


# ANDREA VACCARO


## Postdoctoral Researcher

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### EDUCATION

#### Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

Ph.D. in Applied Social Sciences

18/10/2021

Dissertation: *On the Measurement of State Capacity: Quantitative Questions and Conceptual Considerations*

Supervisors: Emanuela Reale and Luigi M. Solivetti

Evaluators: Agnes Cornell and Rachel M. Gisselquist

Defence Committee: Lyndal Keeton, Marina Nistotskaya, and Antonio Savoia

M.A. in Development and International Cooperation, *summa cum laude*

10/10/2017

Dissertation: *Linking Democracy and Governance*

#### University of Helsinki, Finland

B.A. in Humanities

19/6/2012

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

13/3/2023-

Blavatnik School of Government (supervisor Thomas N. Hale)

#### United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), Helsinki, Finland

Consultant / Visiting Researcher

20/8/2020-

The State and Statebuilding in the Global South: International and Local Interactions project (supervisor Rachel M. Gisselquist)

Research Consultant

1/11/2021-31/1/2022

Addressing Group-Based Inequalities project (supervisor Rachel M. Gisselquist)

#### University of Insubria, Varese, Italy

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

1/2/2022-31/1/2023

Department of Economics (supervisor Chiara Gigliarano)

#### Unitelma Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

Collaborator

1/10/2021-

School of Financial Cooperation and Development

Collaborator

8/4-11/6/2019

CEMAS Uganda project

#### Finnish Research Institute in Rome, Italy

Project Assistant

1/2-30/4/2014

Intern

15/5-15/10/2013

### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH VISITS

United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), Helsinki, Finland

Visiting Ph.D. Fellow	2020 (3 months)
<b>University of Gothenburg, Sweden</b> Visiting Researcher, Quality of Government Institute, Department of Political Science	2020 (4.5 months)
<b>University of Helsinki, Finland</b> Visiting Researcher, Doctoral Programme in Political, Societal and Regional Changes, Faculty of Social Sciences and research group Politics and Numbers	2019 (5 months)

## METHODOLOGICAL TRAINING

<b>ECPR Summer School in Research Methods and Techniques</b> <i>Virtual Summer School</i> Course in Causal Inference	2023 (1 week)
<b>Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis</b> <i>University of Essex, Colchester, UK</i> Course in Introduction to GIS, Geospatial Data and Spatial Analysis	2022 (1 week)
<b>ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research</b> <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI</i> Workshop in Bayesian Modeling for the Social Sciences II: Advanced Topics Workshop in Structural Equation Models with Latent Variables Workshop in Panel Data and Longitudinal Analysis Workshop in Introduction to Python	2020 (4 weeks)
<b>Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis</b> <i>University of Essex, Colchester, UK</i> Course in Panel Data Analysis for Comparative Research	2019 (2 weeks)
<b>R Courses at the Department of Statistics</b> <i>Sapienza University of Rome, Italy</i> Course in Multivariate Statistics with R	2018 (3 days)
<b>R Courses at the Department of Statistics</b> <i>Sapienza University of Rome, Italy</i> Course in Introduction to R	2018 (3 days)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed Articles

- Gisselquist R. M., P. Justino, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2023. "Do the Principles of Effective Development Co-Operation Improve Development Outcomes? The Case for Clearer Definitions and Measurement." *Development Policy Review*. DOI:10.1111/dpr.12731.
- Gisselquist R. M. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2022. "COVID-19 and the State: Exploring a Puzzling Relationship in the Early Stages of the Pandemic." *Journal of International Development*. DOI: 10.1002/jid.3702.
- Vaccaro, A.** 2022. "Measures of State Capacity: So Similar, yet So Different." *Quality & Quantity*. DOI: 10.1007/s11135-022-01466-x.
- Panaro, A. V. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2022. "Income Inequality in Authoritarian Regimes: The Role of Political Institutions and State Capacity." *Italian Political Science Review*. DOI: 10.1017/ipo.2022.17.
- Vaccaro, A.** and C. Montorsi. 2022. "Quality of Government and Environmental Wellbeing Across European Regions." *Italian Journal of Economic, Demographic and Statistical Studies* 76(4): 97–108.

