamping infrastructure and creating a more favourable environment for private investment.

The workshop programme is available here.

Highlights

19th Banca d'Italia Workshop on Public Finance

(Rome, 16-18 March 2017)

In March the Bank of Italy hosted in its headquarters in Rome the '**19th Workshop on Public Finance**', organized by its Public Finance Division. As in the past, the workshop covered issues at the heart of the policy debate, especially in the euro area: the proper assessment of the fiscal stance in a monetary union (Session I), fiscal policy challenges and priorities in the euro area (Session II) and the inter-linkages between different policy instruments (monetary, fiscal, structural; Session III). In the background and as a consequence of the crisis, there is renewed discussion about the role of discretionary fiscal policy as a tool to reduce economic fluctuations. This in turn raises the issue of how the fiscal stance should be measured, assessed, and implemented in a decentralized context such as the Economic and Monetary Union.

The workshop programme is available here.

Forthcoming events

Workshop: 'The two faces of Janus in the digital era: the preservation of documents for the future'

(Rome, 8 May 2017)

How are the documents changing in our ever more digital world? What is the link between permanent preservation and the production of digital documents? What kinds of sources will historians and economic historians of the future be able to use for their research? On 8 May 2017 the Bank of Italy will host a one-day conference to address these questions. Academics and archivists from various institutions will meet to debate the very current and urgent issue of digital preservation. The presentations will focus on its general methodological implications and will discuss some technical solutions and strategies for topics such as databases, emails and websites.

The programme is available here.

2nd Rome Junior Finance Conference

(Rome, 30-31 May 2017)

On 30-31 May 2017, the Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance (EIEF) will host and organize the '**2nd Rome Junior Finance Conference**'. The conference will bring together junior researchers active in empirical and theoretical finance. Participants will receive an invitation from the organizing committee.

Further information will be made available here.

2nd Rome Junior Conference on Applied Microeconomics

(Rome, 22-23 June 2017)

On 22-23 June 2017, EIEF will host and organize the '**2nd Rome Junior Conference on Applied Microeconomics**'. The conference will foster interaction among researchers active in different areas of applied microeconomics. The invited presenters will be selected giving priority to economists at the early stages of their career.

Further information will be made available here.

Forthcoming events

6th Rome Conference on Macroeconomics

(Rome, 26-27 June 2017)

On 26-27 June 2017, EIEF will host and organize the ‘**6th Rome Conference on Macroeconomics’**. The conference will bring together highly reputed economists from around the world with a strong interest in macroeconomics.

Further information will be made available here.

SEMINARS AT THE BANK OF ITALY

SEMINARS AT EIEF

Latest working papers

No. 1114: **Assessing the risks of asset overvaluation: models and challenges** (April 2017)

Sara Cecchetti and Marco Taboga

We propose methods to compute confidence bands for the fundamental values of stocks and corporate bonds. These methods take into account the uncertainty about future cash flows and about the discount factors that are used to discount the cash flows. We use them to assess the current degree of under-/over-valuation of asset prices. We find no evidence of over-valuation for the stocks and corporate bonds of the major economies.

Full text (pdf)

No. 1113: **Liquidity transformation and financial stability: evidence from the cash management of open-end Italian mutual funds** (April 2017)

Nicola Branzoli and Giovanni Guazzarotti

A key structural vulnerability of open-end mutual funds is the potential liquidity mismatch between assets and liabilities. In this paper we study the management of liquidity transformation by open-end mutual funds through cash holdings and its potential implications for financial stability. Using supervisory data on Italian equity funds, we show that the amount of cash holdings reduces the probability that funds experiencing significant outflows make forced sales of assets that can potentially dislocate market valuations from fundamentals. Moreover, our results indicate that funds engaging in forced sales statistically hold more cash at the end of a month of financial distress than funds in financial distress that do not engage in forced sales. This evidence is consistent with recent empirical findings showing that funds facing significant redemptions may exacerbate periods of market stress by hoarding cash.

