

Prof. Gianpiero Torrisi

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Qualifications

Academic

- PhD in Public Economics (University of Catania, Italy), funded through a scholarship from the Italian Ministry of Local Development. October 2008.
- MA degree in International Political Economy (Newcastle University). Pass with Merit. December 2007.
- Degree in Economics (University of Catania). 110/110 *cum laude* (Italian equivalent to a First Class Honors Degree). July 2005.

Professional

- National Scientific Qualification to function as a university full professor (or, in Italian, “Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale”, I fascia) in Applied Economics. May 2023.
- National Scientific Qualification to function as a university associate professor (or, in Italian, “Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale”, II fascia) in Applied Economics. December 2013.
- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Higher Education Academy. October 2013.

Current appointment

November 2017- Present – Associate Professor in Applied Economics at the University of Catania, Department of Economics and Business

Other Responsibilities and roles

- March 2024 - present. Departmental Coordinator for International Mobility. University of Catania, Department of Economics and Business.
- November 2019 - present. Representative for admission test TOLC-E. University of Catania, Department of Economics and Business.

Previous employment and appointments held

- **Senior Lecturer in Economics**, University of Portsmouth, Business School (October 2012 – November 2017)
- **Lecturer in Economics**, University of Portsmouth, Business School (January 2011 – October 2012).
- **Research Associate**, Newcastle University, Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (April 2009 to March 2011).
- **Research Assistant**, Newcastle University (December 2006 to October 2007).

Visiting and other appointment

- **Visiting Fellow**, University of Portsmouth, Business School (December 2017 – Present)
- **Senior Research Fellow**, University of Portsmouth, Business School (December 2017 – August 2019).
- **Visiting researcher**, Newcastle University, Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (March 2011 to January 2012).

Referee activity

Referee for the following journal (selection)

- Cambridge Journal of Regions Economy and Society
- Empirical Economics
- Environment and Planning C
- Journal of Consumer Policy
- Land Use Policy
- MIT Press
- Palgrave
- Regional Studies
- Regional Science, Policy and Practice
- Southern Economic Journal
- The Annals of Regional Science
- Urban Studies.

Mentoring and other consultancy activities

- Invited speaker at the “11th International Conference, Transformational drivers of national economies. Developing policy options and tools tailored to targeted reforms - ESPERA 2024”, Bucharest, Romania
- Advisor for UNICREDIT, project NEXT in collaboration with Microsoft. March 2016.
- Invited panel member for the VII Workshop “*UniCredit - RegiosS. Le regioni italiane: ciclo economico e dati strutturali*” (Italian regions: business cycle and structural data). April 2015.
- Invited speaker at the “Knowledge Transfer Hot Topic: How Can Public Policy Help Portsmouth's Economy Grow?”, Portsmouth, October 2013.

Research

Publications

Published works (selection)

- 2024. Decentralisation and Resilience: A Multidimensional Approach Using the Regional Authority Index. *Italian Journal of Regional Science*, forthcoming.
- 2023. An empirical take on the economic effects of insularity: the Italian regional case. *Rivista Italiana di Economia Demografia e Statistica*, 101-112. (with Cavalieri, M., Di Pasquale, D., and Torrisi, B.)
- 2023. Mafia doesn't live here anymore: Antimafia policies and housing prices. *Journal of Regional Science*, 63(4), 1001-1025. (with Calamunci, F. M., Ferrante, L., and Scebba, R.)
- 2023. Regional economic resilience: A scoping review. *Progress in Human Geography*, 47(4), 500-532. (with Sutton, J., Arcidiacono, A., and Arku, R. N.)
- 2022. Decentralisation and resilience: A multidimensional approach. *Sustainability*, 14(16), 9919. (with Arcidiacono, A.)
- 2021. A multidimensional analysis of the link between decentralization and development. In *Handbook on Decentralization, Devolution and the State* (pp. 287-302). Edward Elgar Publishing.
- 2021. A picture of regret: An empirical investigation of post-Brexit

referendum survey data. *Rationality and Society*, 34(1), 56-77. (with Collins, A. and Cox, A.)

