

Roberto IACONO

Curriculum Vitae

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CV last updated: May 16th 2025.

Date and place of birth: July 22nd, 1983. Caserta, Italy.

Citizenship: Italian; Norwegian.

Academic positions & main affiliations: 2025/3 - present: **Professor in Economics**, Department of Social Work, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, ([NTNU](https://www.ntnu.no)).

2016/1 – 2025/2: **Associate Professor in Economics**, Department of Social Work, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, ([NTNU](https://www.ntnu.no)).

2023/3 – present: **Visiting Senior Fellow**, LSE International Inequalities Institute ([LSE III](https://www.lse.ac.uk/Inequalities)).

2024/9 – present: **CESifo Research Network Affiliate**.

2020/12 - present: **Fellow**, World Inequality Database ([WID.World](https://wid.world/)).

Editorial service: 2024-2025: **Special Issue Guest Editor**, Capital vs. Labor: Perspectives on Inequality and Taxation in the 21st Century, *European Economic Review* ([EER](https://www.eur-journal.org)), (NSD:2).

2019/5 - present: **Managing Editor**, *Journal of Income Distribution* (JID), (NSD:1).

Research fields and interests: Public Economics, Applied Econometrics, Inequality, Social & Welfare Policy.

Peer-reviewed journal publications: [18] Iacono R. (2025), "[The Welfare versus Work Paradox](#)". *PLOS One* 20(5): e0321564. Featured in [[Gemini](#)]. (NSD:1).

[17] Iacono R. and Marino M. and Mollerstrom J. (2024), "[\(Mis-\) Perceptions, information, and political polarization: A survey and a systematic literature review](#)". *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 85, 102578 (NSD:1, AJG:2).

[16] Iacono R. and E. Palagi (2023), "[A micro perspective on \$r > g\$](#) ". *Economica*, 90: 531-556. Featured in [[VoxEU](#)], [[A Correction: a podcast](#)]. (NSD:2, AJG:3).

[15] Iacono R. & Smedsvik B. (2023), "[\(In\)visible sanctions: micro-level evidence on compulsory activation for young welfare recipients](#)". *Journal of Social Policy* (NSD:2; AJG:3).

[14] Iacono R. and M. Ranaldi (2023), "[The evolution of income composition inequality in Italy 1989-2016](#)". *Review of Income and Wealth*, 69(1): 124-149 (NSD:1, AJG:3).

[13] Iacono R. and E. Palagi (2022), "[Still the Lands of Equality? Heterogeneity of Income Composition in the Nordics, 1975–2016](#)". *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 22(2): 221-268. (NSD:1, AJG:2).