Full text (pdf)

No. 1112: **Local labour market heterogeneity in Italy: estimates and simulations using responses to labour demand shocks** (April 2017)

Emanuele Ciani, Francesco David and Guido de Blasio

Using different data sources from local labour markets (LLMs) in Italy between 1971 and 2011, we document a number of stylized facts: a) local differences in the ratios of private employment to population are highly persistent; b) the population has a limited reaction to labour demand shocks, consistent with the high rigidity of nominal wages and pro-cyclical variations in rents, which absorb the gains (losses) from higher (lower) employment rates; c) labour demand shocks are fairly persistent and unevenly distributed, to the detriment of those areas that were already lagging behind and boosting the more advanced ones; d) shocks are amplified by the non-linear employment adjustment, which reacts more to negative shocks than to positive ones. The estimated reactions to shocks are then used to perform policy-motivated simulations. We find that allowing greater population reactions is a superior policy option. Had Italy experienced the population reactivity of the US, local disparities would have been significantly less, to the same extent as with a sizeable public intervention in areas lagging behind.

Full text (pdf)

No. 1111: **Public guarantees on loans to SMEs: an RDD evaluation** (April 2017)

Guido de Blasio, Stefania De Mitri, Alessio D'Ignazio, Paolo Finaldi Russo and Lavinia Stoppani

The paper evaluates the impact of the guarantees provided by the Italian scheme Fondo di Garanzia on the access to credit for small and medium enterprises. The study exploits the mechanism that assigns the guarantees, which is based on a scoring system to assess eligibility. By using regression discontinuity techniques, the paper finds that at the threshold between eligible and non-eligible firms, the program has a positive impact on bank loans to firms; however, the scheme has no impact on the interest rate charged by the banks, while it affects positively the

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likelihood that a firm becomes unable to repay its loans. The guaranteed loans were mostly used to finance working capital. Finally, the paper provides inference for far-from-the-threshold firms.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1110: **Services trade and credit frictions: evidence from matched bank-firm data** (April 2017)

Francesco Bripi, David Loschiavo and Davide Revelli

This paper investigates the relationship between bank credit and exports of services by Italian firms. In order to identify the role of credit supply in services exports we use matched data on bank-firm relationships and the shocks affecting banks' funding during the sovereign debt crisis. The study suggests that credit supply shocks had a significant impact on services exports: a bank credit reduction of 1% led to a fall in exports of about 0.40%. These results hold even after controlling for alternative sources of firms' external finance, unobserved credit demand heterogeneity and a number of robustness checks.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1109: **Bank lending in uncertain times** (April 2017)

Piergiorgio Alessandri and Margherita Bottero

We study the impact of economic uncertainty on the supply of bank credit using a monthly dataset that includes all loan applications submitted by a sample of 650,000 Italian firms between 2003 and 2012. We find that an increase in aggregate uncertainty has three effects. First, it reduces banks' likelihood to accept new credit applications. Second, it lengthens the time firms have to wait for their loans to be released. Third, it makes banks less responsive to fluctuations in short-term interest rates, weakening the bank lending channel of monetary policy. The influence of uncertainty is relatively stronger for poorly capitalized lenders and geographically distant borrowers.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1108: **Lending organization and credit supply during the 2008-09 crisis** (April 2017)

Silvia Del Prete, Marcello Pagnini, Paola Rossi and Valerio Vacca

Using a dataset that combines bank organizational variables with information on firms' credit demand and balance-sheet indicators, we investigate the impact of how bank lending was organized on credit dynamics during the 2008-09 financial crisis. Our main findings suggest that the organization of lending to non-financial firms had an impact on the ability of banks to expand credit. Those that made substantial use of credit scoring techniques actually moderated the pace of credit growth during the economic downturn. At the same time, banks that delegated more power to branch managers were likely to expand lending at a faster rate. Finally, contrary to the evidence from the pre-crisis period, we find that lengthy branch manager tenure in the same branch was detrimental to the rate of credit growth. These findings are robust to a broad set of robustness checks.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1107: **STEM graduates and secondary school curriculum: does early exposure to science matter?** (March 2017)

