

July 2021

## **GIORGIO DI PIETRO**

**CITIZENSHIP:** Italian and UK

**ADDRESS:**

European Commission- Joint Research Centre (JRC)  
Directorate B: Growth and Innovation  
Unit B4: Human Capital and Employment  
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**CURRENT APPOINTMENT:**

2019- Scientific Officer  
European Commission- Joint Research Centre (JRC)  
Directorate B: Growth and Innovation  
Unit B4: Human Capital and Employment

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

Education Economics, Labour Economics, Public Economics, Health Economics.

**EDUCATION:**

1996/1999 PhD, Education Economics, University of Roskilde, Denmark,  
1998 Postgraduate Summer School, University of Ferrara and University of Birmingham.  
1996 Diplomatic School, Italian Society for International Organizations, Rome.  
1990/1996 Laurea cum Laude, Economics, University of La Sapienza, Rome.  
1994 Exchange Student, University of Örebro, Sweden.

**PAST EMPLOYMENT:**

2009/2021 Reader in the Economics of Education, Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster (On leave between 2019-2021)  
2003/2009 Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster

- 2001/2003 Research Fellow and Visiting Lecturer, Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster
- 2000/2001 Teaching and Research Assistant, Faculty of Economics, Department of Public Economics, University of La Sapienza, Rome
- 1999/2000 Statutory staff member, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies, Seville
- 1996/1999 Research Fellow, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies, Seville
- July/Aug.1995 Summer Internship, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies

**VISITING POSITIONS:**

- June 2011 Visiting Researcher, Institut de Economia de Barcelona (IEB)
- July 2004 Visiting Professor, University of José Antonio Echeverría, Habana

**FELLOWSHIPS:**

- 2019 Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (HEA)
- 2009- Research Fellow of Institute of Labor Economics (IZA), Bonn (<https://www.iza.org>)

**OTHER POSITIONS:**

- 2016-2019 Director of Research at the School of Organizations, Economy and Society, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster
- 2016 Consultant for the European Commission, DG JRC Directorate B – Innovation and Growth
- 2010/2011 PhD Director, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster
- 2007 Consultant for the Family and Parenting Institute
- 2004/2008 Course leader of BSc Honours Business Studies with Italian, Westminster Business School
- 2000 Consultant for the Italian Institute of Foreign Affairs

**COMPUTER SKILLS:**

Microsoft Office, E-views, SPSS, Limdep, STATA.

## LANGUAGES:

Italian (mother tongue), Fluent in English and Spanish and Good knowledge of French.

## RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS:

|      |  |         |
|------|--|---------|
| 2018 | Low Pay Commission- An assessment of what factors affect young people's decisions to enter the labour market   | £30,000 |
| 2015 | Research Framework Agreement, Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), HM Revenue & Customs         |         |
| 2015 | Quality Assurance of Econometric Analyses and Evaluations, HM Revenue & Customs (with P. Urwin, F. Buscha and A. Cerqua)                               | £30,000 |
| 2010 | The Effectiveness of Remedial Education - Addressing Enhancement in Student Performance and Retention in a Post-1992 University, The Economics Network | £1,960  |
| 2008 | Small business in the UK, Federation of Small Business, Project lead by P. Urwin   | £35,500 |

## ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS:

- 2021 "Changes in Italy's education-related digital divide", *Economic Affairs*, forthcoming.
- 2021 "Changes in the study abroad gender gap: A European cross-country analysis", *Higher Education Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- 2021 "Does an international academic environment promote study abroad?" *Journal of Studies in International Education*, forthcoming
- 2020 "Changes in socioeconomic inequality in access to study abroad programs: A cross-country analysis", *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 66, 100465
- 2019 "Do citizens hold mayors accountable for local conditions? Evidence from Italian municipalities", *Local Government Studies*, 45(1), 24-42.
- 2018 "Computers and students' achievement: An analysis of the One Laptop per Child program in Catalonia" with T. Mora and J.-O. Escardibul, *International Journal of Educational Research*, 92, 145-157.
- 2018 "Revisiting the impact of macroeconomic conditions on health behaviours", *Economics and Human Biology*, 28(1), 173-181.
- 2018 "Do media play a role in promoting vocational education and training? The case of MasterChef", *Policy Studies*, 39(1), 37-53.
- 2018 "The academic impact of natural disasters: Evidence from L'Aquila earthquake", *Education Economics*, 26(1), 62-77.

