PERSONAL INFORMATION

Michele Cantarella

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Economics of Digital Platforms, Political Economy, Labour Economics, Economics of Innovation, Household Finance

CURRENT POSITIONS

March 2023 – Current Date

Assistant professor - Applied Economics (SECS-P/06)

AXES research unit, IMT Lucca
Piazza S.Francesco, 19, Lucca, Italy

March 2023 – Current Date

University Lecturer - Introduction to Macroeconomics (SECS-P/02)

Dept. of Economics "Marco Biagi", University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
Degree course in "Economia e marketing internazionale" (D.M.270/04) 2022-23
Via Jacopo Berengario, 51, Modena, Italy

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

November 2016 – March 2020

PhD, Economics: Labour, Development and Innovation

Dept. of Economics "Marco Biagi", University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy
Thesis: "Changing societies in the post-crash era: essays in political economy"
Advisor: Prof. Tindara Addabbo

September 2014 – October 2016

Master's degree, Global Studies

LUISS Guido Carli, Rome, Italy
110/110 *magna cum laude* | GPA: 29.16/30

September 2011 – July 2014

Bachelor's degree, Political Science

LUISS Guido Carli, Rome, Italy
110/110 *magna cum laude* | GPA: 29.19/30

July 2011

High School Diploma

Liceo Classico "Francesco Vivona", Rome, Italy

VISITING

September 2018 – February 2018

Visiting Student, 2018 EIEF Graduate Programme

Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance, Rome, Italy

August 2015 – December 2015

Erasmus+ Exchange, PSIA International Public Management

Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences po), Paris, France

September 2013 – December 2013	**Erasmus Exchange, Social Sciences**
	Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

OTHER TRAINING

August 2022	**Big data, machine learning and data science for social science and humanities**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
September 2019	**Python Programming for Data Analysis, ECB Internal Course**
	European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
April 2019	**Lectures on Machine Learning, ECB Internal Course**
	European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
January 2019	**Text Mining for Central Banking, ECB Internal Course**
	European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
June 2018 – July 2018	**Student, 2018 Barcelona GSE Summer School**
	Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Barcelona, Spain

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

November 2022 – December 2022	**University pedagogy 2.2 - Assessment of Learning and Giving Feedback**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
November 2022 – December 2022	**University pedagogy 2.1 - Constructive alignment in course design**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
January 2022 – March 2022	**University pedagogy 1 - Learning in higher education**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

May 2022	**Quantitative methods for policy evaluation**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
	ROLE: Responsible teacher
May 2022, May 2021	**Introduction to the framework of Economic Statistics**
	University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
	ROLE: Lecturer
September 2017 – December 2017	**Introduction to Macroeconomics**
	University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy
	ROLE: Teaching & Team-Based-Learning assistant

STUDENT SUPERVISION

2021	Youxuan Zhao, How Financial Development Level impacts International Capital Flows – A Study Based on Transition Economies, Master's Thesis, IMESS, University College London & University of Helsinki. Co-supervised with: Ekholm, L. & Figueira, F.

2021   Xuan Xie, A Comparison between Developed Economies and Emerging Markets during 1998-2018, Master's Thesis, IMESS, University College London & University of Helsinki. Co-supervised with: Ekholm, L. & Merrino, S.

JOB MARKET PAPERS

2022   Piecework and job search in the platform economy; (with Strozzi, C.); IZA DP No. 15775; [Hyperlink to latest draft]

Abstract   The massive growth of jobs in the platform economy has reignited a long-standing debate on the wage elasticity of labour supply for the self-employed. Overwhelming empirical evidence seems to suggest that workers in the platform economy will work more hours than they wish to, for a lower wage, suggesting a backward-bending labour supply curve. Is this puzzling outcome explained by target earning behaviour or rather by the uncertainty arising from task search? In this paper, we test these hypotheses making use of new data on on-location and online platform workers from the EU, exploiting search shocks in a difference-in-differences strategy to reassess the wage elasticity of labour supply. We find that uncertainty in search plays a central role in inflating hours of work, revealing a positive and inelastic wage elasticity for all platform workers. On average, a percentage increase in job search leads to a net loss of 13.4% in income, suggesting that piecework might be an endemic source of demand surplus for monopsonistic markets.

