

IRENE MARIA BUSO

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRENT POSITION

2026-2038: National Scientific Habilitation (ASN) as Associate Professor of Economics (13/A1 – Economia Politica), Italian Ministry of Education

2026-2038: National Scientific Habilitation (ASN) as Associate Professor of Economic Policy (13/A2 – Politica Economica), Italian Ministry of Education

June 2023 – Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Economics, University of Bologna and Lab Manager of the Bologna Laboratory for Experiments in Social Sciences ([BLESS](#)).

Jan 2020 – Associate Researcher, Experimental Center [CESARE](#), Luiss Guido Carli.

PAST APPOINTMENTS

October 2021 – June 2023: Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Economics, University of Venice Ca' Foscari.

Jan 2020 – September 2021: Lab Manager of the Experimental Center CESARE, Luiss Guido Carli.

October 2019: Visiting Post-Doctoral Researcher, Social Cognition Center, University of Cologne.

September 2018 – July 2019: Visiting Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Economics and Related Studies, University of York.

EDUCATION

2014 - 2018 European Ph.D. on Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, with honors.

2016 - Academic Visiting, Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

2012 - 2014 Msc in Economics, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, 110/110 with honors.

2009 - 2012 BSc in Economics, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, 109/110.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary Fields: Experimental and Behavioral Economics.

Topics: cooperation, prosocial choices, risk-taking.

PhD Thesis: “Experiments on individual decision-making and information”

<https://iris.uniroma1.it/retrieve/handle/11573/1125488/716997/Tesi%20dottorato%20Buso>

PUBLICATIONS:

Buso, I. M., Di Cagno, D., & Hey, J. (Forthcoming). Search and Switching Costs: a market experiment. Accepted in *Italian Economic Journal*.

Becchetti, L., Buso, I.M., Corazzini, L., Pelligra, V. (Forthcoming). Chains of Generosity: the Impact of Indirect Recipients on Prosocial Behavior and Welfare in Experimental Settings. Accepted in *Theory and Decision*.

Buso, I. M., & Corazzini, L. (2026). Tax evasion. In *Research Handbook on Unethical Behavior* (pp. 210-228). Edward Elgar Publishing, <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781035307272.00020>.

Buso, I. M., Di Cagno, Guth, W., Spadoni, L. (2025). Voluntary Group Formation for Sharing Voluntary Contribution Costs: Theoretical Aspects and Experimental Evidence. *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics*, <https://doi.org/10.1515/bejte-2024-0043>.

Buso, I. M., Ferrari, L., Güth, W., Lorè, L., & Spadoni, L. (2024). Testing isomorphic invariance across social dilemma games. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 223, 1-20, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2024.04.024>.

Buso, I. M., Di Cagno, D., Larocca, V., & Spadoni, L. (2022). Gli effetti della modalità di comunicazione del rischio sulle scelte di investimento finanziario: i risultati di un esperimento. *Moneta e Credito*, 75(297), <https://doi.org/10.13133/2037-3651/17735>.

Buso, I. M., & Hey, J. (2021). Why do consumers not switch? An experimental investigation of a search and switch model. *Theory and Decision*, 91(4), 445-476, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11238-021-09818-z>.

Buso, I. M., Di Cagno, D., Ferrari, L., Larocca, V., Lorè, L., Marazzi, F., Panaccione, L., Spadoni, L. (2021). Lab-like findings from online experiments. *Journal of the Economic Science Association*, 7(2), 184-193, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40881-021-00114-8>.

Buso, I. M., De Caprariis, S., Di Cagno, D., Ferrari, L., Larocca, V., Marazzi, F., Panaccione, L., Spadoni, L. (2020). The effects of COVID-19 lockdown on fairness and cooperation: Evidence from a lab-like experiment. *Economics Letters*, 196, 109577, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2020.109577>.

WORKING PAPERS:

Bernasconi, M., Buso, I. M., Marenzi, A., & Rizzi, D. (2025). Tax Notches in the Lab: Disentangling Real and Evasion Responses. Ca'Foscari University of Venice, Department of Economics Research Paper Series, (15). <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5427257> Submitted

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:

Cooperation with stock externalities: an experiment (with Gabriele Camera, Marco Casari, Riccardo Ghidoni). *Manuscript writing*

Assessing Heterogeneity in Voluntary Joining the Partnership for Equally Sharing Contribution Costs – How Systematic Conditional Choice Elicitation Accounts for Interpersonal and Intergroup Heterogeneity (with Andrej Angelowski, Daniela Di Cagno, Werner Guth and Lorenzo Spadoni). *Manuscript writing*

An experimental study of the self-serving use of uncertainty in belief formation (with Giacomo Sillari, Marco Novarese and Margherita Benzi). *Manuscript writing*

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

2025:

ESA – European Meeting of the Economic Science Association, Brno, Czech Republic.
SABE – Annual Conference Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics, Trento, Italy.
18th Workshop on social Economy for young economist, Forlì, Italy.

