

Northwestern

Economics

MARA PASQUAMARIA SQUICCIARINI

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Italian

RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Research: Economic History, Applied Microeconomics
Teaching: Economic History, Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics

CURRENT POSITION

Postdoctoral fellow, Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2015-17

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of Leuven, Belgium, 2009-2014
Visiting Researcher, Dept. of Economics, Stanford University, 2014-2015
Visiting Researcher, Anderson School of Management, UCLA, 2012
M.Sc., Economics (*summa cum laude*), Bocconi University, Italy, 2009
M.Res., Economics, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, 2009
B.Sc., Economics, (*summa cum laude*), Bocconi University, Italy, 2007
Exchange Student, Dept. of Economics, Amsterdam University, The Netherlands, 2006
MA., Philosophy, University of Leuven, Belgium

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

National Science Foundation (NSF) grant (with N. Voigtländer and R. Juhasz), 2016-19
Outstanding Journal Article Award, Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy, 2015
FWO Grant -- Long stay abroad at Northwestern University, 2015
FWO Research Fellowship, 2012-16
FWO Grant -- Long stay abroad at Stanford University, 2014-15
FWO Grant -- GSE Microeconometrics Summer School, Barcelona, 2011
PhD Fellowship, University of Leuven, 2009-12

Bocconi Merit Award “Studenti Eccellenti”, 2007-09
Fellowship to participate to “Festival dell’ Economia”, Trento, Italy, 2008
“Certamen” of Latin Language, Castrovillari, Italy, 2004

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Northwestern University, Spring 2017 (scheduled)
European Economic History (undergraduate):
Lecturer, University of Leuven, March 2016
Development Economics (graduate)
Lecturer, University of Leuven, October 2015
Development Economics (undergraduate)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Organizing Committee, “First Conference on Economics and Politics of Chocolate”,
University of Leuven, Belgium, 2012
Research Assistant (Prof. Vincenzo Galasso), IGER, Milan, Italy, 2008

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Devotion and Development: Religiosity, Education, and Economic Progress in 19th
century France”

Abstract: This paper uses a historical setting to study when religion can be a barrier for diffusion of knowledge and economic development, and through which mechanism. I focus on 19th-century Catholicism and analyze a crucial phase of modern economic growth, the Second Industrial Revolution (1870-1914) in France. In this period, technology became skill-intensive, leading to the introduction of technical education in primary schools. At the same time, the Catholic Church was promoting a particularly anti-scientific program, and opposed the adoption of a technical curriculum. Using data collected from primary and secondary sources, I exploit preexisting variation in *intensity* of Catholicism (i.e., religiosity) among the different districts. I show that, despite a stable spatial distribution of religiosity over time (from 1788 to the 1950s), more religious districts had lower economic development *only* during the Second Industrial Revolution, but not before. Schooling appears to be the key mechanism: in more Catholic areas there was a slower introduction of a technical curriculum, and instead a push for religious education. Religious education, in turn, was negatively associated with industrial development about 10-15 years later, when school-aged children would enter the labor market, and this negative relationship was more pronounced in skill-intensive industrial sectors.

PUBLICATIONS

“Human Capital and Industrialization: Evidence from the Age of Enlightenment” (with N. Voigtländer). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2015, 30(4): 1825-83.

“Global hunger: Food crisis spurs aid for poverty” (with A. Guariso and J. Swinnen). *Nature*, 2013, 501 (7468): 492.

“Mixed Messages on Prices and Food Security” (with J. Swinnen). *Science*, 2012, 335(6067): 405- 406.

“Governance Quality and Net Migration Flows” (with A. Ariu and F. Docquier). *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2016, 60: 238–248.

“Food Price Shocks and the Political Economy of Global Agricultural and Development Policy” (with A. Guariso and J. Swinnen). *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 2014, 36(3): 387-415. *Outstanding Journal Article Award*.

“The Balance of Brains: Corruption and High Skilled Migration” (with A. Ariu). *EMBO Reports*, 2013, 14: 502-504.

“The Food Crisis, Mass Media and the Political Economy of Policy Analysis and Communication” (with J. Swinnen and T. Vandemoortele). *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, 2011, 38(3): 409-426.

EDITED BOOK

The Economics of Chocolate (with J. Swinnen). Oxford University Press, 2016.

WORKING PAPERS

“Knowledge Elites and Modernization: Evidence from Revolutionary France” (with N. Voigtländer), NBER Working Paper 22779, 2016

“Supply Chains and Economic Development: Insights from the Indian Dairy Sector” (with J. Swinnen and A. Vandeplas). Revision requested by *Food Policy*.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Firm Dynamics and Productivity Growth during the Industrial Revolution” – NSF Project, 2016-2019 (with Reka Juhasz and Nico Voigtländer)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS PRESENTATIONS

2016: Berkeley (USA); Louvain la Neuve (Belgium); Aix-Marseille (France); St. Andrews (UK); CAGE Conference, Venice (Italy); Licos Seminar, University of Leuven (Belgium); IRES Workshop, Louvain la Neuve (Belgium); Lake Forest College (USA)

2015: ICAE, Milan (Italy); Roosevelt University (USA)

2014: International labor mobility and inequality across nations, Clermont-Ferrand (France); 10th BETA Workshop, Strasbourg University (France); Bari University (Italy); NWO-ClioInfra Workshop, University of Barcelona (Spain); All-UC Workshop in Economic History UC Davis (USA)

2013: 5th ECINEQ Conference, Bari University (Italy); 138 EAAE Seminar, Ghent University (Belgium); LICOS Seminar, University of Leuven (Belgium)

2012: UCLA student workshop, UCLA (USA); 3rd International workshop on “Economics of Global Interactions”, Bari University (Italy)

2011: Norface Migration Network Conference, UCL, London (UK); Workshop on the Economics of Non-Profits, NGOs, and Aid Effectiveness, Namur (Belgium); 2nd

International workshop on “Economics of Global Interactions” Bari University (Italy);
2nd TEMPO Conference, Vienna (Austria); LICOS Seminar, University of Leuven
(Belgium)

2010: 4th Annual Conference of the AAWE, UC Davis (USA); CRED-LICOS Workshop,
University of Leuven (Belgium)

REFEREEING

Cliometrica, Economic History Review, Economic Journal, Explorations in Economic
History, Food Policy, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Economic Growth

LANGUAGES

Italian (native). English, Spanish, French (fluent)

REFERENCES

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