Caterino, C., L. M. Solivetti, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2022. "Justice as a Pillar of Quality of Life: Distribution of Trust in Justice Across European Countries." *Italian Journal of Economic, Demographic and Statistical Studies* 76(4): 27–38.

**Vaccaro, A.** 2022. "An Empirical Evaluation of Common Cross-National Measures of State Capacity." *Italian Journal of Economic, Demographic and Statistical Studies* 76(1): 155–166.

**Vaccaro, A.** 2021. "Comparing Measures of Democracy: Statistical Properties, Convergence, and Interchangeability." *European Political Science* 20: 666–684.

### Working Papers

**A. Vaccaro**. 2023. "Digging Deeper into the State-Democracy Nexus: The Role of Civic Participation in Fostering Impartial Bureaucracy." *WIDER Working Papers* 2023/85 (June 2023). DOI:10.35188/UNU-WIDER/2023/393-2.

Hale, T., A. Petherick, T. Phillips, J. Anania, B. Andretti de Mello, N. Angrist, ..., and **A. Vaccaro**. 2023. "Variation in Government Responses to COVID-19." *Blavatnik School of Government Working Papers* BSG-WP-2020/032 (Version 15, June 2023).

Gisselquist R. M., P. Justino, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2023. "Do the Effectiveness Principles Matter for Development? Evidence from Aid Effectiveness Data." *WIDER Working Papers* 2023/60 (April 2023). DOI:10.35188/UNU-WIDER/2023/368-0.

**Vaccaro, A.** 2022. "Ethnic Dominance and Exclusion: Unpacking Cross-National Data. *WIDER Working Papers* 2022/25 (March 2022). DOI: 10.35188/UNU-WIDER/2022/156-3.

Gisselquist, R. M. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2021. "COVID-19 and the State." *WIDER Working Papers* 2021/80 (May 2021). DOI: 10.35188/UNU-WIDER/2021/018-4.

**Vaccaro, A.** 2020. "Measures of State Capacity: Same Same, but Different?" *QoG Working Paper Series* 2020(9): 1–70. ISSN 1653-8919.

**Vaccaro, A.** 2019. "The Impact of Autocratic Regimes on Quality of Government." *PhD Course in Applied Social Sciences Working Papers* 4/2019: 1–12. ISSN 2532-117X.

### Book Chapters

Pasca di Magliano, R. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2020. 'A Macro-Level Analysis of the Economic and Social Impact of Microfinance in Sub-Saharan Africa.' In *Contemporary Issues in Sustainable Finance*, eds. M. La Torre and H. Chiappini. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Ficcadenti, C. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2020. 'Sviluppo economico e coesione sociale: sfide e prospettive.' In *CNDSS 2018: Atti della III Conferenza Nazionale delle Dottorande e dei Dottorandi in Scienze Sociali*, eds. G. Brancato et al. Rome, Italy: Sapienza Università Editrice.

### Edited Books

Brancato, G., G. D'Ambrosio, E. De Marchis, E. Esposto, C. Ficcadenti, R. Gallo, F. Grivet Talocia, M. Stolfi, M. Tedesco, and **A. Vaccaro**, eds. 2020. *CNDSS 2018: Atti della III Conferenza Nazionale delle Dottorande e dei Dottorandi in Scienze Sociali*. Rome, Italy: Sapienza Università Editrice.

### Policy Briefs

Gisselquist, R. M., P. Justino, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2022. Development Effectiveness in Fragile Contexts: Evidence from an International Research Conference. *WIDER Policy Brief* 4/22, December 2022.

