

Valeria Ferraretto

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Statistical Sciences, University of Bologna
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Biographical information

Born 25/03/1994 in Este (PD), Italy

Education

PhD in Sociology and Social Research | Nov. 2020 - Feb. 2025 | University of Trento (IT), Department of Sociology and Social Research

- Dissertation: “The transition to adulthood revisited: Gender and socio-economic differences in the timing of events among young Europeans” – supervisor: Prof. Agnese Vitali, committee: Prof. Ann Berrington, Prof. Aart Liefbroer, Prof. Stefani Scherer.
- Visiting researcher at Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock (DE), Apr.-Jul. 2023
- Visiting researcher at Bocconi University, Dondena Centre for Social Dynamics and Public Policy, Milan (IT), Apr.-Jul. 2022

M.A. in European and International Studies | Oct. 2016 - Nov. 2018 | University of Trento (IT), School of International Studies

- Specialization in European Studies, with honours
- Master module in European Policy, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels (BE), Jul. 2018

B.A. in Economics and Management | Oct. 2013 - Oct. 2016 | University of Padova (IT), Department of Economics and Business Sciences “M. Fanno”

- With honours
- Erasmus+ semester at EPHEC - École Pratique des Hautes Études Commerciales, Brussels (BE), 2015-2016

Work experience

Postdoctoral Researcher | Nov. 2025 – ongoing | University of Bologna, Department of Statistical Sciences

- FIS Project: Social uncertainty and fertility in Europe, PI: Prof. Chiara L. Comolli

Research Fellow | Apr. 2024 – Nov. 2025 | University of Trento, Department of Sociology and Social Research

- PRIN-PNRR Project: Wellbeing and Fertility Policies (WelFerPoli), PI: Prof. Agnese Vitali

Junior Researcher | Sep. 2018- Oct. 2020 | Eurac Research, Center for Advanced Studies, Bolzano/Bozen (IT)

- Collaboration on local research projects funded by either third-parties or European funds (e.g., Interreg)
- Drafting of research proposals, survey design, data collection and analysis, scientific reporting and publications, dissemination activities

Teaching

Teaching Assistant | A.Y. 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26 | University of Turin & Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin (IT)

- Foundations of Demography, 2nd level Master in “Welfare: Theoretical Foundations & Data Analysis”

Teaching Assistant | A.Y. 2021/22, 2022/23 | University of Trento (IT), Department of Sociology and Social Research

- Quantitative Methods for Social Research, B.A. in Sociology

Academic Tutor | A.Y. 2017/18 | University of Trento (IT), Department of Economics and Management

- Introduction to Economics, B.A. in Economics and Management

Conferences

2025:

- European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR), Cologne (DE).

- Giornate di Studio sulla Popolazione – PopDays, Cagliari (IT).
- Population Association of America, Annual Meeting, Washington DC (USA).
- Gender Inequalities, Fertility, and the Future of Family Demography: Intersectionality in an Era of Family Complexity, Rostock (DE).

2024:

- European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR), Barcelona (ES).
- European Social Survey (ESS) Conference, Lisbon (PT).
- European Population Conference, Edinburgh (UK).

2023:

- The Inequality of Uncertainty Conference, Bologna (IT).
- European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR), Prague (CZ).
- Transitions in Youth Workshop, Edinburgh (UK).
- European User Conference for EU-Microdata, Mannheim (DE).
- Giornate di Studio sulla Popolazione – PopDays, Rome (IT).

2022:

- European Population Conference, Groningen (NL).
- Population Association of America, Annual Meeting, Atlanta (USA).

Seminars/Invited talks

- *Changing union formation patterns during young adulthood: challenges and opportunities for social research*. Guest lecture within the Social Demography course, MA in Sociology and Social Research, November 2025, University of Trento.
- *Introduction to Event History Analysis*. Guest lecture within the Social Demography course, MA in Sociology and Social Research, Winter term 2023/24, 2024/25, University of Trento.
- *Economia e demografia: un legame a doppio filo?* Keynote speech, event organized by Cassa Rurale Valsugana e Tesino, 27/10/2023, Castel Ivano (IT).
- *The Transition to Cohabitation in Germany. Gender Inequalities in Economic Determinants*. Lab talk, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, 27/06/2023, Rostock (DE).
- *The Transition to Cohabitation in Germany. Gender Inequalities in Economic Determinants*. Joint Workshop MPIDR – University of Oslo, 18/03/2023, Population Europe, Berlin (DE).
- *The transition to adulthood in Europe*. Guest lecture within the Social Demography course, MA in Sociology and Social Research, Winter term 2022/23, University of Trento.
- *The transition to adulthood in Europe*. PhD Seminar, Eurac Center for Advanced Studies, 25/01/2022, online.