- 2017 “Degree classification and recent graduates’ ability: Is there any signalling effect?” *Journal of Education and Work*, 30(5), 501-514.
- 2017 “Natural disasters and university enrolment: Evidence from L’Aquila earthquake” with A. Cerqua, *Applied Economics*, 49 (14), 1440-1457.
- 2015 “The effect of the L’Aquila earthquake on labour market outcomes” with T. Mora, *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*, 33(2), 239-255.
- 2015 “Do study abroad programs enhance the employability of graduates?” *Education, Finance and Policy*, 10(2), 223-243.
- 2014 “University study abroad and graduates’ employability”, *IZA World of Labor 2014: 109* [doi: 10.15185/izawol.109].
- 2014 “The short-term effectiveness of a remedial mathematics course: Evidence from a UK university”, *The Manchester School*, 82(3), 363-384.
- 2013 "Military conscription and university enrolment: evidence from Italy", *Journal of Population Economics*, 26(2), 619-644.
- 2013 “Exam scheduling and student performance”, *Bulletin of Economic Research*, 65(1), 65-81.
- 2012 “Does studying abroad cause international labour mobility? Evidence from Italy”, *Economics Letters*, 117(3), 632-635.
- 2012 “The Bologna process and widening participation in university education: New evidence from Italy”, *Empirica*, 39(3), 357-374.
- 2009 “Education and civic outcomes in Italy” with M. Delprato, *Public Finance Review*, 37(4), 421-446.
- 2008 “Changes in the extent of inequality in access to university education in Italy”, *Rivista di Politica Economica*, 98(1), 175-213.
- 2008 "Changes in the Returns to Education in Argentina" with L. Pedace, *Journal of Applied Economics*, 11, 259-279.
- 2008 “Measuring the returns to networking and the accumulation of social capital: any evidence of bonding, bridging or linking?” with P. Urwin, G. Jack and P. Sturgis, *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, 67(5), 941-968.
- 2008 “Who studies abroad? Evidence from France and Italy” with L. Page, *European Journal of Education* 43(3), 389-398.
- 2008 “Degree flexibility and university drop-out: The Italian experience” with A. Cutillo, *Economics of Education Review*, 27(5) 546-555.
- 2007 “The effect of computer use on earnings in Italy”, *Empirical Economics*, 33(2), 245-262.

- 2006 “Regional labour market conditions and university dropout rates: evidence from Italy”, *Regional Studies*, 40(6), 617-630.
- 2006 “Does attending a Catholic School Make a Difference? Evidence from Italy” with A. Cutillo, *Bulletin of Economic Research*, 58(3), 193-234.
- 2006 “The effects of overeducation on wages in Italy: a bivariate selectivity approach” with A. Cutillo, *International Journal of Manpower*, 27(2), 143-168.
- 2006 “University quality and labour market outcomes in Italy” with A. Cutillo, *LABOUR-Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations*, 20(1), 37-62.
- 2006 “Education and skills mismatch in the Italian graduate labour market” with P. Urwin, *Applied Economics*, 38(1), 79-94.
- 2005 “On migration and unemployment: evidence from Italian graduates”, *Economic Issues*, 10(2), 11-28.
- 2005 “The impact of research and teaching quality inputs on the employment outcomes of postgraduates” with P. Urwin, *Higher Education Quarterly*, 59(4), 275-295.
- 2004 “The determinants of university dropout in Italy: a bivariate probability model with sample selection”, *Applied Economics Letters*, 11(3), 187-191.
- 2003 “Intergenerational mobility and occupational status in Italy” with P. Urwin, *Applied Economics Letters*, 10(12), 793-797.
- 2003 “Gli effetti del ciclo economico sull'incidenza di povertà: l'esperienza dell'Italia tra il 1980 e il 1997”, *Politica Economica*, No.1, 5-30.
- 2003 “Equality of opportunity in Italian university education: is there any role for social welfare spending?”, *International Journal of Educational Development*, 23(1), 5-15.
- 2002 “Technological change, labour markets and 'low skill-low technology' traps”, *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 69(9), 885-895.
- 2002 “High tech manufacturing and economic growth in the APEC region: How important is absorptive capacity?” with S. Kramer and P. Urwin, *APEC Review*, 9(1), 117-139.
- 2002 “The connection between access to university and net social welfare expenditure in Southern Italy”, *Education Economics*, 10(1), 25-40.
- 2001 “Imported inputs and export growth: evidence from Tunisia”, *Medit*, No.1, 11-15.
- 2000 “Il Mediterraneo come crocevia economico-culturale” with S. Gomez y Paloma, *Economia della Cultura*, No.1, 49-56.
- 2000 “NGOs and the internet: use and repercussions”, *The IPTS Report*, Vol. 48, October.