Marta De Philippis

This paper focuses on students at the very top of the ability distribution and explores whether strengthening high school science curricula affects their choice of enrolling in and completing a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) degree at university. The paper solves the standard endogeneity problems by exploiting the different timing in the implementation of a reform that encouraged secondary schools in the UK to offer more science to high ability 14- year-olds. Taking five more hours per week of science in secondary school increases the probability of enrolling in a STEM degree by 1.2 percentage points and the probability of graduating in these degrees by 3 percentage points. The results mask substantial gender heterogeneity: while girls are as willing as boys to take advanced science in secondary school - when offered -, the results on pure STEM degrees at university are entirely driven by boys. Girls are

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encouraged to choose more challenging subjects, but still opt for the most female-dominated ones.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1106: **I will survive. Pricing strategies of financially distressed firms** (March 2017)

Ioana A. Duca, José M. Montero, Marianna Riggi and Roberta Zizza

We consider a standard result of customer market theory: if firms have stable customer relations and face financial frictions, they may keep prices relatively high in times of low demand and vice versa. Indeed, during recessions, when firms have low cash flow and greater difficulty in raising external funds, they may set higher prices on their locked-in shoppers to maintain short-term profits at the expense of future market shares. We extend this theoretical framework so that the countercyclical behaviour of price margins is strengthened by the expected persistence of the downturn and the procyclicality of competitive pressures. We test these predictions for Italian firms participating in the 2014 Wage Dynamics Network Survey. All things being equal, financially constrained firms charge higher markups when faced with low demand; this behaviour is more evident when demand is perceived as being persistent. Our findings suggest that the severity of financial constraints in Italy was one of the causes of the sustained growth of prices in 2010-2013, notwithstanding the considerable slack in the economy.
Full text (pdf)

No. 1105: **Taxation and housing markets with search frictions** (March 2017)

Danilo Liberati and Michele Loberto

Housing taxation is an important policy instrument that shapes households' choices about homeownership and renting as well as the evolution of the housing market. We study the effects of housing taxation in a model with search and matching frictions in the property market and a competitive rental market. We show a new transmission channel for a housing tax reform that works through a 'shifting' effect from landlords to tenants. We calibrate the model in order to estimate the long-run effects of the recent Italian housing market taxation reforms and the extent of property tax capitalization on house prices. We show that property taxation on owner-occupied dwellings has a negative effect on property and rental prices, whereas taxes on second homes have opposite qualitative effects. The simultaneous increase in both these instruments may mitigate the dynamics of prices and rents as well as the change in the ratio between the share of owners and renters, leading to a partial capitalization taxation on prices.
Full text (pdf)

Other recent working papers

February 2017

No. 1104: A tale of fragmentation: corporate funding in the euro-area bond market
Andrea Zaghini

No. 1103: An indicator of inflation expectations anchoring
Filippo Natoli and Laura Sigalotti

No. 1102: Monetary policy surprises over time
Marcello Pericoli and Giovanni Veronese

No. 1101: The effects of tax on bank liability structure
Leonardo Gambacorta, Giacomo Ricotti, Suresh Sundaresan and Zhenyu Wang

No. 1100: Why did sponsor banks rescue their SIVs?
Anatoli Segura Velez

No. 1099: Informal loans, liquidity constraints and local credit supply: Evidence from Italy
Michele Benvenuti, Luca Casolaro and Emanuele Ciani

No. 1098: Using the payment system data to forecast the Italian GDP
Valentina Aprigliano, Guerino Ardizzi and Libero Monteforte

No. 1097: Banks, firms, and jobs
Fabio Berton, Sauro Mocetti, Andrea F. Presbitero and Matteo Richiardi

No. 1096: A goodness-of-fit test for Generalized Error Distribution
Daniele Coin

December 2016

No. 1095: Household debt and income inequality: evidence from Italian survey data
David Loschiavo

No. 1094: The bank lending channel of conventional and unconventional monetary policy
Ugo Albertazzi, Andrea Nobili and Federico Maria Signoretti

No. 1093: Structural transformation and allocation efficiency in China and India
Enrica Di Stefano and Daniela Marconi

No. 1092: Copula-based random effects models for clustered data
Santiago Pereda Fernández