- 2021. Searching for a smart city: A bibliographic analysis of 'Public Facing' EU smart city projects. *Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie*, 112(5), 549-565. (with Collins, A. and Cox, A.)
- 2021. Shall we follow the money? Anti-mafia policies and electoral competition. *Journal of Policy Modeling*, 43(5), 1110-1130. (with Ferrante, L., Reito, F., and Spagano, S.)
- 2020. COVID: everything is better when everything is worse? A comparative analysis of testing, death rate and life expectancy across Italian regions. *Regional Studies, Regional Science*, 7(1), 463-475.
- 2020. A balanced development? The North-South divide of Italian regions through the lens of novel sigma-mu efficiency analysis Forthcoming in *Spatial Economics*, London: Palgrave MacMillan. (with Tasiou, M and Greco, S.)
- 2020. The ordinal input for cardinal output approach of non-compensatory composite indicators: The PROMETHEE scoring method. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 288(1), 225-246. (with Greco, S., Ishizaka, A., and Tasiou, M.)
- 2019. Measuring well-being by a multidimensional spatial model in OECD Better Life Index framework, *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences*, 100684. (with S. Greco, A. Ishizaka e G. Resce).
- 2019. Sigma-Mu efficiency analysis: A methodology for evaluating units through composite indicators, *European Journal of Operational Research*, 278(3), 942-96. (with Greco, S., Ishizaka, e A., Tasiou, M.)
- 2018. On the Methodological Framework of Composite Indices: A Review of the Issues of Weighting, Aggregation, and Robustness, *Social Indicators Research*, online first pp. 1-34 (with S. Greco, A. Ishizaka and M. Tasiou)
- 2017. Regional Resilience in Italy: do employment and income tell the same story? In Huggins R and Thompson P (Eds.), *Handbook of Regions and Competitiveness*. Edward Elgar Publishing. (with R. Cellini and P. Di Caro)
- 2017. Stochastic multi-attribute acceptability analysis (SMAA): an application to the ranking of Italian regions. *Regional Studies*, 1-16 (with S. Greco, A. Ishizaka, and B. Matarazzo).
- 2016. "Analyzing Household and Intra-Urban variants in the Consumption of Financial Services: Uncovering 'Exclusion' in an English City". *Journal of Consumer Policy*, vol.39, pp. 199-221 (with Sabrina Bunyan and Alan Collins).

- 2015. "(Re-)exploring the link between decentralization and regional disparities in Italy". *Regional Studies, Regional Science*, vol. 2, pp.122-139 (with A. Pike, J. Tomaney, and V. Tselios).
- 2014. "Regional Resilience in Italy: A Very Long-Run Analysis". *Regional Studies*, vol. 48, pp.1779-1796 (with R. Cellini).
- 2012, "Regional public spending for tourism in Italy: an empirical analysis". *Tourism Economics*, vol. 19, pp. 1361-1384 (with R. Cellini).
- 2012. "In search of the 'economic dividend' of devolution: spatial disparities, spatial economic policy and decentralisation in UK." *Environment and Planning C*, vol. 30, pp. 10-28 (with A. Pike, A. Rodriguez-Pose, J. Tomaney, and V. Tselios).
- 2011, "Income inequality, regional economic development and decentralisation in Western Europe." *Environment and Planning A*, vol. 44, pp. 1278-1301 (with V. Tselios, A. Pike, A. Rodriguez-Pose, and J. Tomaney).
- 2011. "Decentralisation Outcomes: A Review of Evidence and Analysis of International Data". Final Report to Department of Communities and Local Government CURDS Newcastle Upon Tyne (with A. Pike, A. Rodriguez-Pose, J. Tomaney, and V. Tselios). ISBN 9781409831594. I contributed to the econometric analysis and to the development of the theoretical framework linking devolution and efficiency.
- 2009. "Public infrastructure: definition, classification and measurement issues." *Economics, Management, and Financial Markets*, vol. 3, pp. 100-124.

Working Papers and works in progress

- 2024. A Three-way Approach to Multidimensional Gini Index to Measure Inequality in EU Regions. (with Di Nuzzo, C., and Venera Tomaselli).
- 2024. Resilience To The Covid-19 Shock And Insularity: A European Regional Analysis. (with Torrisi, B and Coniglione, S.)
- 2015. Economic Impact of University of Portsmouth, University of Portsmouth Research Paper (with A. Cox, A. Leonard, and P. Reverberi). I contributed in estimating the economic model.
- 2010. "Defining and Measuring decentralisation: a critical review."

Unpublished (with A. Pike, A. Rodriguez-Pose, J. Tomaney, and V. Tselios.). I contributed the conceptual analysis.

Other media

- 2011. Income inequality, decentralisation, and regional development in Western Europe, with with A. Pike, A. Rodriguez-Pose, J. Tomaney, and V. Tselios. Vox, available at: <http://voxeu.org/index.php?q=node/7101>

Research Grants

- 2022-2026. European Commission, 'GRINS': Growing Resilient, Inclusive and Sustainable, PI for the University of Catania, Department of Economics and Business ((Total project of €144 million, coordinated by the University of Bologna, Italy).
- 2016-2018. European Commission, 'PERCEIVE': Perception and Evaluation of Regional and Cohesion policies by Europeans and Identification with the Values of Europe, PI for the University of Portsmouth (Total project of €2,5 million, coordinated by the University of Bologna, Italy).
- 2016-2017 Research Development Fund (University of Portsmouth), Building an innovative model of the local economy to measure the impact of policy changes: Estimating the impact of population change and unemployment on the local economy, specifically the cost of policing at a national and subnational level (£18k). Co-PI.
- 2015 – Knowledge service (University of Portsmouth), Economic Impact of the University of Portsmouth (£15k). Co-PI.

