María Alexandra Castellanos

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain   2024 (expected)
    Academic Advisor: Jan Stuhler

  Visiting PhD Student, Boston University, USA   2023 (Fall)
    Host: M. Daniele Paserman

MRes in Economic Analysis, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain   2020

MSc. Economics, University College London, UK   2017
    Classification: Distinction

BSc. Economics, Universidad de las Américas, Ecuador   2015
    Chancellor's Gold Medal Award for the highest academic record: GPA: 9.8/10

  Exchange student, Università degli Studi di Verona, Italy   2011
    Course: Political Philosophy

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Primary:	**Secondary:**
Applied Economics, Labour, Development	Migration, Gender, Dual Labour Markets

REFERENCES

Jan Stuhler	**Daniele Paserman**	**Juan José Dolado**
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	Boston University	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Contact: jstuhler@eco.uc3m.es	Contact: paserman@bu.edu	Contact: dolado@eco.uc3m.es

Luigi Minale	**Jesús Fernandez Huertas Moraga**	
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	
Contact: lminale@eco.uc3m.es	Contact: jesferna@eco.uc3m.es	

RESEARCH

Working Papers

"Immigration, Parenthood and Child Penalties" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: This paper analyses the impact of an immigration-induced expansion of household services on parenthood costs. In a unique quasi-experimental setting, I exploit the sudden supply shock in domestic and childcare services during the Spanish migration boom. I examine whether the availability of affordable substitutes for household production can reduce gender disparities associated with labour market parenthood penalties. Using a novel individual-level measure of the child penalty and a rich matched employer-employee administrative dataset, I combine a difference-in-differences strategy with a shift-share instrumental-variable design to estimate the causal effect of the shock. I find that the expansion of domestic services driven by a large inflow of female immigrant workers reduced the gender gap associated with child penalties for native workers. The responses are driven by two main channels: labour supply and job quality for native mothers, including employment in higher-paying firms, as well as better sectoral and occupational attributes. The effect is persistent over time and more pronounced for low-skilled native women, suggesting that affordable substitutes for household production can not only help alleviate gender gaps but also reduce within-gender inequality.

"Quasi-Random Matches: Evidence from Dual Labour Markets" (with Henry Redondo & Jan Stuhler)

Abstract: A fast-growing literature studies how sorting into particular jobs, firms, or locations affects workers. The key challenge when studying such questions is the non-random sorting of workers into jobs. We propose a novel identification strategy that exploits the timing of worker-firm matching. We isolate quasi-random variation in matches by interacting high-frequency information on the duration of contracts on the labour supply and transitory fluctuations in job creation on the labour demand side. We apply this method to address a central question in dual labour markets: how do different contract types -fixed-term or open-ended contracts– affect workers' careers? We find that transitory variation in the opening of permanent contracts is highly predictive of individual promotion probabilities and has long-lasting effects on earnings, employment, and the accumulation of experience in permanent positions.

"Immigration and Native Labour Market Outcomes: Evidence from Spain"

Abstract: Understanding the effect of immigration in native labour market outcomes represents one of the most debated questions in the economic literature, after decades of research, no consensus has been reached. In the context of the Spanish immigration boom of the 2000s, this paper evaluates to what extent different methodologies applied in the migration literature can explain apparent conflicting results. To identify causal estimates, the study applies a pure spatial correlation approach combined with an instrumental variable strategy exploiting information on early immigrant settlements from the two previous decades at a detailed local labour market level. Using large-scale administrative social security records in an event-study design framework, I find that immigration led to large

negative local employment responses for low-skilled workers, but only mild wage effects. analysing margins of adjustment, I show that the strong impact on displacement is not necessarily attributable to job-losses, but mainly driven by a reduction of native inflows into work in more exposed regions.

Work in Progress

"Gender-Based Violence and Human Capital: Assessing Spillovers of Violence Against Women in Ecuador"
"Unity in Diversity? Immigration and Social Capital in the UK" (with Luigi Minale)
"The Demand Effect from Refugee Immigration" (with Jakob Hennig)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

· PhD Scholarship, UC3M Economics Department & FPI Grant, Spanish Ministry of Science & Innovation	2018–2024
· Chevening Scholarship International Leadership Programme, UK Government FCDO.	2016–2017
· Citi Journalistic Excellence Award, Citibank & Columbia University, New York.	2015
· Academic Excellence Scholarship, Universidad de las Américas.	2010-2015
· Chancellor's Gold Medal Award: Best Graduate. Highest GPA among all Bachelor's programmes, Universidad de las Américas.	2015
· Second Prize Award: Business and Economics Essay Contest, Universidad de las Américas	2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate TA, Economics Department, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
    Econometrics, English, Fall 2021
    Macroeconomics, English, Fall 2021
Undergraduate, Economics Department, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
    Quantitative Microeconomics (Microeconometrics), English & Spanish, Fall 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
    Econometric Techniques (Time Series), English, Fall 2020
    Applied Economics, English & Spanish, Spring 2020, 2021
    Introduction to Mathematics for Economics, Spanish, Fall, 2019

Excellence Teaching Award: Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Main Instructor, Economics Department, Universidad de las Américas
    Advanced Econometrics, Spanish, Spring 2018
    International Trade, Spanish, Spring 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank & Econometría S.A.   *Jul. 2022 – May 2023*
  ○ **Project:** Experimental RCT intervention to reduce bias against immigrant students in Ecuador.

