

CURRICULUM VITAE



Prof. Paolo Lorenzo Ferrara, PhD

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Place and Date of birth: Catania (Italy), 10th August 1991

Personal Webpage: <https://www.lex.unict.it/docenti/paolo.ferrara>

Current position:

Assistant Professor in Public Economics at the University of Catania – Department of Law – since October 2025. www.lex.unict.it

Contract Professor of Environmental Economics at the Columbus Academy – SSML of Rome – since October 2022. <https://columbusacademy.it/>

External affiliate al HEDG (Health, Econometrics and Data Group), Centre for Health Economics, The University of York (UK) – since May 2018. <https://www.york.ac.uk/economics/hedg/people/>

Previous position:

Assistant Professor in Public Economics at the University of Chieti-Pescara – Department of Economics – since September 2024 to September 2025. <https://www.unich.it/>

Research fellow in Public Economics at the University of Catania – Department of Law – from September 2023 to August 2024. <https://www.lex.unict.it/it/ricerca/assegnisti-di-ricerca>

Research fellow in Political Economy at the University of Catania – Department of Economics and Business – from September 2022 to August 2023. <https://www.dei.unict.it/>

Research grant in Economics at the University of Catania – Department of Economics and Business – from September 2019 to August 2022. <https://www.dei.unict.it/>

Academic title:

PhD in “Economics, Management and Statistics” at the University of Messina – Department of Economics – since March 2019 <https://economia.unime.it/it>

(Title of the Thesis: “Transparency and liability in the healthcare sector”)

Master in Health Economics and Pharmacoeconomics – Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) Barcelona – since December 2024 <https://www.bsm.upf.edu/es>

(Title of the Thesis: “Cost effectiveness analysis of biosimilar drugs for lung diseases: a systematic literature review”)

Specialization courses:

- “z-Tree crash course”, Prof. Maria Bigoni, Università di Bologna, 29 Marzo - 5 Aprile 2017
- “Programming economic experiment with z-Tree”, Prof. Urs Fischbacher, University of Konstanz, 26-28 Febbraio 2018
- Crash Course in Experimental Economics, Prof. Arthur Schram, University of Amsterdam – Tinbergen Institute, 19-25 Agosto 2019
- Postgraduate Course of Econometrics 2022 “Introductory Econometrics”, Prof. Giorgio Calzolari, SIeE (Società Italiana di Econometria), Bertinoro, 6-11 Giugno 2022
- Short Course in Health Economics Theory for Empirical Economists: Modelling the Demand for and Supply of Health Services, prof. Luigi Siciliani, University of York (online), EuHEA (European Health Economics Association), 26 Aprile 2023
- CEBEX Summer School on Behavioral Sciences 2023, prof. Vojtěch Zíka, Center for Behavioral Experiments (CEBEX), Praga, 28 Luglio - 4 Agosto 2023
- Summer school 2023 on the Water, Energy, Food, and Ecosystems Nexus, AWESOME - Managing Water, Ecosystems and food across sectors and Scales in the South Mediterranean, proff. Marta Castellini, Camilla Gusperti, Ilenia Gaia Romani, FEEM - Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (online), 28-31 Agosto 2023
- Course of Health Econometrics and Policy evaluation 2023, prof. Catia Nicodemo, Nuffield Department of Primary Care - Oxford University, 26 - 28 Ottobre 2023

Publications:

