

## Curriculum Vitae – Spring 2023

Family name: Fornaro  
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## Qualifications

**Bocconi University**

PhD in Social and Political Science

Milan, Italy

September 2021 – Present

**Bocconi University**

MSc in Economic and Social Sciences (2 years, economics)  
 Dissertation: Using administrative data to study the impact of socioeconomic condition on mortality  
 Final grade: 110/110 summa cum laude

Milan, Italy

September 2016 – March 2019

**Bocconi University**

BSc in Economic and Social Sciences (3 years, economics)  
 Final grade: 110/110

Milan, Italy

September 2013 – October 2016

## Awards and Scholarships

Full merit-based Bocconi PhD fellowship

2021 - 2025

## Research Interests

Public Healthcare Policy, Health Economics and Outcomes Research

## Publications

Drummond, M., Ciani, O., Fornaro, G., Jommi, C., Dietrich, E. S., Espin, J., Mossman, J., de Pouvourville, G. (2023). **How are health technology assessment bodies responding to the assessment challenges posed by cell and gene therapy?** BMC Health Services Research (forthcoming)

Bertolaccini, L., Fornaro, G., Ciani, O., Prisciandaro, E., Crisci, R., Tarricone, R., & Spaggiari, L. (2023). **The Impact of Surgical Experience in VATS Lobectomy on Conversion and Patient Quality of Life: Results from a Comprehensive National Video-Assisted Thoracic Surgical Database.** Cancers, 15(2), 410.

Fornaro, G., Armeni, P., Albera, A., & Barbara, M. (2022). **The Value of Hearing Aids for the Italian NHS: A Cost-utility Analysis.** Otology & Neurotology Open, 2(4), e018.

Fornaro, G., Federici, C., Rognoni, C., & Ciani, O. (2021). **Broadening the Concept of Value: A Scoping Review on the Option Value of Medical Technologies.** Value in Health, 24(7), 1045-1058.

Federici, C., Fornaro, G., & Roehr, C. C. (2021). **Cost-saving effect of early less invasive surfactant administration versus continuous positive airway pressure therapy alone for preterm infants with respiratory distress syndrome.** European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy, doi:10.1136/ejpharm-2020-002465



Armeni, P., Borsoi, L., Fornaro, G., Jommi, C., Colombo, N., & Costa, F. (2020). **Cost-Effectiveness and Net Monetary Benefit of olaparib Maintenance Therapy Versus No Maintenance Therapy After First-line Platinum-based Chemotherapy in Newly Diagnosed Advanced BRCA1/2-mutated Ovarian Cancer in the Italian National Health Service.** *Clinical Therapeutics*, 42(7), 1192-1209. e1112.

Armeni, P., Borsoi, L., Fornaro, G., Jommi, C., Grossi, F., & Costa, F. (2020). **Cost-effectiveness and Net Monetary Benefit of durvalumab Consolidation Therapy Versus No Consolidation Therapy After Chemoradiotherapy in Stage III Non-small Cell Lung Cancer in the Italian National Health Service.** *Clinical Therapeutics*, 42(5), 830-847.

Ciani, O., Federici, C., Fornaro, G., & Rognoni, C. (2020). **Value-based healthcare: Il nuovo approccio di AIFA alla determinazione multidimensionale del valore.** *Global & Regional Health Technology Assessment*, 7(1), 9-13.

Torbica, A., Fornaro, G., Tarricone, R., & Drummond, M. F. (2020). **Do social values and institutional context shape the use of economic evaluation in reimbursement decisions? An empirical analysis.** *Value in Health*, 23(1), 17-24.

## Working papers

### Abortion Rights in the US: Congress' Policy Responsiveness to Public Opinion

Abortion is a controversial and frequently debated topic in US Congress; however, literature on predictors of voting behavior by Members of Congress on the issue is scant beyond the late 1990s. In the aftermath of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, Congress has contemplated the introduction of national policies on abortion to reduce the major power that the Supreme Court has placed on states. As a consequence, understanding Congress' responsiveness to public opinion on abortion-related decisions is relevant to potentially forecast the next evolution in the landscape of abortion rights in the US.

The aim of this study was to investigate the responsiveness of Congress' decisions to public opinion on abortion. Four hypotheses were tested: H1) constituencies' opinions on abortion were expected to be correlated to Members of Congress' voting behavior; H2) partisanship was expected to be significantly correlated to Members of Congress' voting behavior, potentially offsetting the influence of constituencies' opinions; H3) the degree of belief in biblical literalism, used as a proxy for the strength of religious conservativeness in state/district, was expected to be correlated to Members of Congress' voting behavior; H4) electoral competitiveness was expected to enhance Members of Congress' responsiveness to constituencies' opinions.