No. 1091: Asymmetric information and the securitization of SME loans
Ugo Albertazzi, Margherita Bottero, Leonardo Gambacorta and Steven Ongena

Latest occasional papers

No. 378: **The teachers' merry-go-round: job insecurity and staff turnover over the last 2 years** (April 2017)

Gianna Barbieri and Paolo Sestito

The paper illustrates the recent trends in the use of contract staff and in staff turnover in the Italian education system, traditionally plagued by high levels of job insecurity and turnover. The system has been affected by the extraordinary scheme for hiring permanent teachers in 2015 and a mobility and reallocation plan the following year. The number of people on the national list of untenured teachers (frozen about 10 years ago) shrank from 124,000 to 47,000 (to which we should, however, add another 34,000 teachers added to a reserve list following a judgment by the State Council). The use of contract staff remained largely unchanged: the number of annual job contracts rose from 118,000 to 126,000, and fell from 14.6 to 14.4% as a share of total staff, the numbers of which have grown in the meantime. The share of those on the local lists of supply teachers (yet not required to follow a postgraduate internship program) increased among teachers with a yearly contract, who are on average younger than before. Staff mobility and turnover rose sharply, regardless of problems with implementation which led to a considerable rise in staff reassignment in the last school year.
Full text (pdf) in Italian only

No. 377: **Refugees and asylum seekers in Italy and in the EU** (April 2017)

Rosario Maria Ballatore, Adele Grompone, Lucia Lucci, Patrizia Passiglia and Andrea Sechi

The paper lays out a descriptive framework for the recent flows of asylum seekers into Italy and the European Union. After examining the dynamics of illegal entries and applications for international protection, we analyse the differences in how asylum policies are implemented at European level, with the greatest diversity found in the application acceptance rates, the type of protection granted and the speed with which requests are examined. We then take a look at the Italian reception system, discuss its main problems, such as the high degree of fragmentation of reception facilities, and analyse its operating costs. Finally, we discuss the employment performance of immigrants, distinguishing between refugees/asylum seekers and economic migrants, with the former showing a lower probability of employment and slower integration into the labor market.
Full text (pdf) in Italian only

No. 376: **The principle of subsidiarity and centripetal forces: 14 years of application of the 2001 Italian constitutional reform** (March 2017)

Cristina Giorgiantonio

The 2001 reform made profound changes to the Italian Constitution, which led to a broad transfer of legislative powers from the State to the regions. The paper analyses the division of legislative powers introduced in 2001 from two points of view: i) consistency with the indications of economic literature; and ii) the effect on the functioning of the institutional system. In some cases the changes enacted in 2001 do not seem to meet efficiency criteria. Regarding the effects on the institutional system, the reform does not appear to have had an impact on the amount of laws approved at the regional level. However, there was a substantial increase in litigation between the State and the regions before the Constitutional Court. Moreover, the decisions of the Constitutional Court have tended to circumscribe the exercise of regional legislative powers in order to ensure uniform rules and a homogeneous level of protection throughout the country. Full text (pdf) in Italian only

No. 375: **Lending-based crowdfunding: opportunities and risks** (March 2017)

Marcello Bofondi

Lending-based crowdfunding (LBC) is an alternative funding channel to that represented by credit intermediaries. LBC allows households and small businesses to be financed directly by a multitude of investors. Supply meets demand online platforms. This paper first describes how LBC platforms operate, identifying the potential risks and benefits of their operations and then attempts to indicate if and how LBC will contribute to the evolution of the financial system. Although it is unlikely that LBC will pose a significant threat to the banking system and its profitability, it has nevertheless the potential to stimulate traditional intermediaries to review

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their business models and to create an alternative source of financing for households and small and medium-sized enterprises. The risks to financial stability posed by LBC can be mitigated by establishing rules that limit the expansion of credit to riskier borrowers and by ensuring investors' capacity to absorb any losses.
Full text (pdf) in Italian only

No. 374: **Non-performing loans and the supply of bank credit: evidence from Italy** (March 2017)

Matteo Accornero, Piergiorgio Alessandri, Luisa Carpinelli, Alberto Maria Sorrentino