2022   Does language prevent policy implementation? Evidence from the Italian Start-up Act; (with Fraccaroli, N. & Volpe, R.); [Hyperlink to latest draft]

Abstract   Does ethnolinguistic diversity prevent policy implementation? The Italian Start-up Act of 2012 is an ideal policy to investigate this question. The Act sets up a scheme of benefits which young firms can access by registering as "innovative start-up" on a voluntary basis. Due to the ethnolinguistic divide in the Trentino-Alto Adige region, we find that firms with German-named CEOs are less likely to register as start-ups than firms with Italian-named CEOs, while performing similarly in the years preceding the introduction of the policy. These findings are robust to regional heterogeneity correlated with surname origin. We exploit these asymmetries as an exogenous source of access to the benefit scheme. Our findings suggest that registered start-ups do not perform any better than comparable unregistered firms.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

2023   Does fake news affect voting behaviour?; (with Fraccaroli, N. & Volpe, R.); *Research policy*; Doi: `https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2022.104628`; Citations: 38

2021   Workers in the Crowd: The Labour Market Impact of the Online Platform Economy; (with Strozzi, C.); *Industrial and Corporate Change, Volume 30, Issue 6, December 2021*; Doi: `http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/icc/dtab022`; Citations: 21

OTHER JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

2022   Työmarkkinoiden polarisaatio ja kotitalouksien lainanotto; (with Kavonius, I.K.); *Kansantaloudellinen Aikakauskirja, 1/2022*; [Hyperlink to publication]

REFEREED WORKING PAPERS

2022   Job polarisation and household borrowing; (with Kavonius, I.K.); *ECB Working Paper Series, No 2683*; [Hyperlink to publication]

2021   Mind the wealth gap: a new allocation method to match micro and macro statistics for household wealth; (with Neri, A. & Ranalli, M.G.); *Bank of Italy - Questioni di Economia e Finanza (Occasional Papers) No. 646*; [Hyperlink to publication]

REFEREED POLICY BRIEFS

2022   Job polarisation decreases the access to credit in Europe; (with Kavonius, I.K.); *SURF Policy Brief No 422*

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

2019   #Portichiusi: the human costs of migrant deterrence in the Mediterranean; [Hyperlink to publication]

TECHNICAL AND POLICY REPORTS / CONFERENCE PAPERS

2020   Understanding household wealth: linking macro and micro data to produce distributional financial accounts; (with various authors); ECB Expert Group on Linking Macro and Micro Data for the Household Sector, ECB, Frankfurt, Germany; [HYPERLINK TO PUBLICATION]

2018   Crowdwork and Work-on-Demand in the EU: legal and economic implications for the EU labour market; Paper presented at the 2018 InGRID-2 expert workshop 'Measuring the platform economy: size and impact', CEPS, Bruxelles, Belgium

REFEREEING ACTIVITY

Journal of Human-Computer Interaction; International Journal of Public Opinion Research; Behaviour & Information Technology; 2022 Spring Meeting of Young Economists

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

April 2023   RES 2023 Annual Conference; UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, Glasgow, UK Presenting: "*Piecework and job search in the platform economy*"

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

December 2022   AASLE 2022 Conference; THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO, Tokyo, Japan Presenting: "*Does language prevent policy implementation? Evidence from the Italian Start-up Act*"

November 2022   Helsinki GSE Labor and Public Economics Seminar Series; HELSINKI GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Piecework and job search in the platform economy*"

October 2022   Labore seminar series; LABOUR INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Piecework and job search in the platform economy*"

October 2022   ECEFG Competition Policy Workshop 2022; ERASMUS UNIVERSITY, Rotterdam, Netherlands Presenting: "*Piecework and job search in the platform economy*"

October 2022   Labore seminar series; LABOUR INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Does language prevent policy implementation? Evidence from the Italian Start-up Act*"

September 2022   37th National Conference of Labour Economics; ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA ECONOMIA DEL LAVORO, Salerno, Italy Presenting: "*Piecework and job search in the platform economy*"

June 2022   Summer Seminar of Finnish Economists; UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ, Jyväskylä, Finland Presenting: "*Job Polarisation and household borrowing*"

February 2022   Bank of Finland Seminar Series; BANK OF FINLAND, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Job Polarisation and household borrowing*"

September 2021   Rethinking clusters: IV International Conference on Cluster Research; UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE, Florence, Italy Presenting: "*Impact evaluation of start-up innovation policies: evidence from a natural experiment*"

June 2021   25th Spring Meeting of Young Economists; UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, Bologna, Italy Presenting: "*Does fake news affect voting behaviour?*"

May 2021   Helsinki GSE Industrial Organisation Seminar Series; HELSINKI GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Impact evaluation of start-up innovation policies: evidence from a natural experiment*"