1. Castro, M. F., Ferrara, P. L., Guccio, C., & Lisi, D. (2019). Medical malpractice liability and physicians' behavior: experimental evidence. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 166, 646-666. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2019.08.006>
2. Finocchiaro Castro, Massimo and Ferrara, Paolo Lorenzo and Guccio, Calogero and Lisi, Domenico (2021): Optimal mixed payment system and medical liability. A laboratory study. MPRA Paper No. 110276 <https://mpa.ub.uni-muenchen.de/110276/>
3. Di Caro, P., & Ferrara, P. (2022). Introduction to Urban Science: Evidence and Theory of Cities as Complex Systems. *Journal of Regional Science*, 63(1), 253-254. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jors.12599>
4. Ferrara, P. L., Guccio, C., & Scaglioni, C. (2023). Is Transparency a 'Free Lunch'? Evidence from the Italian Local Health Authorities. *Italian Economic Journal*, 1-46. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40797-023-00229-3>
5. Di Caro, P., Ferrara, P. L., & Giacobbe, P. (2023). Percezione del fabbisogno di beni pubblici e sviluppo locale: un caso studio per il quartiere di San Cristoforo nella periferia sud di Catania. *Regional Economy*, 7(Q1), 35-44. <https://www.regionaleconomy.eu/RePEc/pdf/7Q1/35-44.pdf> ISSN 2704-6303
6. Ferrara, P. L., La Noce, M., & Sciuto, G. (2023). Sustainability of Green Building Materials: A Scientometric Review of Geopolymers from a Circular Economy Perspective. *Sustainability*, 15(22), 16047. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su152216047>
7. Ferrara, P. L., Giacobbe P., & Patti A. (2023). La mobilità skilled in Italia: un'analisi sui fattori di influenza. *Rivista economica del Mezzogiorno*, 37(3-4), 523-548. <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.1432/113848>
8. Cavalieri, M., Ferrara, P. L., Finocchiaro, C., & Martorana, M. F. (2024). An Economic Analysis of the Use of Local Natural Waste: Volcanic Ash of Mt. Etna Volcano (Italy) for Geopolymer Production. *Sustainability*, 16(2), 740. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16020740>
9. Di Vita, G., Ferrara, P. L., & Patti, A. (2024). An empirical study of administrative justice at times of COVID-19 in Italy. *Regional Studies, Regional Science*, 11(1), 558-582. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21681376.2024.2390515>
10. Di Vita, G., Ferrara, P. L., & Patti, A. (2025). Analysis of time duration of civil disputes in Italy: a case study with microdata from Sicilian courts. *The Annals of Regional Science*, 74(1), 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00168-024-01340-8>
11. Caserta, M., Ferrante, L., Ferrara, P. L., & Fontana, S. (2025). Too big to be efficient? The role of size in public procurement performance. *Economic Analysis and Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eap.2025.05.036>
12. Ferrara, C. A., & Ferrara, P. L. (2025). Cost-effectiveness and efficacy analysis of biosimilar drugs for lung diseases: a systematic review. *Journal of Economic Studies*, 52(9), 174-192. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JES-01-2025-0059>

13. Di Vita, G., Ferrara, P. L., & Patti, A. (2026). The economic costs of oligopoly in the markets of rare earth minerals. *Journal of Policy Modeling*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpolmod.2025.11.004>

14. Di Caro, P., Ferrara, P. L., & Torrisi, G. (2026). Network and Spatial Interactions in Regional Economic Resilience Studies: A Scientometric Analysis. *Networks and Spatial Economics*, 1-38. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11067-026-09754-x>

Member of academic associations:

Health Econometrics and Data Group (HEDG) <https://www.york.ac.uk/economics/hedg/people/>

SIEP – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica <http://www.siepweb.it/siep/wp/elenco-soci-2/>

SIDE – Società Italiana Diritto ed Economia <https://www.side-isle.it/>

ALEA – American Law and Economics Association <https://www.amlecon.org/index.html>

Participation and organization of national and international seminars and conferences:

10th International Workshop on Economic Analysis of Litigation 2023, Università degli Studi di Catania, 22-23 June 2023.

Member of the local organizing committee

XV Workshop NERI “Local Public Service Provision and Quality of Institutions”, Dipartimento di Economia, Università degli Studi “G. d’Annunzio” di Chieti - Pescara, 29-30 May 2025.

Member of the local organizing committee

21st Conference SIDE 2025 – Società Italiana Diritto ed Economia, Dipartimento di Economia e Impresa, Università degli Studi di Catania, 11-13 December 2025.