We employ an extensive dataset on borrower-level loans to study the influence of non-performing loans (NPLs) on the supply of bank credit to nonfinancial firms in Italy between 2008 and 2015. We use time-varying firm fixed effects to control for shifts in demand and changes in borrower characteristics, and we also exploit the supervisory interventions associated with the 2014 Asset Quality Review to identify exogenous variations in the banks' NPL ratios. We find that banks' lending behavior is not causally affected by the level of NPL ratios: the negative correlation between NPL ratios and credit growth in our data is mostly generated by changes in firms' conditions and contractions in their demand for credit. However, the exogenous emergence of new NPLs and the associated increase in provisions can cause a negative adjustment in credit supply.
Full text (pdf)

Other recent occasional papers

February 2016

No. 373: Cyber attacks: preliminary evidence from the Bank of Italy's business surveys
Claudia Biancotti

No. 372: Shadow banking out of the shadows: non-bank intermediation and the Italian regulatory framework
Carlo Gola, Marco Burroni, Francesco Columba, Antonio Ilari, Giorgio Nuzzo and Onofrio Panzarino

No. 371: Firms' financial fragility and credit allocation
Emilia Bonaccorsi di Patti and Paolo Finaldi Russo

No. 370: The IMF Safety Net and Emerging Markets' Sovereign Spreads
Claudia Maurini

December 2016

No. 369: Indicators of financial vulnerability: a household level study
Valentina Michelangeli and Cristiana Rampazzi

No. 368: Fifty years of household income and wealth surveys: history, methods and future prospects
Alberto Baffigi, Luigi Cannari and Giovanni D'Alessio

November 2016

No. 367: What do external statistics tell us about undeclared assets held abroad and tax evasion?
Valeria Pellegrini, Alessandra Sanelli and Enrico Tosti

No. 366: The generation gap: a cohort analysis of earnings levels, dispersion and initial labor market conditions in Italy, 1974-2014
Alfonso Rosolia ad Roberto Torrini

No. 365: Measuring the aggregate effects of simplifying firm creation in Italy
Guzmán González-Torres

Notes on Financial Stability and Supervision

No. 8: **The cost of current accounts** (April 2017)

Pietro Paolo Napolitano and Alessandro Scognamiglio

In November 2016 the Bank of Italy published the outcomes of its last survey on the cost of bank current accounts. The survey estimates the average cost of households' current accounts on the basis of the fees and commissions other than interest actually charged during the previous year. Being the fifth survey, it can be used to evaluate the trend of costs of current accounts and their determinants since 2010.

This note shows the following main outcomes:

- The actual cost of a “representative” account was 85 euros as an average in the period 2010-2015 and 77 euros in 2015 (last available year).
- The cost diminished almost without interruption between 2010 and 2015, by 3.4 per cent on average. Such decrease was mainly due to lower fixed charges, in particular the annual fee. Another determinant of the cost reduction was a decrease in the variable fees, due to the decline in the average unit cost of transactions; indeed, the latter phenomenon more than counterbalanced the increase in the average cost due to a growth in the number of operations.
- During the five years observed, the actual cost for more recently opened accounts decreased more than the average. It reflects primarily the different composition of banking services used in this type of accounts; it is also due by commercial offers providing cheaper fees in order to acquire new clients.
- In the observed period the Comprehensive Cost Indicator (CCI) remained constantly and significantly higher than the average actual cost (157 compared to 85 euros), with no direct connection between the dynamics followed by the two indexes. CCI consists in an estimation of costs based both on hypotheses about customer behavior (which can differ from the actual behavior) and on hypotheses about banking services prices (which are set to the maximum charges advertised in the information sheets). Such hypotheses are responsible for the large difference between the two indexes..