December 2020   Centre for Social Data Science PhD Seminar Series; UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI, CSDS, Helsinki, Finland Presenting: "*Mind the wealth gap Reconciling micro and macro statistics for household wealth*"

December 2019   Unimore LSI PhD Seminar Series; FONDAZIONE MARCO BIAGI, Modena, Italy Presenting: "*Does fake news affect voting behaviour?*"

November 2019   13th CESifo Workshop on Political Economy; IFO INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH, Dresden, Germany Presenting: "*Does fake news affect voting behaviour?*"

October 2019	BISA Postgraduate Research Workshop on International Migration Politics; UNIVERSITY OF BATH OFFICE IN LONDON, London, UK Presenting: "#*Portichiusi: the human costs of migrant deterrence in the Mediterranean*"
October 2019	ECB internal seminar: "DFAs: closing the micro-macro gap"; EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK, Frankfurt am Main, Germany Presenting: "*Distributional Financial Accounts: A new estimation method to close the gap between micro and macro statistics on household wealth*"
September 2019	2nd IDSC of IZA/CAIS Workshop: "Matching Workers and Jobs Online"; CENTER FOR ADVANCED INTERNET STUDIES (CAIS), Bochum, Germany Presenting: "*Workers in the Crowd: The Labour Market Impact of the Online Platform Economy*"
July 2019	FB&Associati internal seminar: "Does fake news affect voting behaviour?" ; FB&ASSOCIATI, Rome, Italy Presenting: "*Does fake news affect voting behaviour?*"
April 2019	Joint workshop: "BOMOPAV Economics meeting" ; DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS "MARCO BIAGI", Modena, Italy Presenting: "*Labour market effects of crowdwork in the US and EU: an empirical investigation*"
March 2019	"Meeting of the Expert Group on Linking Macro and Micro Statistics for the household sector"; BANK OF ITALY, Rome, Italy Presenting: "*Pareto adjustments to the top tail of the HFCS wealth distribution: towards a unified approach*"
July 2018	2nd OECD/IZA Workshop: "Labor Productivity and the Digital Economy"; ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Paris, France Presenting: "*Labour market effects of crowdwork in the US and EU: an empirical investigation*"
April 2018	InGRID-2 expert workshop "Measuring the platform economy: size impact"; CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES, Bruxelles, Belgium Presenting: "*Crowdwork and Work-on-Demand in the EU: legal and economic implications for the EU labour market*"

COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

August 2020	Archimede Awards (Rank: 1st); Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia
	for the thesis "Changing societies in the post-crash era: essays in political economy"

APPOINTMENTS HELD

March 2020 – March 2023	### Postdoctoral researcher University of Helsinki - CCSR Snellmaninkatu 10, Helsinki, Finland
April 2021 – October 2021	### Expert consultant for service request from EC-DG EMPL (Platform work directive) PPMI GROUP, UAB Gedimino pr. 50, Vilnius, Lithuania
August 2021 – July 2022	### Expert Consultant COVIGE - Italian Ministry of Youth Policy Via della Mercede, 9, Rome, Italy
October 2019 – December 2019	### Economic Consultant European Central Bank - DGS Sonnemannstraße 20, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
October 2018 – September 2019	### PhD Trainee, External Statistics and Sector Accounts Division European Central Bank - DGS Sonnemannstraße 20, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
July 2016 – February 2016	### Internship on skills and the future of jobs

Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD
1, rue Viala, Paris, France

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue Italian

Other languages

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
C2	C2	C2	C2	C2

English

IELTS Academic (Score: 7.5, January 2015); Certificate in Advanced English (August 2009)				

	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	Writing
French	C1	C2	B1	B1	B1
Spanish	B2	B2	A2	A2	A1
Finnish	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user – B1 and B2: Independent user – C1 and C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Computer skills
- PROFICIENT USER: R, STATA, LaTeX, MS Office, Adobe Photoshop/Premiere, Logic Pro, Blender
- INDEPENDENT USER: Python, Julia, html, CSS
- BASIC USER: MATLAB

INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES

Columns:
- *Nov 2019 Migranti. La strategia dei «porti chiusi» non ha ridotto partenze e morti, Avvenire*
- *Jul 2019 (with Fraccaroli, N. & Volpe, R.) The effect of fake news on populist voting: Evidence from a natural experiment in Italy, VoXEU.org*

Activities: Founding member and national coordinator (05/2014 - 04/2016) of the "Rethinking Economics Italia" student association (and the local association in LUISS "Rethinking Economics")

Other interests: Cinema and Film-making, Music production, Literature, 3D modelling, Modern art, Game design