Publications

1. Feltrin, G., **Ferraretto**, V., Guetto, R., Soldo, R., Vitali, A. (*forthcoming*, 2026). Unmet Fertility Desires: Evidence from a Lowest-low Fertility Context. *Population Research and Policy Review*
2. Montanari, P., Vitali, A., **Ferraretto**, V. (2025). Air pollution and subjective wellbeing: Exploring the link between PM10 and a composite measure of wellbeing. *Population and Environment*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11111-025-00504-8>
3. Schwanitz, K., **Ferraretto**, V., Vitali, A., & Rampazzo, F. (2025). Ideations and Intentions in the Transition to Adulthood: A Cross-European Comparison. *Comparative Population Studies*, 50. <https://doi.org/10.12765/CPoS-2025-13>
4. **Ferraretto**, V., Hiekel, N., & Vitali, A. (2025). Non-cohabiting Partners' Economic Characteristics and the Transition to Living Together in Germany: A Couple-Level Perspective. *European Journal of Population*, 41(1), 25. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10680-025-09740-y>
5. **Ferraretto**, V., Vitali, A. (2024). The transition to adulthood in Europe at the intersection of gender and parental socio-economic status. *Demographic Research*, 51, 723–762. <https://doi.org/10.4054/DemRes.2024.51.23>
6. **Ferraretto**, V., Vitali, A., & Billari, F. C. (2024). Leaving the parental home during the COVID-19 pandemic: the case of Southern Europe. *Advances in life course research*, 59, 100594. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.alcr.2024.100594>
7. **Ferraretto**, V., & Vitali, A. (2023). Parental socioeconomic status and age at leaving home in Europe: Exploring regional differences. *Population, Space and Place*, 26(6). <https://doi.org/10.1002/psp.2679>

(from previous work experience)

8. Scuttari, A., **Ferraretto**, V., Stawinoga, A. E., & Walder, M. (2021). Tourist and viral mobilities intertwined: Clustering COVID-19-driven travel behaviour of rural tourists in South Tyrol, Italy. *Sustainability*, 13(20), 11190.
9. Isetti, G., **Ferraretto**, V., Stawinoga, A. E., Gruber, M., & DellaValle, N. (2020). Is caring about the environment enough for sustainable mobility? An exploratory case study from South Tyrol (Italy). *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, 6, 100148.
10. **Ferraretto**, V. (2020). Can Rural Regions Compete for Talents? A Case Study From South Tyrol, Italy. In: Kofler, I., Innerhofer, E., Marcher, A., Gruber, M., Pechlaner, H. (Eds.). *The Future of High-Skilled Workers: Regional Problems and Global Challenges*. Berlin: Springer Nature.

Work in progress

- **Ferraretto**, V., Guetto, R., Vitali, A., Grotti, R., Vignoli, D. Children are perceived to increase men's well-being but lower women's well-being. (Draft)
- **Ferraretto**, V., Vettoretto, E., Minardi, S., Comolli, C.L. Social networks and their implications for fertility choices across social groups in the Netherlands. (In preparation)
- Carollo, A., Briseño Sanchez, G., **Ferraretto**, V., Hiekel, N. A boosted multistate model of partnership trajectories in Germany. (In preparation)
- **Ferraretto**, V. The later, the merrier? First union and subjective wellbeing during young adulthood (In preparation)
- **Ferraretto**, V., Tosi, M. She's leaving, I'm not: family background and gender differences in leaving home decisions among Italian siblings. (Draft)

Training

- Trento School of Applied Quantitative Research (TN SQUARE). *Social Policies: meanings, measures and effects on individuals' behaviour*. University of Trento, Department of Sociology and Social Research, Nov. 2024
- Introduction to Event History Analysis, GESIS Training Course, Mannheim (DE), *online*, May 2022
- Trento School of Applied Quantitative Research (TN SQUARE). *Health inequalities, family and labour market dynamics*. University of Trento, Department of Sociology and Social Research, Nov. 2021
- Gender equality, family change and family policy: new theoretical developments, University of Oslo (NO), Department of Sociology and Human Geography, Nov. 2021
- Data for monitoring poverty and vulnerabilities, InGRID Winter School, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels (BE), *online*, Feb. 2021

Organization of international conferences

- Member of the Scientific Committee of RC28 Conference, strand "Family and social stratification", Milan 2025.

Funding and awards

- Award for the best PhD in Sociology and Social Research of 2025.
Date of award: 08/05/2026, institution: University of Trento.
- Seal of Excellence for the proposal "Youth Partnership Expectations and their Realization: a longitudinal perspective", submitted under the Marie Curie call for Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 (host: University of Southampton, UK).
Score: 95.8/100, date of award: 17/02/2026, institution: European Commission.
- PhD scholarship from the Italian Ministry of University, 4 years.

Reviewer

Advances in Life Course Research; Demographic Research; European Journal of Ageing; European Journal of Population; European Societies; Genus; International Journal of Housing Policy; Population, Space and Place; Journal of Family Research.

Software

STATA (advanced), R (intermediate)

Languages

Italian (mother tongue), English (C1), German (B2), French (B2)

Updated: March 2026