The analysis was based on abortion voting records between the 111th (2009-2010) and 117th (2021-2022) Congresses for both the House of Representatives and the Senate collected by the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) and data on public opinion on abortion, voting behavior, and belief in biblical literalism collected in the relevant pre-electoral time periods by the American National Election Studies (ANES) survey. The empirical strategy consisted in estimating pooled ordinary least squares regression models using Members of Congress' NRLC pro-life score as the dependent variable, with state/district and Congressional year fixed effects. Robustness checks were implemented using generalized linear models with logit link.

As for the House of Representatives, results showed that public opinion on abortion lost statistical significance in explaining NRLC score once average NRLC score by party members was controlled for; moreover, partisanship was the single consistently significant predictor while religious conservativeness and electoral competitiveness did not appear to be relevant in explaining NRLC score. Looking at the Senate, however, public opinion on abortion by party voters remained statistically significant in explaining NRLC score also once average NRLC score by party members was controlled for; also in this case, religious conservativeness and electoral competition did not exhibit consistent explanatory power.

In conclusion, partisanship appeared to be the key predictor of voting behavior by Members of Congress on abortion-related decisions, although differences in the role of public opinion emerged between the House of Representatives and the Senate.

## Work in Progress

### Do abortion restrictions shape social norms and personal attitudes about abortion rights? An investigation on the role of knowledge and perceived legitimacy

Whether and when institutional decisions, specifically laws, influence individual opinions are long-standing questions in the social sciences debate (Tankard and Paluck 2017). Specifically, the ability of the law to manage social norms is argued to lie in its expressive function (Sunstein 1996).

The theory of the expressive power of the law is rooted in the idea that laws provide information, which in turn changes beliefs, and new beliefs change behavior. The conditions for a law to be expressive are that i) its enforcement action carries some clear audience meaning, ii) many people receive the message (i.e., publicity), and iii) it is considered legitimate. Moreover, it must possess some factor that makes the legal signal strong enough to stand out against the background of information delivered by the media, Internet, social acquaintances, etc. (McAdams 2015).

In this literature, abortion legislation is considered a relevant case because it belongs to the subset of well-publicized legislation that proscribes rules for the general public (McAdams 2015). However, whether or not abortion legislation possesses expressive power is debated. On the one hand, legislation restricting abortion is claimed to signal stronger attitudes against abortion. As people update their beliefs, they are expected to perceive higher social costs to abortion; in other words, an individual is argued to expect that more people in their community will ostracize them if they support abortion rights (McAdams 2015). On the other hand, limits on the message-sending capacity of abortion bans are argued based on the concept that abortion bans address an issue that deals with morality; as a consequence, lawmakers cannot support it by data, scientific evidence, expert opinion (as for smoking bans, for example). Moreover, focusing on the US context, the expressive power of abortion bans may be hampered by the “background noise”, since abortion is likely to remain legal in almost half of the states (Oberman 2022).

Overall, little is still known about how the expressive function of laws operates in practice (Oberman 2018) and there exists a lack of experimental designs assessing the impact of providing information about abortion legislation on opinions about abortion rights (Jozkowski, Crawford et al. 2020).

The aim of this study is to attempt at causally identifying the impact of the provision of information (via a hypothetical article) that enhances clarity of audience meaning and publicity of abortion legislation and prompts reasoning about its legitimacy on opinions about abortion rights by Americans. This study exploits the drastic change in abortion legislation caused by the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

## Studies abroad

**University of Victoria**  
Exchange program

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada  
January 2016 – May 2016

## Work Experience

April 2019 – August 2021: full-time job as lab researcher in healthcare management at SDA Bocconi School of Management

A.Y. 2022/2023 fall semester: teaching assistant for 20469 Institutions, Government and Society – Module I

A.Y. 2020/2021 spring semester: teaching assistant for 20514 Public Accounting and Performance Management at Bocconi University

A.Y. 2019/2020 spring semester: teaching assistant for 20514 Public Accounting and Performance Management at Bocconi University



## Language Skills

Italian: native  
English: TOEFL iBT 113/120  
French: DELF B2 80/100  
Spanish: DELE B2 92/100

## IT Skills

Microsoft Office package: excellent (ECDL)  
Python: basic  
STATA, TreeAge Pro: good; R, UCINet: basic  
LaTeX for document preparation, EndNote for bibliography

## Other Activities

2015-2019: Independent contractor for Servizio Orientamento Universitario Bocconi University

2016, 2018, 2019: Staff member for Campionati Nazionali di Giochi Matematici organized by MATEpristem Bocconi University