Full text (pdf) in Italian only

Selection of Journal articles and books

Authors' names in boldface: Bank of Italy

Full list since 1990

Forthcoming

Albertazzi U., **M. Bottero** and **G Sene**, "Information Externalities in the Credit Market and the Spell of Credit Rationing", *Journal of Financial Intermediation*. (WP No. 980)

Andini C. and **M. Andini**, "Unemployment Persistence and Quantile Parameter Heterogeneity", *Macroeconomic Dynamics*

Andini M., A. Dalmazzo and **G. de Blasio**, "The Size of Political Jurisdictions: A Model with some Evidence from a Fascist Consolidation", *Journal of Comparative Economics.*

Bronzini R. and **A. D'Ignazio**, "Bank Internationalisation and Firm Exports: Evidence from Matched Firm-Bank Data", *Review of International Economics*. (WP No. 1055)

Bruche M. and **A. Segura**, "Debt Maturity and the Liquidity of Secondary Debt Markets", *Journal of Financial Economics*. (WP No. 1049)

Burlon L., "Public Expenditure Distribution, Voting, and Growth", *Journal of Public Economic Theory* (WP No. 961)

Federico S. and **E. Tosti**, "Exporters and Importers of Services: Firm-Level Evidence on Italy", *The World Economy*. (WP No. 877)

Fort M., **F. Manaresi** and S. Trucchi, "Banks Information Policy, Financial Literacy and Household Wealth", *Economic Policy*.

Giacomelli S. and C. Menon, "Does Weak Contract Enforcement Affect Firm Size? Evidence from the Neighbour's Court", *Journal of Economic Geography*. (WP No. 898)

Meeks R., B. Nelson and **P. Alessandri**, "Shadow Banks and Macroeconomic Instability", *International Journal of Central Banking.* (WP No. 939)

Natoli F. and **L. Sigalotti**, "Tail Co-Movement in Inflation Expectations as an Indicator of Anchoring", *International Journal of Central Banking*. (WP No. 1025)

Riggi M., "Capital Destruction, Jobless Recoveries, and the Discipline Device Role of Unemployment", *Macroeconomic Dynamics.* (WP No. 871)

Rizzica L., "When the Cat's Away. The Effects of Spousal Migration on Investments on Children", *World Bank Economic Review.*

Santoro S., "Heterogeneity and Learning with Complete Markets", *Economic Theory.*

Segura A. and J. Suarez, "How Excessive is Banks' Maturity Transformation?", *Review of Financial Studies.* (WP No. 1065)

2017

Alessandri G. and H. Mumtaz,"Financial Indicators and Density Forecasts for US Output and Inflation", *Review of Economic Dynamics*, v. 24, pp. 66-78. (WP No. 977)

Caccavaio M., **L. Carpinelli** and **G. Marinelli**, "International Banking and Cross-border Effects of Regulation: Lessons from Italy", *International Journal of Central Banking*, v. 13, 1, pp 223-248.

Cai Y., K. Judd, T. Lontzek, **V. Michelangeli** and C. Su, "Non-linear Programming Method for Dynamic Programming", *Macroeconomic Dynamics* , v. 21, 2, pp. 336-361.

De Blasio G. and S. Poy, "The Impact of Local Minimum Wages on Employment: Evidence from Italy in the 1950s ", *Journal of Regional Science*, v. 57, 1, pp. 48-74. (WP No. 953)

Mocetti S. and **E. Viviano**, "Looking Behind Mortgage Delinquencies", *Journal of Banking & Finance*, v. 75, pp. 53-63. (WP No. 999)

2016

Albanese G., G. de Blasio and **P. Sestito**, "My Parents Taught Me. Evidence on The Family Transmission of Values", *Journal of Population Economics*, v. 29, 2, pp. 571-592. (WP No. 955)

Amici M., S. Giacomelli, **F. Manaresi** and **M. Tonello**, "Red Tape Reduction and Firm Entry: New Evidence from an Italian Reform", *Economics Letters*, v. 146, pp. 24-27. (OP No. 285)

Andini M. and **G. de Blasio**, "Local Development that Money cannot Buy: Italy's Contratti di Programma", *Journal of Economic Geography*, v. 16, 2, pp. 365-393. (WP No. 915)

Andini M., **S. Giacomelli, F. Manaresi** and **M. Tonello**, "Red Tape Reduction and Firm Entry: Evidence from an Italian Reform", *Economics Letters,* v. 146, pp. 24-27. (OP No. 285)

Barone G., **A. D'Ignazio**, **G. de Blasio** and P. Naticchioni, "Mr. Rossi, Mr. Hu and Politics: The Role of Immigration in Shaping Natives' Political Preferences", *Journal of Public Economics*, v. 136, pp. 1-13.