Member of the local organizing committee

International Conference on Economic and Social Studies (ICESoS 2026), International Burch University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), 12 Giugno 2026.

Scientific Board Member

XXIX Conference SIEP 2017 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, “Economia pubblica ed economia comportamentale”, Università degli Studi di Catania, 21-22 Settembre 2017.

Paper: Castro M. F., Ferrara P. L., Guccio C., Lisi D. Medical malpractice liability and physicians’ behavior: Experimental evidence.

13th Conference SIDE 2017 – Società Italiana Diritto ed Economia, LUMSA – Roma, 15-16 Dicembre 2017.

Paper: Ferrara P. L., Guccio C., Scaglioni C. Evaluating the role of transparency in measuring the performance of Local Health Authority.

5th Conference EuHEA 2018 – European Health Economics Association, “PhD Student – Supervisor Conference”, Università degli Studi di Catania, 5-7 Settembre 2018.

Paper: Castro M. F., Ferrara P. L., Guccio C., Lisi D. Medical malpractice liability and physicians’ behavior: Experimental evidence.

XXXI Conference SIEP 2019 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, Università di Torino, 19-20 Settembre 2019.

Paper: Castro, M. F., Ferrara, P. L., Guccio, C., Lisi, D. Does medical malpractice liability matter for calibration of mixed payment systems?.

National Conference “Le nuove frontiere dei materiali innovativi e green nel restauro e nell’edilizia”, Università degli Studi di Catania, 24-25 Febbraio 2022.

Paper: Cavalieri M., Ferrara P. L., Martorana M. F., Rizzo R. Cultural heritage restoration and visitors’ experience evaluation. Evidences from an Italian UNESCO site.

10th Conference EWACE 2022 – European Workshop on Applied Cultural Economics, Università di Torino, 8-10 Settembre 2022.

Paper: Cavalieri M., Ferrara P. L., Martorana M. F., Rizzo R. Cultural heritage restoration and visitors’ experience evaluation. Evidences from an Italian UNESCO site.

XXXIV Conference SIEP 2022 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, Università degli Studi dell’Aquila, 15-16 Settembre 2022.

Paper: Ferrara, P. L., Guccio, C., Scaglioni C. Is transparency a free lunch? Evidence from the Italian Local Health Authorities.

11th IAERE Annual Conference 2023 – Italian Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Università degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope, 23-24 Febbraio 2023.

Paper: Cavalieri M., Ferrara P. L., Martorana M. F. R. Regional sustainability of local natural wastes. A case study for Etna volcano ash geopolymers.

4th Paper Development Workshop for Early-Career Scholars - Conducting Experiments in Entrepreneurship Research 2023, University of Groningen, 28 Febbraio - 2 Marzo 2023.

Paper: Baglieri D., Cinici M. C., Ferrara P. L., Marino A. Opportunity recognition for sustainable entrepreneurship. A field experiment investigation.

10th International Workshop on Economic Analysis of Litigation 2023, Università degli Studi di Catania, 22-23 Giugno 2023.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L. Analysis of time duration of legal disputes. A case study with microdata from the civil Court of Catania.

XXXV Conference SIEP 2023 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, Università degli Studi dell’Aquila, 14-15 Settembre 2023.

Paper: Caserta M., Ferrante L., Ferrara P.L., Fontana S. Is the bigger the better? An analysis on public procurement efficiency in Italy.

Prague Conference on Behavioral Sciences 2023 – Center for Behavioral Experiments - CEBEX, University of New York in Prague (UNYP), 12 Ottobre 2023.

Paper: Baglieri D., Cinici M. C., Ferrara P. L., Marino A. Opportunity recognition for sustainable entrepreneurship. A field experiment investigation.

3th Tracy Workshop “Achieving Carbon Neutrality: Sustainable Business Models, Social Entrepreneurship, and B Corps”, Università degli Studi di Padova, 27 Novembre 2023.