- 2000 “World trade negotiations after Seattle: the road ahead from here” with D. Kyriakou, *The IPTS Report*, Vol. 46, July.
- 2000 “Science & Technology and Governance of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership” with K. Elshuraydeh, S. Gomez y Paloma and M. Zappacosta, *The IPTS Report*, Vol. 46, July.
- 1999 “Inequality, welfare state and university access”, *The IPTS Report. Special Issue on Enhancing Human Capital*, Vol. 37, September.
- 1998 “Migration and development in the Mediterranean and the role of S/T “with S. Gomez y Paloma and D. Kyriakou, *The IPTS Report*, Vol. 28, November.
- 1998 “Competitiveness of Mediterranean Partners Countries SMEs in the Euro-Mediterranean area” with S. Gazi and S. Gomez y Paloma, *The IPTS Report. Special Issue on the Euro-Mediterranean Area*, Vol. 25, June.
- 1997 “Policy implications of the TRIPs Agreement”, *The IPTS Report*, Vol. 12, March.

#### **BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS:**

- 1999 “The Impact of Social Welfare Expenditure on Participation Rates in University Education among Low-income students: Case Studies on the US and Italy”, PhD Dissertation No. 20/1999, Department of Social Science, Roskilde University.
- 1998 IPTS-ESTO with IPTS co-authors, “Technoeconomic Analysis Report”, Seville.
- 1998 “Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and Industrial Models in the Euro-Mediterranean Zone” with S. Gomez y Paloma, EUR 17731 EN, IPTS, Seville.
- 1997 “Employment and Environment” with K. Ducatel, T. Gameson, F. Leone and P. Sorup, Report for the European Parliament, EUR 17350 EN, IPTS, Seville.

#### **CHAPTERS IN BOOKS:**

- 2005 “Gli effetti dell'overeducation sul mercato del lavoro dei laureati italiani” with A. Cutillo in *OUTCOMES: modelli di analisi della transizione università lavoro* ( F. D'Ovidio, ed.) Cleup, Padova.
- 1998 “Piccole e medie imprese e modelli industriali”, with S. Gomez y Paloma in *Il contributo italiano alla costruzione dello spazio euromediterraneo* (B. Amoroso, ed.), Rapporto annuale predisposto con il patrocinio del Consiglio nazionale dell'economia e del lavoro, Edizioni. Lavoro.

#### **SPECIAL ISSUES OF JOURNALS EDITED:**

- 2000 with D. Kyriakou, *The IPTS Report. Special Issue on Science and Governance*, Vol. 45, June.
- 1999 *The IPTS Report. Special Issue on Enhancing Human Capital*, Vol. 37, September.

## **REVIEW ARTICLES/COMMENTARIES:**

- 2008 Commentary on the article “Il mismatch di competenze in Italia” by G.C. Cainarca and F. Sgobbi, *Sviluppo & Organizzazione*, 228, Luglio/Agosto 2008, 14-26
- 2017 Review of the book by G. Vecchi “Measuring wellbeing: A history of Italian living standards” (Oxford University Press), *Economic Affairs*, 37(3), 462-463.

## **WORKING PAPERS:**

- 2021 “The determinants of study abroad participation: A bivariate probability model with sample selection“ IZA Discussion Paper 14505.
- 2021 “Adult learning and the business cycle” with Z. Karpinski and F. Biagi, EUR 30522 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, JRC123218
- 2021 “Computational thinking, socioeconomic gaps, and policy implications“ with Z. Karpinski and F. Biagi , IEA Compass: Briefs in Education. Number 12
- 2020 “The likely impact of COVID-19 on education: Reflections based on the existing literature and recent international datasets” with F. Biagi , P. Costa, Z. Karpinski and J. Mazza, EUR 30275 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, JRC12107
- 2020 ”Mismatch between Demand and Supply among higher education graduates in the EU” with J. Castaño Muñoz and F. Biagi, EUR 30121 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, JRC120022
- 2020 ”Evidence on study abroad programmes: Data and indicators“ EUR 30107 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, JRC119964
- 2016 “The impact of television programmes on teenage career aspirations: ‘The MasterChef effect’” IZA Discussion Paper 9804.
- 2012 “The effect of alcohol and drug consumption on academic performance: a treatment effect evaluation” with L. Page and J. Silva Gonçalves
- 2010 “The impact of degree class on the first destinations of graduates: a regression discontinuity approach” IZA Discussion Paper 4836.
- 2008 “Human capital investment, second job holding and earnings: Empirical findings on second job differentials in Germany and the United Kingdom” with S. Speckesser
- 2003 “Measuring the Impact of Higher Education Quality Inputs on the First Destination of Graduates: Do QAA Aspect Scores Add to the Explanation?” with P. Urwin, WBS Working Paper No. 16.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

GRADUATE: Econometrics, Economics of Innovation; Research Methods.

UNDERGRADUATE: Econometrics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, European Economics and Politics, Mathematics for Business, Making Management Decisions, Business Decision Making, Human Resources Economics.