Barone G., **D. Francesco** and **G. de Blasio,** "Boulevard of Broken Dreams: The End of EU Funding (1997: Abruzzi, Italy)", Regional *Science and Urban Economics*, v. 60, pp. 31-38.

Barone G. and **S. Mocetti**, "Inequality and Trust: New Evidence from Panel Data", Economic Inquiry, v. 54, pp. 794-809. (WP No. 973)

Selection of Journal articles and books

Beltratti A., B. Bortolotti. and **M. Caccavaio**, "Stock Market Efficiency in China: Evidence from the Split-Share Reform", *Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance*, v. 60, pp. 125-137. (WP No. 969)

Bertamino F., **R. Bronzini,** M. De Maggio and **D. Revelli**, "Regional Policies for Innovation: the Case of Technology Districts in Italy", *Regional Studies*, v. 50, pp: 1-14. (OP No. 313)

Bolatto S. and **M. Sbracia**, "Deconstructing the Gains from Trade: Selection of Industries vs Reallocation of Workers", *Review of International Economics*, v. 24, 2, pp. 344-363. (WP No. 1037)

Bolton P., X. Freixas, L. Gambacorta and **P. E. Mistrulli**, "Relationship and Transaction Lending in a Crisis", *Review of Financial Studies*, v. 29, 10, pp. 2643-2676. (WP No. 917)

Bonaccorsi di Patti E. and **E. Sette**, "Did the Securitization Market Freeze Affect Bank Lending During the Financial Crisis? Evidence from a Credit Register", *Journal of Financial Intermediation,* v. 25, 1, pp. 54-76. (WP No. 848)

Borin A. and **M. Mancini**, "Foreign Direct Investment and Firm Performance: An Empirical Analysis of Italian Firms", *Review of World Economics*, v. 152, 4, pp. 705-732. (WP No. 1011)

Bragoli D., **M. Rigon** and F. Zanetti, "Optimal Inflation Weights in the Euro Area", *International Journal of Central Banking*, v. 12, 2, pp. 357-383. (WP No. 1045)

Brandolini A., F. Carta and **F. D'Amuri**, "A Feasible Unemployment-Based Shock Absorber for the Euro Area", *Journal of Common Market Studies*, v. 54, 5, pp. 1123–1141. (OP No. 254)

Brandolini A. and **E. Viviano**, "Behind and Beyond the (Headcount) Employment Rate", *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A*, v. 179, 3, pp. 657-681. (WP No. 965)

Bripi F., "The Role of Regulation on Entry: Evidence From the Italian Provinces", *World Bank Economic Review*, v. 30, 2, pp. 383-411.(WP No. 932)

Bronzini R. and **P. Piselli**, "The Impact of R&D Subsidies on Firm Innovation", *Research Policy*, v. 45, 2, pp. 442-457. (WP No. 960)

Busetti F. and **M. Caivano**, "The Trend–Cycle Decomposition of Output and the Phillips Curve: Bayesian Estimates for Italy and the Euro Area", *Empirical Economics*, v. 50, 4, pp. 1565-1587. (WP No. 941)

Calza A. and **A. Zaghini**, "Shoe-Leather Costs in the Euro Area and the Foreign Demand for Euro Banknotes", *International Journal of Central Banking,* v. 12, 1, pp. 231-246. (WP No. 1039)

Casiraghi M., E. Gaiotti, L. Rodano and **A. Secchi**, "ECB Unconventional Monetary Policy and the Italian Economy During the Sovereign Debt Crisis", *International Journal of Central Banking*, v. 12, 2, pp. 269-315 . (OP No. 203)

Ciani E., "Retirement, Pension Eligibility and Home Production", *Labour Economics*, v. 38, pp. 106-120. (WP No. 1056)

Cingano F., M. Leonardi, J. Messina and G. Pica, "Employment Protection Legislation, Capital Investment and Access to Credit: Evidence from Italy", *Economic Journal*, v. 126, 595, pp. 1798-1822.

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