

Elisa Macchi

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Academic Positions

2025- BROWN UNIVERSITY, August Family Assistant Professor of Economics
2023- 2025 BROWN UNIVERSITY, Assistant Professor of Economics
2021- 2022 MIT, Postdoctoral Associate, Economics Department

Visiting Positions

2025-2026 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Visiting Assistant Professor of the Economics Department
2018 -2019 HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Economics Department, Visiting Fellow

Affiliations

2024- Bureau for Research & Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Affiliate
2024- Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Affiliate
2024- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Invited Researcher

Education

2015-2021 UNIVERSITY OF ZURICH, PhD in Economics (summa cum laude)
Thesis title: "Essays in Development Economics and Political Economy"
Committee: David Yanagizawa-Drott, Lorenzo Casaburi, Hans-Joachim Voth
2013 - 2015 UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA, M.Phil. in Economics (LMEC)
2012 - 2013 EBERHARD KARLS UNIVERSITÄT TÜBINGEN, Erasmus Semester
2010 - 2013 UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO - BICOCCA B.Sc. in Economics and Business

Publications

"Graduate student and faculty mental health: Evidence from European economics departments" with Clara Sievert, Paul Barreira, and Valentin Bolotnyy, *American Journal of Health Economics*, 2025, *Accepted*, <https://doi.org/10.1086/735865>

"Worth your weight: experimental evidence on the benefits of obesity in low-income countries." *American Economic Review*, 2023, Vol. 113 (9), pp. 2287-2322.

"EU transfers and euroscepticism: can't buy me love?", with A. Borin and M. Mancini, *Economic Policy*, 2021, Vol. 36, Issue 106, pp. 237-286.

Working Papers

“Informal redistribution through work” with Jeremia Stalder, CEPR Discussion Paper 19833, *Revision Requestes (Round 2), Econometrica*

“Hidden discrimination in frictional labor markets” with Claude Raisaro.

Work in Progress (selected)

“Incentivized ratings design in the field”

“Health costs vs social gains: Misaligned incentives in health”, with Sili Zhang

“Barriers to medical testing”, with Kevin Carney

Grants & Awards

2025	<i>Population Studies and Training Center (PSTC) Bridge Funding</i> (USD 10,000) <i>Brown University Economics Department BRAVO Funding</i> (USD 50,000)
2024	<i>Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics</i> (USD 14,750) <i>Brown University PSTC Seed Funding</i> (USD 10,000) <i>Brown University Economics Department BRAVO Funding</i> (USD 10,000)
2022	<i>RESTUD Tour North America</i> University of California San Diego, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania
until 2021	<i>Swiss Re Fund for Development Economics – Top-up Grant</i> (USD 10,800) – <i>Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Early Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowship</i> – <i>Diligentia Stiftung Research Grant</i> (with David Yanagizawa-Drott; USD 39,500) – <i>GRC Travel Grant</i> (USD 2,800) – <i>Swiss Re Fund for Development Economics</i> (USD 27,000) – <i>Director’s Grant, University of Zurich Graduate School of Economics</i> (USD 5,400) – <i>SNSF Doc.Mobility Fellowship</i> – <i>Stringher Scholarship</i> (particolarmente meritevole, Banca d’Italia).

Seminars and Conferences Presentations

2025 * = sched	<i>National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Development Meeting*</i> – <i>Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) Paris Symposium*</i> – <i>New York University (NYU)*</i> – <i>Yale University*</i> – <i>Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF)*</i> – <i>Dartmouth College Macro Conference*</i> – <i>Cities and Development Workshop</i> (Harvard University) – <i>Cornell University</i> – <i>Northeastern University</i> – <i>Boston University</i> – <i>Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), Princeton Meeting</i> – <i>Firms, Labor Markets, and Development Workshop</i> .
2024	<i>Princeton University</i> – <i>University of Chicago</i> – <i>University of British Columbia (UBC)</i> – <i>University of Southern California (USC)</i> – <i>Stanford University</i> – <i>University of California San Diego</i>

(UCSD) Rady School of Management – London School of Economics (LSE) – CEPR/BREAD Conference.

2023 Paris School of Economics (PSE) – Aix-Marseille School of Economics (AMSE) – London School of Economics (LSE) – Columbia University – University of St Andrews (virtual) – Kellogg–University of British Columbia (UBC) Pacific Northwest Development Conference – Becker Friedman Institute (BFI) Women in Applied Microeconomics – Zurich Workshop on Economics and Psychology – BSF Advances in Microdevelopment Conference – London School of Economics (LSE) ODDO Conference – Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) & Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

2022 University of Chicago Booth School of Business – Bocconi University – LEAP Conference – World Economy Forum on Inclusive Development (WEFIDEV) – University of Cologne – University of St Gallen – University of Stavanger.

2021 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) – University of California San Diego (UCSD) – University of Chicago – University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) – European Economic Association–Econometric Society (EEA–ESEM) Congress – Weggis Workshop in Political Economy and Development, Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA) – Northwestern University Rookiefest.

Job Market Talks: Brown University, CEMFI, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Harris School of Public Policy (University of Chicago), Institute for International Economic Studies (IIES), Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), New Economic School (NES Moscow), Nova School of Business and Economics, Paris School of Economics (PSE), University of California San Diego (UCSD) Rady School of Management, Stockholm University, World Bank Development Research Group.

until 2020 Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) – Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) – Development Economics Virtual PhD Conference (DEVPEC) – Essen Health Conference (virtual) – European Conference on Banking and the Economy (ECBE) – European Trade Study Group (ETSG).

Teaching

Brown 1620 *Introduction to Econometrics*, undergraduate, Instructor: Fall 2023
Brown 2510 *Graduate Development I*, graduate, Instructor: Spring, Fall 2023
MIT 1413 *Economics and Psychology*, undergraduate, Co-instructor with F. Schilbach: Spring 2022

Professional Service and Advising

REFEREEING

American Economic Review *American Economic Journal: Applied Microeconomics* *American Economic Review: Insights* *Econometrica* *Experimental Economics* *Journal of African Economics* *Journal of the European Economic Association* *Journal of Development Economics* *Journal of Political Economy* *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

SERVICE AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

2024 Applied Micro Seminar co-organizer with prof. M. Pecenco
2023 Applied Micro Seminar co-organizer with prof. B. Steinberg
2023–2025 Ph.D. Admissions committee, Economics, Brown University

ADVISING

Juan Pereira, Brown University PhD Student (placement: Amazon);
Sonali Deliwala, Research Assistant (placement: PhD, Political Science, Columbia University);
Max Goldstein, Brown University Undergrad Student (placement: Pre-doc, MIT).