## **CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS:**

- 2021 International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion Annual Conference, Luxembourg-July  
CETI Conversations on Education Research, University of Westminster, April
- 2018 University of Westminster, London – November  
Italian Association of Regional Studies, Annual Conference, Bolzano-September  
International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion Annual Conference, Barcelona-July
- 2017 European Society for Population Economics Annual Conference, Glasgow-June  
Workshop on Empirical research on international student mobility, DZHW (Hannover)-May
- 2016 JRC Annual Conference 2016, Brussels- October  
DG JRC Directorate B – Innovation and Growth, Seville- September  
Work, Pensions and Labour Economics Study Group Annual Meeting, University of Sheffield-July
- 2015 Westminster Business School Annual Research Conference, University of Westminster, London – September
- 2014 Westminster Business School Annual Research Conference, University of Westminster, London - January
- 2013 European Association of Labour Economists Annual Conference, Turin- September  
Work, Pensions and Labour Economics Study Group Annual meeting, University of Sheffield-July
- 2012 European Association of Labour Economists Annual Conference, Bonn- September  
Econometric Society Australasian Annual Meeting, Melbourne- July
- 2011 Development in Education Economics (DEE) Annual Conference, London School of Economics, London- September  
Work, Pensions and Labour Economics Study Group Annual meeting, University of Sheffield-July  
Institute of Education, London- June  
Institut de Economia de Barcelona (IEB), Barcelona-June
- 2010 Spanish Economic Association Annual Conference, Madrid- December  
University of Oviedo, Spain- April
- 2009 Spanish Economic Association Annual Conference, Valencia- December  
Workshop on the evolution of the Italian university system, University of Novara (Italy)-November  
European Association of Labour Economists Annual Conference, Tallinn- September  
Work, Pensions and Labour Economics Study Group Annual Meeting, University of Nottingham- July  
Portuguese Economic Journal Annual Meeting, University of Madeira- June  
Workshop on Inequality of Education in Italy, University of Milan- June

- 2008 Spanish Economic Association Annual Conference, Zaragoza- December  
 European Association of Labour Economists Annual Conference, Amsterdam- September  
 Central Bank of Argentina, Buenos Aires- July  
 Work, Pensions and Labour Economics Study Group Annual meeting, University of Sheffield-July  
 Spanish Applied Economics (Encuentro de Economía Aplicada) Association Annual Meeting, Salamanca- June
- 2007 Spanish Economic Association Annual Conference, Granada-December  
 University of Westminster, London – November  
 University of CEMA, Buenos Aires-July  
 European Society for Population Economics Annual Conference, Chicago-June  
 University of Gerona, Spain- March
- 2006 European Association of Labour Economists Annual Conference, Prague- September  
 University of Westminster, London- May
- 2005 European Society for Population Economics Annual Conference, Paris-June  
 Whither Social Capital? Past, Present and Future, South Bank University, London- April
- 2004 Cuban Industrial Engineering Association, University of José Antonio Echeverría, Havana-December  
 University of La Havana, Cuba-December
- 2003 Spanish Economic Association Annual Conference, Seville- December  
 University of La Sapienza, Rome- December  
 British Educational Research Association Annual Conference, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh- September  
 Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, Warwick.-April  
 University of Bari, Italy-February
- 2002 Policy Studies Institute, London-November  
 IATUR Conference, Institute of Economics and Business Administration, Technical University of Lisbon- September

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

Expert in the Economics of Education in Europe, European Expert Network on Economics of Education (EENEE) (<http://www.eenee.de/portal/page/portal/EENEEView>)

Member of IMISCOE (International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion) (<https://www.imiscoe.org/>)

Member of the Economics of Higher Education Network (<https://economicsofhe.org>)

**REFEREEING:**

Journals: *Applied Economics*, *Applied Economics Letters*, *Asian Economic Journal*, *Economic Affairs*, *Computer & Education*, *Economic Modelling*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economics and Human Biology*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Education Economics*, *European Sociological Review*, *German Economic Review*, *Higher Education*, *International Journal of Manpower*, *Journal of Applied Economics*, *Journal of Applied Statistics*, *Journal of International Students*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Minerva*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *Research in Higher Education*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Rivista di Politica Economica*, *Sage Open*, *Scandinavian Political Studies*, *Scuola Democratica*, *Social Indicators Research*, *Sociology of Education*, *Studies in Higher Education*, *World Development*, *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia* and *The IPTS Report*.

Research grants: *Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research and Research, Foundation Flanders (FWO)*.

Books: *MIT Press*

**OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES:**

2016, 2017 and 2018    Member of the Scientific Committee of the Royal Economic Society  
PhD Annual Conference