

Gender Lab

The Newsletter of

AXA Research Lab on Gender Equality



Issue 32, November 2024

WELCOME

The AXA Research Lab on Gender Equality welcomes you to the thirty-second edition of our monthly newsletter. At the Lab, we aim to promote gender equality in the economic and social spheres through rigorous scientific methodologies. We carry out theoretical and empirical, high-quality research with a strong policy impact.

In this edition, you will find highlights of the research and activities we carried out during the past month. Our research includes all areas of gender economics, gender policies, gender diversity management, education, family dynamics, culture, politics, and women's empowerment. You will also find updates about events and our team.

We are happy to connect with you, for which we have left our contact information at the end of the newsletter.

MEET THE TEAM!

- **Paola Profeta**, *Director*
- **Francesco Maura**, *Post-Doctoral Researcher*
- **Kenza Ellass**, *Post-Doctoral Researcher*
- **Viola Salvestrini**, *Post-Doctoral Researcher*
- **Olivia Masi**, *Post-Doctoral Researcher*
- **Ximena Caló**, *PhD Student*
- **Niccolò Baldesi**, *Pre-Doc*
- **Bianca Meoli**, *Pre-Doc*
- **Mohamed Horchani**, *Pre-Doc*
- **Matilde Bontempo**, *Research Assistant*

In addition to our core team, we collaborate with [external fellows](#) and welcome [visitors](#). This month we bid farewell to [Margherita Agnoletto](#), PhD student in Economics at the University of Turin and Collegio Carlo Alberto. It was a pleasure having Margherita join us over the past three months.

We are also delighted to welcome our new MSc students joining the Lab for their [curricular internships](#) this month: **Giovanni Colombo** (MSc PPA), **Cristina Mazza** (MSc GIO), and **Beatrice Morico** (BSc BIG). If you're a student interested in gaining hands-on experience with us, we encourage you to [contact us](#).

OUR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Family

Women's Caring Penalty at Retirement in Europe – **Francesco Maura** and **Paola Profeta**

Key Points:

- As population ages, there is an increasing demand for caregiving services and households decide whether to purchase these services or produce them.
- In the second case, one working member should retire or leave his/her job, in most cases a woman.
- We study the impact of retirement due to caregiving responsibilities on women's post-retirement earnings compared to regular retirement.
- The results show that the (negative) effect of retirement among those who retire because of caregiving duties is almost three times larger than the impact on regular retirees.

Francesco Maura, Post-Doctoral Researcher at the Lab, presented his work at the [Share-Gateway User Conference 2024](#) held in Berlin.

Women's Empowerment

Overstretched: Financial Distress and Intimate Partner Violence in the US – **Olivia Masi** with *C. Santantonio*

Key Points:

- We identify small financial shocks due to changes in payments because of bank closures.
- These relatively small financial shocks increase intimate partner violence.
- The effect is stronger and larger for households at risk, with more family members and more liquidity constrained.
- There is evidence of financial distress due to changes in consumption.

Olivia Masi, Post-doctoral Researcher at the Lab, presented her work at the [Workshop on Violence against Women](#) held at the University of Warwick.

Policies

Don't Stick a Spoon in Marital Disputes? Sentencing Severity and Domestic Violence – [Olivia Masi](#) with *R. Costa, B. Ribeiro, and M. Sandi*

Key Points:

- We estimate the impact of sentencing severity on the dynamics of domestic violence.
- The study uses ten years of merged individual-level administrative registers on domestic violence cases brought to the police and family linkages for Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil).
- Leveraging Brazil's "Lei do Feminicídio", which was implemented in March 2015 to include the crime of "femicide" in the Brazilian penal law, we find that sentencing severity significantly affects the behavior of both offenders and victims of domestic violence.
- While the policy change seemingly deterred potential offenders by reducing the incidence of domestic violence, victims of domestic violence became more likely to ask for protective measures and more reluctant to press charges against their abusive partners, as a framework of compensating mechanisms would predict.
- For a policymaker seeking to design effective sentences to combat domestic violence, the tension between these outcomes appears critical.

[Olivia Masi](#), Post-doctoral Researcher at the Lab, presented her work at the [Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime](#) held at ETH Zurich.

AT A GLANCE

- Kenza Ellass and Paola Profeta Profeta published a report titled "[Threat or opportunity? The impact of AI on women,](#)" which was featured in [laRepubblica Affari&Finanza](#).
- Paola Profeta published an article on [il Sole 24 Ore](#) on raising awareness about the prevalence of workplace harassment as one of the many ways to combat violence against women, in observance of November 25th.
- Olivia Masi delivered a [talk](#) on Intimate Partner Violence in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination for Violence against Women at the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute.

You can check more on news and participations [here](#), and also [follow us](#) on X.

NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Gender Equality Conference

On November 11th, we hosted the **2024 Annual Gender Equality Conference** in collaboration with the Department of Social and Political Sciences, and in partnership with the UniCredit Foundation.

Patricia Funk (Università della Svizzera italiana) delivered an insightful keynote lecture on Recognizing Female Talent in Science. We extend our warmest congratulations to this year's award winners, **Federica Meluzzi** (CREST) and **Ilaria D'Angelis** (University of Massachusetts, Boston), and express our gratitude to **Massimo Anelli** and **Kenza Ellass** for serving as discussants.

Seminar Series

We host a **seminar series**, typically on Tuesdays. Our seminars are hosted in hybrid mode – join us in room 3-B3-SR01 or online!

In October, we were pleased to host the following seminars:

— *November 5th*: “When Women Win: Can Female Representation Decrease Gender Based Violence?” – **Chiara Santantonio** (University of Bath)

— *November 12th (online only)*: “Can Artificial Intelligence Improve Gender Equality? Evidence from a Natural Experiment” – **Difang Huang** (University of Hong Kong)

— *November 19th*: “Caught in the Crossfire: World War I and the Extension of Women's Suffrage in France” – **Victor Gay** (Toulouse School of Economics)

— *November 26th*: “Peer Effects and the Gender Gap in Corporate Leadership: Evidence from MBA Students” – **Ashley Wong** (Tilburg University)

Our upcoming seminars include:

— *January 21st*: “EU Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman: Politics of Women's Representation in the EU Parliament” – **Riccardo Di Leo** (European University Institute)

— *January 28th*: “Explaining FDI Responsiveness to Gender Inequality: The Role of CEO Characteristics” – **Kerim Can Kavakli** (Bocconi University)

Stay tuned for information on future events by regularly checking our **website**.

CONTACT US:

If you have any questions about our research or more information about the Lab and the team, please visit our website at <https://genderlab.unibocconi.eu> or email us at genderlab@unibocconi.it. You can also follow us on Twitter [@AXAGenderLab](https://twitter.com/AXAGenderLab).

Until next time,

The AXA Research Lab on Gender Equality

Bocconi University, 6th Floor, Room
Via Röntgen 1, 20136, Milan (Italy)

La informiamo che, in ottemperanza al nuovo Regolamento Generale Europeo per la Sicurezza e la Privacy dei Dati (UE 2016/679 - GDPR), in [questa pagina](#) può prendere visione delle Policy sul trattamento dei dati personali e che in [questa pagina](#) può aggiornare o modificare il consenso al loro trattamento da parte dell'Università Bocconi.

We inform you that, in compliance with the new European General Data Security and Data Privacy Regulation (EU 2016/679 - GDPR), at [page](#) you can view the Policy on the processing of personal data and at that [page](#) you can update or modify the consent to their treatment by Bocconi University.

© UNIVERSITÀ BOCCONI - VIA SARFATTI, 25 MILANO - PI 03628350153