- [12] Faccio T. and Iacono R. (2022), "[Corporate Income Taxation and Inequality: Review and discussion of issues raised in - The triumph of injustice: How the rich dodge taxes and how to make them pay](#)". *Review of Income and Wealth*, 68: 819-829. (NSD:1, AJG:3).
- [11] D'Agostino A., Iacono R. and Smedsvik B. (2022), "[Immigration and Social Assistance: evidence from the Norwegian welfare state](#)". *Social Policy & Administration*, 56(4): 648-660. (NSD:1, AJG:2).
- [10] Iacono R. and M. Ranaldi (2021), "[The nexus between perceptions of inequality and preferences for redistribution](#)". *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 19(1): 94-117. (NSD:1, AJG:2).
- [9] Iacono R. and M. Viccaro (2021), "[The Basilicata Wealth Fund](#)". *Scienze Regionali - Italian Journal of Regional Science*, 20: 577-594. [Preprint](#). (NSD:1).
- [8] Iacono R. and M. Ranaldi (2020), "[The Wage Curve across the Wealth Distribution](#)", *Economics Letters*, Volume 196, November 2020, 109580. Featured in [[VoxEU](#)], [[Naked Capitalism](#)]. (NSD:1, AJG:3).
- [7] Iacono R. (2019), "[The Norwegian Oil Bonanza and the Scandinavian Model in Comparative Perspective](#)", *Comparative Economic Studies*, 61(1): 63-82. (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [6] Iacono R. (2018), "[The Nordic Model of Economic Development and Welfare: Recent Developments and Future Prospects](#)", *Intereconomics: Review of European Economic Policy*, 53(4): 185-190. (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [5] Iacono R. (2018), "[The Dutch Disease revisited: absorption constraint and learning by doing](#)", *Portuguese Economic Journal*, 17(1): 61-85. [Preprint](#). (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [4] Iacono R. (2017), "[Minimum Income Schemes in Europe: is there a trade-off with activation policies?](#)", *IZA Journal of European Labor Studies*; 6:1. (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [3] Iacono R. (2017), "[A comparison of fiscal rules for resource-rich economies](#)", *Economic Analysis and Policy*, 55: 179-193. [Preprint](#). (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [2] Iacono R. (2016), "[No blessing, no curse? On the benefits of being a resource-rich southern region of Italy](#)", *Research in Economics*, 70 (2): 346-359. [Preprint](#). (NSD:1, AJG:1).
- [1] Iacono R. (2014), "[On the interplay between intergenerational transfers and natural resources](#)", *South-Eastern Europe Journal of Economics*, 12(2): 167-199. (NSD:1).
- Working papers and work in progress: [5] Iacono R. and Smedsvik B., "[Behavioral responses to wealth taxation: evidence from a Norwegian reform](#)". CESifo Working Paper No. 11335. *Submitted*. Media coverage: [Cato Institute](#) and [Dagens Næringsliv](#).
- [4] Iacono R. and K. Vadlamannati, "[Unintended Consequences of Externally Aided Projects on Fiscal Transfers: a sub-national study of India](#)". CESifo Working Paper No. 11498. *R&R World Development*.
- [3] Iacono R. and Smedsvik B., "[Compulsory activation of young welfare recipients: revisiting the trade-off between workfare and welfare generosity](#)". *R&R Socio-Economic Review*.
- [2] Berman Y., Bozbay I., Iacono R., and Vesperoni A., "Measuring Wealth: Income Capitalization with Heterogeneous Rates of Return". [Slides available here](#).

[1] Buhler J., Iacono R. and Ranaldi M., “Capital and Labor Income Mobility”. Work in progress.

Book reviews: [3] Iacono R. (2019). Review of “*Capitalism, Alone*” by B. Milanovic, [LSE Review of Books](#).

[2] Iacono R. (2019). Review of “*Measuring Poverty around the World*” by T. Atkinson, [LSE Review of Books](#).

[1] Iacono R. (2018). Review of “*The Great Leveler*” by Walter Scheidel, [LSE Review of Books](#).

Education: 2015/3. PhD in Economics, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

- Advisors: E. Matsen, R. Torvik. Dissertation: “*Essays on the Macroeconomics of Natural Resources*”.

2007/7. M.Sc. in Economics, University of Rome Sapienza. Summa cum laude.

- Advisor: Giancarlo Gandolfo. Dissertation: “*Speculative crises: theory and empirical evidence*”.

2005/7. B.Sc. in Economics, University of Rome Sapienza. Summa cum laude.

- Advisor: F. Vianello. Dissertation: “*La variazione dei prezzi relativi da Ricardo a Sraffa*”.

Other visiting positions: 2024 September: Visiting Researcher, CESifo, Munich.

2023, February-March. ARC & Stone Center Visiting Scholar, Graduate Center, CUNY (USA).

2020 August – 2021 July. Visiting Professor, University of Siena, Department of Economics and Statistics.

2020, January. Visiting Scholar, Luxembourg Income study (LIS).

2016, January. Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, CEDES, Buenos Aires.

2009, Fall. Visiting PhD student, Department of Economics, Stockholm School of Economics (SSE).

Conferences and research seminars (as speaker): 2025. [3] Department of Economics and Statistics (DEPS), University of Siena [scheduled 5.11.2025]. [2] Université Côte d'Azur, Nice [scheduled 10.9.2025]. [1] Ludwig Erhard Ifo Conference on Institutional Economics 2025, Furth, Germany.

2024. [7] Nordic Public Policy Seminar 2024 at CEBI, U of Copenhagen. [6] Seminar at the Norwegian Institute in Rome. [5] Seminar at CESifo, Munich. [4] IIPF2024, Prague. [3] SESS.EuroPhD, Sapienza U of Rome. [2] LSE International Inequalities Institute. [1] 2024 Conference Norwegian Association of Economists, U of Oslo.

