

Adelajda Matuka (ORCID ID: 0000-0003-4961-0486)

Official e-mail: adelajda.matuka2@unibo.it

Work number: +39 3517638539

Office address: Office No. 140

Department of Economics

University of Bologna

Piazza Antonio Scaravilli 2, 40126

Bologna, Italy

Research Impact:

Citations:452

h-index: 9

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Education

2017 – 2021 PhD in Quantitative Methods for Economic Policy (Curriculum: Mathematical and Statistical Methods for Economic Policy) obtained at the Department of Economics and Law of the **University of Macerata**, Macerata (Italy)

Thesis Title: “ECB’s Spillovers of unconventional monetary policies in Nordic countries”

2014-2017 Master of Science in Finance obtained at the Department of Finance of the University of Vlorë “Ismail Qemali”, Vlorë (Albania)

Thesis Title: “Inefficiencies of public finances in Albania”

2015-2016 Exchange at the Department of Management (non-degree programme) at **University of Warsaw**, Warsaw (Poland)

2011-2014 Bachelor in Accounting at the Department of Finance of the **University of Vlorë “Ismail Qemali”**, Vlorë (Albania)

Thesis Title: “Pension System in Albania”

Work Appointments

2023-Current Researcher (RTDA) within **DARE PROJECT-PNRR** (<https://www.fondazioneadare.it/it/partner-progetto>) at the **Department of Economics, University of Bologna (Italy)** under the supervision of **Prof. Gianluca Fiorentini**

The study is set within the Local Health Authority of Romagna, where specialized hospital cardiology units provide continuous monitoring for patients with severe heart failure through structured chronic care outpatient clinics. We analyse the causal impact of enrolment in these programmes on disease management using longitudinal administrative panel data. The evaluation focuses on healthcare utilisation and outcome indicators, including hospital admissions, emergency department visits, outpatient services, pharmaceutical use, and mortality. By exploiting the panel structure of the data, we control for patient heterogeneity and identify the effect of programme participation on health outcomes and healthcare consumption.

2023- Data Manager and Analyst (Assegnista di Ricerca) at **ORCHESTRA PROJECT-Horizon 2020** (<https://orchestra-cohort.eu/partner/unibo/>) at the **Department of Medical and Surgical Science, University of Bologna (Italy)** under the supervision of **Prof. Paolo Boffetta**

I contributed to WP5 of the ORCHESTRA project, a large European collaborative initiative investigating COVID-19 dynamics among healthcare workers across multiple countries. The work package focused on understanding how SARS-CoV-2 infection, vaccination, and immune responses evolved over time in occupational settings. Activities included harmonizing multi-country cohort data, monitoring longitudinal antibody responses, analysing vaccine effectiveness and breakthrough infections, and assessing reinfection risks. Through coordinated data integration and epidemiological analysis, the project generated robust evidence to inform public health strategies, vaccination policies,

and occupational safety guidelines for healthcare workers at the European level.

GASTRIC Project (National Project) - This project is an internal UNIBO research initiative that analyzes patient-level microdata to investigate the determinants and progression of gastric tumors. The study examines how demographic and clinical characteristics influence disease patterns among patients treated at Sant'Orsola-Malpighi Hospital from 2016 to the present. Using longitudinal panel data, we track patients over time to analyse treatment pathways, disease evolution, and health outcomes. The empirical strategy leverages the panel structure of the data to control for individual heterogeneity and identify associations between demographic factors and tumor characteristics, contributing to a deeper understanding of risk profiles and potential implications for clinical decision-making and healthcare planning.

2022-2023-Researcher (Assegnista di Ricerca) at BECOOL PROJECT-Horizon 2020 (<https://www.becoolproject.eu>) at the **Department of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Bologna (Italy)** under the supervision of **Prof. Matteo Vittuari and Knowledge Transfer Office**

Contributed to the development of the Final Exploitation Plan (Deliverable 6.10) and the IPR Management and Strategy Report (Deliverable 6.7) within the EU-funded project *Brazil-EU Cooperation for Development of Advanced Lignocellulosic Biofuels* (Grant Agreement No. 744821). Actively supported the management of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), ensuring effective protection, promotion, and exploitation of the project foreground in alignment with the Grant Agreement and Consortium Agreement. Maintained direct engagement with project cohorts and stakeholders, designing and implementing a survey to assess their future perspectives on intellectual property management within BECOOL. Contributed to the structured methodology for knowledge valorisation and exploitation, complementing the Preliminary Exploitation Plan and supporting strategic decision-making for innovation uptake and commercialization.

2017-2021 PhD Candidate at the Department of Economics and Law, University of Macerata (Italy) under the supervision of Prof. Luca Riccetti

I conducted research in financial economics, macroeconomics, and applied economics for my thesis, focusing on empirical analysis of economic and financial dynamics. My work primarily relied on time-series data, employing econometric techniques to study macro-financial relationships, market behaviour, and policy implications. I developed strong skills in modelling, estimation, and interpretation of dynamic processes, including forecasting and causal analysis. In addition to time-series methods, I gained experience with panel data, applying fixed-effects and longitudinal approaches to account for unobserved heterogeneity and to improve identification.