Paper: Baglieri D., Cinici M. C., Ferrara P. L., Marino A. Is energy transition an opportunity for carbon neutrality? Evidence from a field experiment.

VIII National Conference of PhDs in Social Science – CNDSS 2023, Università degli Studi di Catania, 29 Novembre - 2 Dicembre 2023.

Paper: Ferrara P. L., Giacobbe P., Patti A. Mobilità giovanile qualificata in Italia: un'analisi empirica sui fattori di influenza.

19th Conference SIDE 2023 – Società Italiana Diritto ed Economia, Università degli Studi di Brescia, 13-15 Dicembre 2023.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Analysis of time duration of civil disputes in Italy. A case study with microdata from Sicilian Courts.

51st Conference EPCS 2024 – European Public Choice Society, University of Vienna, 2-5 Aprile 2024.

Paper: Caserta M., Ferrante L., Ferrara P.L., Fontana S. Is the bigger the better? An analysis on public procurement efficiency in Italy.

63rd ERSAs Congress – European Regional Science Association, Terceira Island (online), 26-30 Agosto 2024.

Paper: Di Caro P., Ferrara P.L., Torrisi G. The rise of regional economic resilience studies: a spatial scientometric analysis.

XXXVI Conferenza SIEP 2024 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, Università degli Studi di Cagliari, 12-13 Settembre 2024.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Analysis of time duration of civil disputes in Italy. A case study with microdata from Sicilian Courts.

21st Workshop CiMET 2024 – Centro Universitario Nazionale di Economia Applicata, Università di Enna “Kore”, 19-20 Settembre 2024.

Paper: Di Caro P., Fantechi F., Ferrara P.L., Fratesi U. Resilience in lagging regions: Evidence from Italian micro firm-level data.

RSA Annual Conference 2025 – Regional Studies Association, University of Porto, 6-9 Maggio 2025.

Paper: Di Caro P., Fantechi F., Ferrara P.L., Fratesi U. Resilience in lagging regions: Evidence from Italian micro firm-level data.

XV Workshop NERI “Local Public Service Provision and Quality of Institutions”, Università degli Studi “G. d'Annunzio” di Chieti - Pescara, 29-30 Maggio 2025.

Paper: Di Caro P., Fantechi F., Ferrara P.L., Fratesi U. Resilience in lagging regions: Evidence from Italian micro firm-level data.

XLVI Conferenza AISRe – Associazione Italiana di Scienze Regionali, Università degli Studi “G. d'Annunzio” di Chieti - Pescara, 10-12 Settembre Maggio 2025.

Paper: Di Caro P., Fantechi F., Ferrara P.L., Fratesi U. Resilience in lagging regions: Evidence from Italian micro firm-level data.

XXXVII Conferenza SIEP 2025 – Società Italiana Economia Pubblica, Università di Napoli “Federico II”, 18-19 Settembre 2025.

Paper: Di Caro P., Fantechi F., Ferrara P.L., Fratesi U. Resilience in lagging regions: Evidence from Italian micro firm-level data.

21st Conferenza SIDE 2025 – Società Italiana Diritto ed Economia, Dipartimento di Economia e Impresa, Università degli Studi di Catania, 11-13 Dicembre 2025.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Does bankruptcy reform affect the length of legal disputes? Empirical evidence from District Courts.

ASSA 2026 Annual Meeting – Allied Social Science Association, American Economic Association, Philadelphia (Pennsylvania - USA), 3-5 Gennaio 2026. (Poster Session).

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. The economic costs of oligopoly in the markets of Rare Earth Elements.

Midterm Conference 2026 European Master in Law & Economics (EMLE), Institute of Law & Economics (ILE), University of Hamburg, 13 Febbraio 2026.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Does bankruptcy reform affect the length of legal disputes? Empirical evidence from District Courts.