Gisselquist, R. M., P. Justino, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2022. Building Evidence Around the Effectiveness Principles: Findings from an International Research Conference. *WIDER Policy Brief* 3/22, December 2022.

### Opinion Pieces and Blogs

Gisselquist R. M., P. Justino, and **A. Vaccaro**. 2023. "Why the Aid Effectiveness Principles Are Important for Development." *The Loop: ECPR's Political Science Blog*, 19 July 2023. (Republished on *WIDERangle*, July 2023.)

- Gisselquist, R. M. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2021. "Why Countries Best Placed to Handle the Pandemic Appear to Have Fared the Worst." *The Conversation UK*, 2 June 2021. (Republished on *WIDERAngle*, June 2021).
- Gisselquist, R. M. and **A. Vaccaro**. 2020. "Headline data suggests low-income states are coping better with the pandemic than high-income states. But is this true?" *The Loop: ECPR's Political Science Blog*, 16 November 2020. (Republished on *WIDERAngle*, November 2020).

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

### Conference Papers

- "The Welfare Consequences of Autocratisation: A Preliminary Analysis" (with A. Cassani and A.V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Genoa 2023
- "Do Pandemic Restrictions Affect Political Participation? Evidence from Italy", Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Genoa 2023
- "State Capacity and Equitable Social Policy in Autocracies" (with A.V. Panaro), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August-September, Los Angeles 2023
- "It's the State Stupid! How State Capacity Affects Equitable Social Policy in Authoritarian Regimes" (with A.V. Panaro), European Political Science Association Annual Conference, June, Glasgow 2023
- "Do Pandemic Restrictions Reduce Political Participation? Evidence from the 2022 Italian Parliamentary Elections", Italian Society of Economics, Demography, and Statistics Annual Conference, May, Naples 2023
- "Indicators of Aid Effectiveness: Empirical Linkages between Principles and Outcomes" (with R. M. Gisselquist and P. Justino), International Research Conference on the Effectiveness of Development Cooperation, November, Brussels 2022
- "Social Policy under Authoritarian Rule: The Key Role of State Capacity for Fairer Health and Education Outcomes" (with A. V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Rome 2022
- "Quality of Government and Environmental Wellbeing across European Regions" (with C. Gagliarano and C. Montorsi), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Rome 2022
- "Justice as a Pillar of Quality of Life: Evidence from Survey Data in European Countries" (with L. M. Solivetti and C. Caterino), Italian Society of Economics, Demography, and Statistics Annual Conference, May, Palermo 2022
- "Quality of Government and Environmental Wellbeing across European Regions" (with C. Montorsi), Italian Society of Economics, Demography, and Statistics Annual Conference, May, Palermo 2022
- "The State-First Argument: New Evidence with a New Index of State Capacity", American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September-October, online 2021
- "State Capacity, Democracy, and Development Outcomes", Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, online 2021
- "State Capacity and Social Inequality in Autocracies: New Cross-National Evidence" (with A. V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, online 2021