2024:

Verona Experimental Meeting, Verona, Italy.
IMPRS Be SmartUniversity of Bologna Topics Workshop, Bologna, Italy.
BEES – Behavioral and Experimental Economics for Sustainability Workshop, Florence, Italy.
Internal Seminar, DSE, Bologna, Italy.
XXXVI SIEP CONFERENCE 2024. Reimagining welfare: sustainable paths in public finance, Cagliari, Italy.
Workshop on “Experimentation and Behavioral Economics”, Soletto, Italy.
Developments in Economic Thinking: A Workshop in Memory of Gary Charness, Rome, Italy.
ASFEE - 14th Conference of the French Experimental Economics Association, Grenoble, France.
3rd CESARE-CIMEO Workshop, Rome, Italy.
BEEN – 12th Meeting of the Behavioral and Experimental Economics Network, Turin, Italy.

2023:

3rd CESARE-CIMEO Workshop, Rome, Italy.
BEEN – 10th Meeting of the Behavioral and Experimental Economics Network, Trento, Italy

2021:

BEEN – 6th Meeting of the Behavioral and Experimental Economics Network, Bologna, Italy.

2019:

2nd Winter Workshop on the Behavioral and Experimental Economics of Food Consumption, France.

2018:

ESA – North-America ESA Conference, Antigua, Guatemala.
SABE/IAREP Conference, London, UK.
FUR - Foundation of Utility and Risk Conference”, York, UK.
Neuroeconomics Talks, Maastricht, Netherlands.
8th Southern Europe Experimental Team's Meeting”, Lecce, Italy.

2017:

Florence-Konstanz workshop on Social Norms in Multi-ethnic Societies, Florence, Italy.

2016:

23rd Annual Conference of the Multinational Finance Society", Stockholm, Sweden.
Barcelona GSE Summer Forum-Theoretical and Experimental Macroeconomic Workshop, Barcelona, Spain.
7th Southern Europe Experimental Team's Meeting, Malta.

2015:

The Social and Biological Roots of Cooperation and Risk Taking Workshop, Kiel, Germany.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS:

2022: Special Mention in the competition “Premio Tesi di Dottorato 2020” by Sapienza Editrice.

2020: Funding by Scuola Nazionale dell’Amministrazione “Scienze comportamentali per la comunicazione pubblica del rischio” (€ 100.000, with Daniela Di Cagno, Massimo Egidi, Werner Guth, Giacomo Sillari, Lorenzo Spadoni, Lucia Savadori).

2019: Risk, Evidence, and Decision-Making Theme priming funding, York University “Do consumers not switch because they are not optimising?” (£2400, with John Bone and John Hey).

2017: University funding for early-career researchers - Progetti di Avvio alla Ricerca Sapienza "Cheating and Social Interaction: an experimental analysis on the spread of norms' violation in a social environment and the role of social status" (€ 1.000, Principal Investigator).

2015: University funding for early-career researchers - Progetti di Avvio alla Ricerca Sapienza "Teoria economica e modi regolatori: un nuovo approccio agli aspetti motivazionali delle scelte economiche e alla soluzione di apparenti paradossi della razionalità." (€ 1.000, Principal Investigator).

2015: "Best Student" award, outstanding graduate student award by Fondazione Sapienza - Special recognition to top graduate students in economics.

2015: "Laureati eccellenti Sapienza" award, outstanding graduate student award by Fondazione Sapienza top graduate students across all disciplines.

2014-2017: Full PhD Scholarship, MIUR.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Lead Instructor:

2021-2022 Behavioral Economics and Consumer Decision Making, MSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

Teaching Assitant:

2025-2026 Experimental Economics, MSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

2024-2026 Behavioral Economics: foundation, BSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

2024-2026 Behavioral Economics and Psychology, BSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

2019-2025 Microeconomia, BSc, LUISS Guido Carli.

2019-2021 Economia dell’incertezza e dell’informazione MSc, LUISS Guido Carli.

2019-2020 Managerial Decision Making MSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

2017-2018 Microeconomics, BSc (Eng.), Tor Vergata.

2016-2018 Microeconomics, BSc (Eng.), LUISS Guido Carli.

REFEREE SERVICE:

Health Policy, Italian Economic Journal, Review of Law and Economics, Journal of Economic Interaction and Coordination.

OTHER RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD:

Organizer of 15th meeting of the Behavioral and Experimental Economics Network, BEEN” at LUISS Guido Carli, 2026.

Contract for research support activities “Le determinanti individuali e di gruppo della corruzione” by Center for Experimental Studies of Internet, Entertainment, and Gambling (CESIEG), LUISS.

Contract for research support activities “Analisi della letteratura economica che studia l'effetto delle discontinuità fiscali sul comportamento degli agenti economici” by Department of Economics, University of Venice Ca’ Foscari.

COMPUTER AND LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Ztree, Stata, ORSEE, Prolific, Qualtrics (Advanced), Matlab, R (Intermediate), Otree (basic).
Italian (Mother Tongue), English (Advanced), Spanish (Intermediate).