XVI Workshop NERI “Digitalization, Institutions, and Public Policy”, Università del Salento, Lecce, 28-29 Maggio 2026.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Does Italian bankruptcy reform affect the length of litigations? Empirical evidence from the Court of Catania.

International Conference on Economic and Social Studies (ICESoS 2026), International Burch University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), 12 Giugno 2026.

Paper: Di Vita G., Ferrara P.L., Patti A. Does Bankruptcy Reform Affect the Length of Legal Disputes? Empirical Evidence from District Courts.

Scientific responsibility for international and national research projects:

Scientific Director of the University “G. d'Annunzio” of Chieti – Pescara for the project “DeSK - Developing Shared Knowledge in Innovative Materials and Digital Transformation for Sustainable Economy and Green Transition” underway from October 2024 to September 2025.

<https://www.mur.gov.it/sites/default/files/2024-10/Scheda%20progetto%20TNE23-00022.pdf>

Awards and recognitions at national and international level:

Recognition for research in social sciences, economics, and politics 2023 – Achille Grandi Foundation <https://www.fondazionegrandi.it/>

Paper: Di Caro, P., Ferrara, P. L., & Giacobbe, P. (2023). Percezione del fabbisogno di beni pubblici e sviluppo locale: un caso studio per il quartiere di San Cristoforo nella periferia sud di Catania. *Regional Economy*, 7(Q1), 35-44.

Contributions to encyclopedia:

E-Scholarly Community Encyclopedia - Environmental Benefits of Geopolymers
<https://encyclopedia.pub/entry/55391>

Editorial Board member:

- Environmental Challenges (ENVC) since February 2026. (*Associate Editor*)

ISSN: 2667-0100

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/environmental-challenges/about/editorial-board>

- International Journal of Applied Behavioral Economics (IJABE) from October 2024 to December 2025

ISSN 2160-9802

<https://www.igi-global.com/journals/open-access/reviewers/international-journal-applied-behavioral-economics/49170>

- Scientific Report (SREP) since June 2026 in corso

ISSN 2045-2322

<https://www.nature.com/srep/about/editors#editorial-board>

Referee for international scientific journals:

European Journal of Law and Economics; The Annals of Regional Science; Review of Law and Economics; Regional Studies; Journal of Infrastructure, Policy and Development; Journal of Sustainable Research; International Journal of Applied Behavioral Economics; Regional Science Policy & Practice; Rivista Economica del Mezzogiorno; BMC Nephrology.

Teaching activity:

- *PhD Course*

Sustainability Development: Economics principles - Ph.D. Course in Science and Technology for Sustainable Development (STSD), Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Studi Socio-Economici, Gestionali e Statistici (DiSEGS) – since A.Y. 2024/2025.
https://www.stsd.unich.it/?page_id=124

- *Bachelor and Master*

Scienza delle Finanze, Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Giurisprudenza – Università degli Studi di Catania – Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza – since A.Y. 2025/2026.

Economia e politiche culturali, Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Direzione Aziendale – Università degli Studi di Catania – Dipartimento di Economia e Impresa – since A.Y. 2025/2026.

Economia della Regolamentazione, Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Economia e Commercio – Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Economia – A.Y. 2025/2026.

Docente a contratto – insegnamento: Economia dell’Ambiente (SECS-P/01) – Columbus Academy - SSML di Roma, since A.Y. 2022/2023.

Economia della Regolamentazione, Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Economia e Commercio – Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Economia – since A.Y. 2025/2026.

Scienza delle Finanze, Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Economia Aziendale – Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Economia – A.Y. 2024/2025.

Topics in Public Economics, Corso di Laurea in Economia e Commercio, Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Economia – since A.Y. 2024/2025.

Economia sostenibile applicata, Corso di Laurea in Scienze dell'habitat sostenibile, Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti - Pescara – Dipartimento di Architettura – A.Y. 2024/2025.

- *Abroad*

Visiting Professor at International Burch University (IBU) - Sarajevo (Bosnia & Herzegovina), April 2025.

July 12th 2026