2023. [4] LSE Social Policy. [3] George Mason U, Washington. [2] ARC Seminar, Graduate Center, City University of New York. [1] “Inequality in Rome” at Roma Tre University.

2022. [2] NTNU-ISA annual meeting, held in Capri, Italy. [1] University of Naples Federico II (DISES), Italy.

2021. [2] ECINEQ 2021, virtual online conference of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, organized by the LSE. [1] Department of Economics and Statistics (DEPS), University of Siena.

2020. [2] BI Norwegian Business School (online seminar). [1] Luxembourg Income Study (LIS).

2019. [2] SIECON 60th Conference of the Italian Economic Association, Palermo, Italy. [1] 8th ECINEQ Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Paris School of Economics, Paris, France.

2018. [1] EPEI2018, Parthenope University of Naples, Naples, Italy.

2017. [3] University of Zadar, Croatia. [2] Invited seminar, Samfunnsviterne - Samfunnsøkonomene, Danske Bank, Trondheim, Norway. [1] University of Oslo: Global Challenges - Nordic Experiences.

2016. [3] EEA-ESEM 31st Annual Conference, Geneva, Switzerland. [2] International Network for Economic Research (INFER) 18th Annual Conference, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Reus, Spain. [1] Institute for New Economic Thinking (YSI-INET) Political Economy of Europe, Trento, Italy.

2015. [3] 56th Conference of the Italian Economic Association, U Parthenope, Naples. [2] 4th Global Conference on Economic Geography, University of Oxford. [1] Italian Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (IAERE), Third Annual Conference, University of Padua.

2014. [3] Bergen Economics of Energy and Environment Research Conference (BEEER), NHH, Bergen. [2] Department of Economics, NTNU. [1] 2nd Int'l PhD Meeting in Economics, U of Macedonia in Thessaloniki.

2012. [2] Spring Meeting Young Economists (SMYE), ZEW, Germany. [1] Dept. of Economics, NTNU.

Conference organization: LISIT2025 – Lofoten Int'l Symposium on Inequality & Taxation. Main organizer
LISIT2023 – Lofoten Int'l Symposium on Inequality & Taxation. Main organizer.
YSI-INET & EAEPE International Symposium 2018 at NTNU. Main organizer.

External funding and projects: 2023 – Strategical research funds, NTNU, 150 000 NOK.

2022 – Support for events, The Research Council of Norway, 75 000 NOK.

2022 – Innovation funds, Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences, NTNU, 100 000 NOK.

2021, July - present: Project participant, [Make Taxation Fair](#) (financed by the Research Council of Norway).

Teaching at NTNU & USN: Bachelor level at NTNU-ISA (in Norwegian):

2013, Fall - present: *"Social Economics and Social Policy"* (Sosialøkonomi og Sosialpolitikk).

2018, Fall - present: *"Social and Welfare Policy"* (Sosial og Velferdspolitik).

Bachelor level at NTNU-ISØ (in English):

2010, Fall. *"Development Economics"* (T.A.).

2009 & 2010, Spring. *"International Economics"*.

Bachelor level at USN (in Norwegian):

2021 Fall – 2024: *"Microeconomics"* (Mikroøkonomi).

2022 Spring – 2024: *"Macroeconomics"* (Makroøkonomi).

Master level at NTNU-ISØ (in English):

2011, Fall. *"Advanced Mathematics"* (T.A.).

2011, Spring. *"Economics of Information"* (T.A.).

Master level at NTNU-ISA (in Norwegian):

2019, Spring - present: *"Quantitative methods"* (Kvantitativ metode).

2020, Fall - present: *"Politics, Welfare and Inequality"* (Politikk, Velferd og Ulikhet).

Doctoral level (in English):

2022, Spring: Lectures at the BNU-CIID-UniMC Summer School held at the University of Macerata, Italy.

Thesis supervision at NTNU: Bachelor (in Norwegian) at ISA-NTNU:

2015, Spring - present: 10 students per year (total of ca. 90 students as of Spring 2025).

Master (in Norwegian) at ISA-NTNU:

2022, Fall - present: Main supervisor of 2 candidates. Currently supervisor of 3 candidates.