Scholarships and awards

September/2025- Scholar at the 3rd FReDA/GGS (The German Demography Panel Study) Autumn School at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germany)

September/2025- Scholar at the Course for Survey Measurement of Health: Implications for Social Science Research at the University of Southampton (UK)

November/2024 -Best Successful Alumni Awarded by the University of Vlorë, Vlorë(Albania),

October/2024-Scholar at the University of Oxford, Health Economics and Policy Evaluation Course

2023- Scholar at the University of Trento for the Trento Summer School on Economics and Institutions in Europe

2023 -Scholar at the University of Verona for the Summer School for Spatial Health Econometrics

2023- Scholar at the University of Trento (Italy) for the Summer School Axel Leijonhufvud

2017-2021 -PhD scholar at the University of Macerata, Macerata, Italy)

2017-2019 - Scholar at the University of South Wales, Wales, (UK)

September 2019 -Grant holder of the 8th Seminar funded by Bundeswehr Centre for Public Affairs,the Federal Ministry of Defense, Bonn and Berlin, Germany.

May 2018-Scholar at Digital Communication and Politics Seminar by American University and American Embassy in Bucharest, Romania.

September 2017-Full scholar at Ryan International School, New Delhi, India)

June 2017-Grant holder at University of Warsaw, TranSol Summer School, Warsaw,Poland.

October 2015-June 2016 Erasmus Mundus Sigma Agile 2 Scholar at University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland)

Trainings

February 2026 – Participant at Casual Inference for Economics and Policy Making at Barcelona Graduate School of Economics

February 2025-Participant at Ljubljana Winter School on Applied Time Series Analysis and Forecasting with STATA and R at the **School of Economics and Business at the University of Ljubljana**

July 2025-Participant at Ljubljana Summer School on Applied Discrete Choice and Panel Data Analysis with STATA and R at the **School of Economics and Business at the University of Ljubljana**

Research Experience

November 2019-May 2020- Visiting scholar at the Research Center of International Economics - Barcelona Graduate School of Economics at the **University Pompeu Fabra (fully funded)**, Barcelona (Spain)

May 2019-June 2019- Visiting scholar at the **Central Bank of Albania (fully funded)**, Tiranë (Albania)

June 2018 – Visiting Scholar at **Levy Economics Institute of Bard College (fully funded)**, New York, USA)

Teaching Activities

Current- Lecturer for the course “**Applied Economics with R**” at the **Department of Economics, University of Bologna**

2025 Invited Lecturer for the Workshop “Applied Economics with R” at the Department of Economics, University “Ismail Qemali”, Vlorë (Albania)

2025 Invited Lecturer for the Workshop “Applied Economics with R” at the Department of Economics, European University of Tirana, Tirana (Albania)

2023-2024- Lecturer for the course “**Applied Economics with R**” at the **Department of Economics, University of Bologna**

2022-2023 – Teaching Assistant for **Econometrics Course** at the **Department of Statistical Sciences, University of Bologna**, under the supervision of **Prof. Andrea Carriero**

2022-2023- Teaching Assistant for **Business Statistics: Methods and Applications** at the **Department of Statistical Science (with STATA), University of Bologna**, under the supervision of **Prof. Martin Forster**

2022-2023-Lecturer for **Crash Course in Finance** at the **Department of Management, Campus**

Rimini, **University of Bologna**, under the supervision of **Prof. Giulia Baschieri**

2021-2022-Teaching Assistant for Macroeconomics Course at the **Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna**, under the supervision of **Prof. Filippo Massari**

Presentations

2025-READ International Scientific Conference Matuka, A. & Cakrani, E. “From Disaster to Development: The Economic Lesson of the 2019 Earthquake in Albania”

2024 Italian Health Economic Association Annual Conference 09-10 December Fiorentini, G., Guidi, G., Matuka, A., Verzulli, R. “Monitoring severe chronic heart failure patients: Evidence from a disease management program in AUSL Romagna.”

2020 BANK OF ALBANIA 14th South-Eastern European Economic Research Workshop Tirana, 10-11 December 2020, Money demand and interest sensitivity in India: an ARDL approach with Masudul Hasan Adil (Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Mumbai), Rafiq Hussain (School of Studies in Economics, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, India). Discussant: Altin Tanku (Bank of Albania)

2017 University of Pristina International Students Conference- Youth Involvement in the Republic of Albania and Kosovo, <https://upisc17.wordpress.com/>

2017 History of Success, Inspirational Speech, European Union Office in Vlorë

Deliverables

Deliverable 6.10 Baccigotti, A., Fanti, J., Grandi, M., Matuka, A. Final Exploitation Plan (Confidential Deliverable) for the project **Brazil-EU Cooperation for Development of Advanced Lignocellulosic Biofuels, Grant Agreement Number: 744821**

Deliverable 6.7 Grandi, M., and Matuka, A., **IPR Management and Strategy Report** (Confidential Deliverable), for the project **Brazil-EU Cooperation for Development of Advanced Lignocellulosic Biofuels, Grant Agreement Number: 744821**

Professional membership

Italian Econometric Association (SIDE), Italian Health Economics Association (AIES)

Member of the working group Cost Action C24163: Member of the working group Cost Action CA22152

Personal Information

Language: English (CAE C1 Cambridge Certificate), Italian (B2), Albanian (Native)

Skills and competences

General Digital Skills

STATA, EVIEWS, R, SPSS