Researcher & Lecturer, Universidad de las Américas, Ecuador   *Mar. 2018 – Aug. 2018*
Research Associate, National Institute of Economic & Social Research, London UK   *Sep. 2017 – Jan. 2018*
  ○ **Project:** Brexit and The Health and Social Care Workforce in the UK. Analysis of the role of EEA nationals: Securing clear, reasonable routes for immigration both during and after the UK's exit from the EU.
Economic Consultant, TNK Economics, Ecuador   *Sep. 2013 – Jul. 2016*
  ○ Consulting projects in economics and finance for multilateral organisations, private and public sector; policy evaluation including cost-benefit analyses, industry reports, among others. Member of the Macroeconomic Consistency Model and forecasting team.

Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank, Ecuador   *Sep. 2015 – Mar. 2016*
  ○ **Project:** Evaluation of Education Reforms between 2007-2014.

Research Assistant, Economics Research Centre, Universidad de las Américas, Ecuador   *Sep. 2011 – Mar. 2015*
  ○ Contribution to applied research projects, including:
    - Economic appraisal and impact evaluation methodology for a financial inclusion programme.
    - Revision of the Inter-sectoral National Strategy for Integral Early Childhood Development.
    - Evaluation of the Degree of Over-indebtedness within the Financial System.

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES & OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Presentations:
· **Forthcoming:** Stockholm University (November 2023). SAEe, University of Salamanca (December 2023)
· **2023** Applied Micro Workshop, Boston University (USA), 16th AFD-World Bank International Conference on Migration and Development, Boston University (USA, Discussant), EEA-ESEM Barcelona School of Economics (Spain). 21st century Applied Micro (Germany). ENTER Jamboree, University of Mannheim (Germany). 5th Queen Mary University Economics and Finance Workshop (UK). PhD Workshop, Universidad Carlos III (Spain 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).
· **2022** NHH Norwegian School of Economics (Norway). University of Southampton (online).
· **2020** Economics Seminar Series at Universidad San Francisco de Quito (Ecuador)
Academic Activities:
· Scientific Committee of the Junior Workshop on the Economics of Migration. Paris, France. June 2023.
· Co-organiser of The Economics of Migration Junior Seminar. Since Fall 2021-Present.
· Organiser of the PhD Applied-Work-in-Progress seminar. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Fall 2022.
· Member of the University College London team for the Econometric Game. University of Amsterdam. 2017.

REFEREE EXPERIENCE

European Economic Review, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, ACI-USFQ

PRE-DOCTORAL PUBLICATIONS AND POLICY REPORTS

Book Chapters: De la Torre, A., Cueva, S., & Castellanos-Vásconez, M. A. (2020). The Macroeconomics of the Commodities Boom in Ecuador: A Comparative Perspective. In Assessing the Left Turn in Ecuador (pp. 163-212). Palgrave Macmil, Cham. DOI:10.1007/978-3-030-27625-6_8

Policy Reports: Dolton, P. , Nguyen, D. , Rolfe, H. and Castellanos, M. (2018). Brexit and the Health & Social Care Workforce in the UK. Report to the Cavendish Coalition, NIESR.

Press: Freelancer at Revista Gestión Economía y Sociedad. General audience economics journalism. 2013-2015. See Articles.

SELECTED TRAINING

· *New Developments in the Econometrics of Heterogeneous Workers and Firms.* CEMFI, Spain. 2022.
· *IV with Heterogeneous Treatment Effects - Empirical Bayes & Large Scale Inference.* CRC TR 224 Bonn-Mannheim Summer School, Germany. 2023.
· *HCEO-FAIR Socioeconomic Inequality.* NHH & HCEO-University of Chicago. Norway. 2022.
· *Python for Webscraping.* University Tor Vergata. 2022.
· *The Economics of Crime over Time and Space.* University of Southampton. 2022.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Software: STATA, R, EViews, LATEX, Excel, Python (Webscraping)

LANGUAGES

English (Full proficiency), Spanish (Native), Italian (Full proficiency), Portuguese (Intermediate)

LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

·Chevening Scholarship, International Leadership Programme. London, UK. 2016-2017.
·Cofounder & Partner, Bloomsbury Policy Group: independent, non-partisan organisation with a mission to promote innovative and evidence-based policymaking in Latin America. 2017-present.
·Co-organiser of *"Entrepreneur to Businesswoman"*, within the project "Mujer Emprende" sponsored by the U.S. Embassy. 2014.
·Member of the "Junior World Entrepreneurship Forum". Chamber of Commerce of Quito, Startups & Ventures and Universidad de las Américas. 2011.
·Volunteer for a Literacy Programme for seniors. Quito, Ecuador. 2008-2009.
·Volunteer for a Reforestation Programme at Itchimbía Park. Quito, Ecuador. 2008-2009.