

Simone Paci, PhD

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA (2024-ongoing)

Lecturer and Associate Director of the Capstone Program, Political Science Department

Affiliated Scholar, CDDRL, FSI

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (2023-2024)

Postdoctoral Research Affiliate at the Bobst Center for Peace and Justice

EDUCATION:

Columbia University, New York, NY (2017-2023)

Ph.D., in Political Science, concentration in Comparative Political Economy and Quantitative Methodology

M.A. and M.Phil. in Political Science

Yale University, New Haven, CT (2013-2017)

B.A. in Economics and Political Science, Summa cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Departmental Honors

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

"With Great Powers: A Practical Guide to AI in Social Science Research" in *Notes on the Future of Quantitative Social Sciences* (Rohan Alexanders, eds. CRC Press, forthcoming)

"Filling the tax gap: How private donations compensate a faltering fiscal contract." *American Journal of Political Science*, 2025

"Is Academic Research Safe in the AI Revolution? Evaluating LLMs with Bayesian Process Tracing"
Chinese Review of Political Science, 2026

"Applications of GPT in Political Science Research" *PS: Political Science*, 2025
(with Kyuwon Lee, Jeongmin Park, Hye Young You, and Sylvan Zheng)

"Status-Seeking and Nation-Building: The Piedmont Principle Revised." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 2020
(with Nicholas Sambanis, Yale University, and William Wohlforth, Dartmouth College)

WORKING PAPERS:

"Global Government GenAI Observatory (G3O): A Database of AI Adoption by 700,000 Public Institutions"
with Nathan Feldman (University of Rochester) and Lowry Pressly (Stanford University)

"Taxation at the Edge of Morality: A Statewide RCT on California Tobacco Excise Enforcement"
with Julian Gerez (UC Irvine)

"Tax Thy Neighbor: How Italian Mayors Increase Taxes in their Hometowns" (Under review)

"What Women Need: The Public Policy Effects of Patriarchy" (With Beatrice Montano and Chiara Superti, Columbia University) (Under Review)

“What Men Need: Women Empowerment and Male Incentive Structure” (With Beatrice Montano and Chiara Superti, Columbia University) (Under Review)

“Taxes After Conflict: Transitional Justice and Fiscal Capacity in Post-Conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina” (with Monika Nalepa, University of Chicago) (UN Wider Working Paper)

“To Privatize or To Centralize: How Economic and Political Incentives Affect Local Tax Collection Strategies” (with Silvia Vannutelli, Northwestern University)

SELECTED AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS:

- UNU WIDER – Taxation in Conflict-Affected Areas (2024)
- Research Fellowship, Digital Data for the Social Sciences Institute, Princeton University (2023)
- Philip E Mosely Fellowship in Political Science, Columbia University (2019, 2022, 2023)
- C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute for Land Policy (2022)
- HSF Research Fellowship, Institute of Humane Studies (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)

SELECTED CONFERENCES & INVITED TALKS:

- APSA: American Political Science Association Conference (2021-25)
- MPSA: Mid-Western Political Science Association Conference (2021-24)
- EPSA: European Political Science Association Conference (2021-2024)
- CLEAN Research Seminar, Bocconi University (Invited Talk, 2023)
- NEWEPS: Northeast Workshop on Empirical Political Science (2022)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Stanford University, Instructor of Record

Capstone Project Seminar, 2024-2026

Polisci 1: The Science of Politics, Fall 2025

The Political Economy of Tax Evasion, Spring 2025

Columbia University, Instructor of Record

Contemporary European Politics, Summer 2024

The Politics of the European Union, Spring 2023

Columbia University, Teaching Assistant

International Political Economy, Fall 2022

American Urban Politics, Spring 2021

European Political History, Fall 2020

Research Design: Scope and Methods, Spring 2020, Fall 2019

The Politics of Protests, Spring 2019

The Logic of Social Choice, Fall 2018

Pedagogical Training and Experience

Advanced-Track Teaching Development Program, Columbia CTL

Teaching Observation Fellow, Columbia CTL

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Peer Review Service:

APSR, AJPS, Political Science Research and Methods, Comparative Political Studies, Political Analysis, Review of European and Transatlantic Affairs

Columbia University

MA Program Assistant, (2021–22)

Seminar Coordinator, Graduate Students Methodology Seminar, Columbia University (2018–19)

Student Assistant, Yale Council of European Studies (2015–17)

NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Schedule Validator, (2023- 2025)

Data Science Consultant for Machine-learning Modelling in the Construction Industry

SKILLS:

Analytical

Causal Inference | Statistical Analysis | Mixed-Methods | Survey Design | Presentation | Scientific Writing

Coding

R (advanced) | Python (beginner) | SQL (intermediate) | QGIS (intermediate) | GitHub (intermediate)

Languages

Italian (native) | English (native) | French (proficient) | German (intermediate)