Supervision of Research Students

- Mario Mistretta. Defining and measuring Polycentrism. Start date: November 2023. First supervisor.
- Alberto Simone Platania. The State-of-the-art of the Research Methodology on Blockchain Technology: Proposal for a Research Agenda and Policy Implications". Completion in January 2023. First supervisor.

- Alessia Arcidiacono, Resilience in Europe: a multidimensional analysis. Completion in February 2022. First supervisor.
- Mustafa Ozer, The Causal Effects of Mother's Education on Vaccination Rates: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Turkey. Completion in November 2016 (subject to minor amendments). Second supervisor.
- Menelaos Tasiou, Multiple Criteria Evaluation of Economic Units by Composite Indices. Started in September 2016. First supervisor (from September 2016 to November 2017).

Advisory activity

- Member of the Advisory Board of CUPESSE (Cultural Pathways to Economic Self-Sufficiency and Entrepreneurship) project financed by the EU. 2013 - 2016.

Lectures and conference activity (selection)

- 17-18 October 2024, Bucharest. Economic Scientific Research - Theoretical, Empirical and Practical Approaches"- ESPERA. Regional economic resilience and spatial disparities: a multidimensional approach.
- 6-8 September 2023, Napoli. Aisre: Associazione Italiana di Scienze Regionali. Searching for the economic island-effect: the Italian regional case.
- 3-6 June 2018, Lugano, Regional Studies Association: A World of Flows: Labour Mobility, Capital and Knowledge in an Age of Global Reversal and Regional Revival, On smart cities and resilience. With Alan Collins (Nottingham-Trent University) et al.
- 20-22 September 2017, Cagliari, XXXVIII Conferenza AISRe, A balanced development? The novel σ - μ efficiency applied to the ranking of Italian regions. With Salvo Greco (Università di Catania), Alessio Ishizaka (University of Portsmouth) and Menelaos Tasiou (University of Portsmouth).
- 7 December 2016. "PERCEIVE: Perception and Evaluation of Regional and Cohesion policies by Europeans and Identification with the Values of Europe". Cluster for Sustainable Cities, faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries, University of Portsmouth.
- 27-29 September 2016. "Kick-off conference for the PERCEIVE

project". University of Bologna, Italy.

- 27-28 November 2014, London, "Regional Studies Association, Winter Conference", From subjective objectivity to objective subjectivity: probabilistic preferences in regional development ranking" (refereed). With Salvo Greco (University of Catania), Alessio Ishizaka (University of Portsmouth) and Benedetto Matarazzo (University of Catania).
- 2-3 September 2013, Palermo, "XXXIV Annual Scientific Conference AISRE, Italian Regional Science Association", Regional Resilience in Italy: A Very Long-Run Analysis (refereed). With Roberto Cellini (University of Catania).
- 27-31 August 2013, Palermo, "European Regional Science Association, 53rd Annual Congress", Is there a global link between spatial disparities and devolution? A Portuguese contribution to the debate (referred). With Mario Vale (University of Lisbon) and Andy Pike (Newcastle University).
- 17-18-19-20 April 2011, Newcastle. "Regional Studies Association Annual International Conference 2011", (Re-)exploring the link between devolution and regional disparities in Italy. With Andy Pike (Newcastle University), John Tomaney (Newcastle University), and Vassilis Tselios (Newcastle University).
- 6 May 2010, London. Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC) & London School of Economics, "Second Annual Conference", In Search of the Devolution Dividend: Spatial Disparities, Spatial Economic Policy and Decentralisation in the UK, (referred). With Andy Pike, Andres Rodriguez Pose, John Tomaney & Vassilis Tselios.
- 22-23-24 October 2009, Rome. LUISS and Società Italiana degli Economisti (SIE), "51^a Riunione Scientifica Annuale", A Multilevel Analysis on the Economic Impact of Public Infrastructure and Corruption in Italian Regions (referred).

Prizes and Academic recognition

- November 2014. Regional Studies Association and Routledge Early Career Award 2014.
- June 2013. "Neil Rackham prize" for best early career researchers for research published in 2012.

Teaching and Education

Present

- Regional Economics
- Tourism Economics
- High Tech Markets, Industrial Organisation and Growth

Previous

- Applied econometrics
- Principle of Econometrics
- Local economic Development
- Public Sector Economics (undergraduate). Unit co-ordinator.
- Quantitative Economics' (undergraduate). Unit co-ordinator.
- Environmental Economics and Sustainability Agenda (undergraduate) Unit co-ordinator.
- Finance and Appraisal (postgraduate). Unit co-ordinator.
- Decision-Making and Resources (postgraduate). Unit co-ordinator.

Other teaching activities in the units

- Applied Economics: Research Review and Design (undergraduate)
- Applied Economics: Empirical Research (undergraduate)
- Independent Study Unit' (undergraduate)
- European Business Programme (supervisor, undergraduate)
- Global Environmental Issues and Concerns (undergraduate)
- Macroeconomics (undergraduate)
- Microeconomics (undergraduate)

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