PhD candidates at ISA-NTNU:

2020, Fall - 2025: Main supervisor of Bård Smedsvik. Graduation day 17.1.2025.

Referee activity ([Web of Science](#)): Tot. 39 reviews. **UHR Level-2 journals [no. of reviews]:** Journal of Political Economy; Review of Economic Studies [2]; European Economic Review [2]; J of Population Economics [7]; J of Economic Behavior and Organization. **UHR Level-1 journals [no. of reviews]:** European J of Political Economy; Review of Income and Wealth [4]; J of Economic Inequality [2]; Kyklos; International Finance; J of Institutional Economics [2]; Economic Systems [2]; Comparative Economic Studies; Economic Analysis and

Policy [2]; Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics [2]; Economics Bulletin; J of International Development; International J of Social Economics; Review of Social Economy [4]; PSL Quarterly Review.

Professional service and administrative duties:

2024. PhD defence committee, D. Guzzardi, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies.
2023/8 – present: Research Group Leader, Welfare and Migration research group at NTNU-ISA.
2023. Periodic evaluation of bachelor's degree at NTNU: ISA (in Norwegian).
2018/11 - present: Scientific Committee member, *Journal of Public Finance & Public Choice* (JPFPC). (NSD:1).
2018/10 - present: Country Lead for Norway of the Global Labor Organization ([GLO](#)).
2018/6 - present: Member of the Interuniversity Research Centre "Ezio Tarantelli" ([CIRET](#)).
2017/4. PhD thesis evaluator, Eszter Wirth, Complutense University (UCM), Spain.
2016 – 2018: coordinator of the Europe's Political Economy Working Group ([YSI](#)), INET.

Current academic memberships: European Economic Association (EEA); American Economic Association (AEA); International Institute Public Finance (IIPF); Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ); Italian Economic Association (SIE); Norwegian Association of Economists - Samfunnsøkonomene.

Blog posts, newspapers, and radio interviews:

2025-5-16. Interview, Gemini: «[Om lønna blir for lav, foretrekker mange trygd](#)».
2025-4-14. Article, Dagsavisen: «[Vi må snu om på EU-debatten](#)».
2025-2-1. Article, Forskeren: «[NAV straffer trygdemottakere vilkårlig](#)».
2024-4-22. Interview, DN: «[Forskere har analysert skattestunt – slik gikk det i Bø](#)».
2023-9-14. Article, Menabó: "[Reddito minimo e condizionalità: lezioni dall'esperienza della Norvegia](#)".
2022-10-22. Interview, TV2: "[Vanskelig å spå hvor radikal hun blir](#)".
2022-9-26. Radio interview, [Norwegian Public Radio NRK Studio 2](#).
2022-8-3. Interview, VG: «[Første gang siden krigen: – Det er fascister i den mulige regjeringen](#)».
2022-7-30. Interview, Dagsavisen: «[Høyresida med valg-gambling i Italia](#)».
2022-7-18. Interview, Dagens Næringsliv: «[Problemene har toppet seg i Italia](#)».
2020-4-5. Interview, Forskning.no: "[I Italia er ikke økonomi en del av korona-debatten](#)".
2020-4-2. Interview, Gemini: "[Til og med Prada og Gucci produserer helseutstyr nå](#)".
2019-8-20. Interview, Dagens Næringsliv: "[Italias statsminister trekker seg](#)".
2018-11-27. Radio interview, [Norwegian Public Radio NRK Alltid Nyheter](#).
2018-9-21. Blog article, INET: "[The Rise of the Radical Right in Scandinavia](#)".

Awards and Fellowships: 2023 Spring. CUNY Advanced Research Collaborative (ARC) Fellowship.
2008. Oddone Fantini Award, Assoc. Nazionale per lo Studio dei Problemi del Credito.
2002 - 2008. Mario Negri Fund Award.

Italian National Scientific Habilitation (ASN): Associate Professor Habilitation (Fascia II):

13/A1 Economics (Economia Politica): from 25/5/2022 to 25/5/2034.
13/A2 Economic Policy (Politica Economica): from 1/6/2022 to 1/6/2034.
13/A3 Public Finance (Scienza delle Finanze): from 30/5/2022 to 30/5/2034.

Languages: English: fluent. Norwegian: fluent. Spanish: fluent. Italian: mother tongue.