"Measuring State Capacity: A New Index", International Political Science Association World Congress, July, online	2021
"The State-First Argument: Novel Evidence with a Novel Measure of State Capacity", European Political Science Association Annual Conference, June, online	2021
"Measuring State Capacity: An Evaluation of the Statistical Properties of Common Cross-National Measures", Italian Society of Economics, Demography, and Statistics Annual Conference, May, online	2021
"What Does Response to Covid-19 Tell us About the State?" (with R. M. Gisselquist), International Studies Association Annual Convention, April, online	2021
"Explaining Income Inequality in Authoritarian Regimes: A Comparative Institutional Perspective" (with A. V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Lecce	2019
"Democratisation in Autocratic Regimes: What Is the Impact of Quality of Government", European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, September, Wroclaw	2019
"Quality of Government: Exploring a Shift in Knowledge Production from International Organisations to Academia", European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, September, Wroclaw	2019
"The Effect of Regime Type on Quality of Government", Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Turin	2018
<b>Seminar Talks and Presentations</b>	
"COVID-19 and the State", COVID-19 and the State – Comparative Experiences in the Global South Workshop, UNU-WIDER, November, online	2021
"On State Capacity: New Evidence with a New Measure", Political Regimes in Comparative and Historical Perspective Workshop, Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, August	2021
"On the Estimation of State Capacity", Italian Political Science Association's Regime Changes Standing Group's Seminar, December, online	2020
"Measuring State Capacity: A New Index", UNU-WIDER Ph.D. Seminars, United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research, June, online	2020
"Comparing Cross-National Measures of State Capacity: Similarities, Divergencies, and Shortcomings", QoG Lunch Seminar Series, Quality of Government Institute, University of Gothenburg, April, online	2020
"Comparing Cross-National Measures of State Capacity", UNU-WIDER Seminar Series, United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research, April, online	2020
<b>Organisation of Conferences and Workshops</b>	
Chair of the panel "Political Regimes and Crisis Responses in the COVID-19 Era", Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference (with A. V. Panaro), September, Genoa	2023

Chair of the panel "Measurement and Indicators in Political Science", Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Genoa	2023
Academic lead of the International Research Conference on the Effectiveness of Development Cooperation (with R. M. Gisselquist and P. Justino), November, Brussels	2022
Chair of the panel "Policy Process and Outcomes in Dictatorships" (with A. V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, Rome	2022
Coordination and hosting of the workshop "COVID-19 and the State – Comparative Experiences in the Global South" (with R. M. Gisselquist), UNU-WIDER, November, online	2021
Chair of the panel "Political Regimes and Socio-Economic Performance" (with A. V. Panaro), Italian Political Science Association Annual Conference, September, online	2021
Chair of the panel "Socio-Economic Sustainability and Welfare" (with C. Ficcadenti), National Ph.D. Conference in Social Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome, September, Rome	2018
Member of the scientific and organisational committee, National Ph.D. Conference in Social Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome, September, Rome	2018
<b>Discussant</b>	
Panel "State, Society and the Space", European Political Science Association Annual Conference, June, Glasgow	2023
Panel "Bureaucracies and Organisations", European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, August-September, online	2021
Panel "Theoretical and Methodological Innovations in Comparative Politics", International Political Science Association World Congress, July, online	2021

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Lecturer in Theories and Policies of Economic Development (SECS-P/02), M.A. programme in Development and International Cooperation, Sapienza University of Rome	Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant in Political Economy (SECS-P/01), Master's degree course in Development and International Cooperation, Sapienza University of Rome	Autumn 2021
Teaching Assistant in Political Economy (SECS-P/01), Master's degree course in Development and International Cooperation, Sapienza University of Rome	Autumn 2020
Teaching Assistant in Political Economy (SECS-P/01), Master's degree course in Development and International Cooperation, Sapienza University of Rome	Autumn 2019

## SUPERVISION

<b>Sapienza University of Rome, Italy</b>	
M.A. in Development and International Cooperation: 2 theses	2023

## SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Italian Political Science Association's (SISP) 'Carlo Maria Santoro' prize for the best paper presented by a non-tenured SISP member at the previous year's SISP conference	2023
Doctor Europaeus, Sapienza University of Rome	2021
Ph.D. Scholarship, Sapienza University of Rome	2017-2021
Visiting Ph.D. Fellowship, UNU-WIDER	2020
Erasmus+ Scholarship, University of Paris I – Panthéon-Sorbonne	2013

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

### Reviewer

East European Politics and Societies; Italian Journal of Economic, Demographic and Statistical Studies; Party Politics; West European Politics

## OTHER SKILLS

### Programming and Software

Microsoft Office (Excel, Power Point, Word), Stata, R, Python (beginner), QGIS (beginner)

### Languages

Italian (native), Finnish (native), English (full professional working proficiency), French (professional working proficiency), Swedish (elementary), Spanish (elementary)

Roma,

28/12/2023