Antonella Zarra

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EDUCATION

Hamburg University — Hamburg, DE
PhD, Law and Economics — Sep. 2019 – To date

- Full Doctoral Scholarship awarded by the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)
- Thesis working title: *"The regulation of artificial intelligence: a law and economics perspective"*
- Visiting periods:
  - **Erasmus University Rotterdam** — Rotterdam, NL
    School of Law — Sep. 2020 – Mar. 2021
  - **Bologna University** — Bologna, IT
    Economics Department — Sep. 2019 – Mar. 2020

Bocconi University — Milan, IT
MSc, Economics and Public Policy — Sep. 2013 – Apr. 2016

National Chengchi University — Taipei, TW
International Student Exchange Program — Feb. 2015 – Jul. 2015

Bocconi University — Milan, IT
BSc, Business Administration and Management — Sep. 2010 – Sep. 2013

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) — Brussels, BE
Research Assistant — Apr. 2017 – Jul. 2019

- Conducted impact assessments, stakeholder consultations and public policy evaluations
- Performed desk research, performed data analysis and visualisation, designed surveys, presented research results at conferences and before EU institutions
- Managed proposals submission for EU-funded projects and research grants
- Organized workshops and events, including CEPS' Ideas Lab, 1,000+ EU participants

European Commission – DG Competition — Brussels, BE
Trainee — Sep. 2015 – Dec. 2015

- Worked in the Digital Single Market Task Force carrying out the sector inquiry on e-commerce
- Performed statistical analysis using STATA, Excel and VBA

Bocconi University — Milan, IT
Market Research Assistant — Oct. 2014 – Feb. 2015

Italian Government – Department of Public Administration — Rome, IT
Intern — Jun. 2014 – Sep. 2014

- Contributed to draft the Partnership Agreement on the use of 2014-2020 EU Structural Funds.
- Researched on design-driven innovation in public policies

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Italian	**English**	**French**	**Spanish**	**Chinese**
Mother tongue	Full professional proficiency	Limited working proficiency	Limited working proficiency	Elementary proficiency

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient: R, Stata, Ms Office, SurveyMonkey, Mailchimp, Tableau, Adobe Illustrator.

SELECTED COURSEWORK

Advanced Statistics, Law and Economic Development, Modeling Private Law, Behavioral Law and Economics, Research Methods and Communication in Economics, Econometrics, Empirical Legal Studies, European Competition Law, Industrial Organization, Experimental Economics, Cultural Economics, Market Failure and Regulation, Advanced Empirical Methods Research Design, Computational Methods, Machine Learning for legal texts.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- "How Humans Judge Machines", on the ethics of AI, Centre for Collective Learning, University of Toulouse, Mar. 2021
- "Industry 4.0", European Centre of Excellence on the Regulation of Robotics & AI (EURA), Sep. 2020
- Summer School "AI & Law", European University Institute (EUI), Jul. 2019
- Executive training "Essential tools for R", KU Leuven, Feb. 2019
- Infographics and Data Visualisation, CEPS, Nov. 2018

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

- Zarra, A., Favalli, S. and Ceron, M. (2021), Algorithms and prejudice? COVID-19, contact tracing and digital surveillance in the EU, forthcoming in Biblioteca Delle Libertà, Einaudi.
- Zarra A. (2021), Ask the data. A machine learning analysis of the legal scholarship on artificial intelligence, forthcoming in "AI and the Law", Springer.
- Ceron M., Zarra A. (2021), A tale of two pandemics? Covid-19 and gendered policy responses in the EU, in "Cambio. Rivista sulle trasformazioni sociali", OpenLab on Covid-19. DOI: 10.13128/cambio-10280
- Ben, S., Li, W., Luo, M., Simonelli, F. and Zarra, A. (2019), Sustainability in the age of platforms, Emerging Market Sustainability Dialogues (EMSD), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – GIZ.
- Afandor, A., Bons, M., Drabik, E., Egenhofer, C., Faure, A., Hähl, T., Koper, M., Renda, A., Rizos, V., Schmitt, W., Simonelli, F. and Zarra, A. (2018), Study on the Composition and drivers of energy prices and costs: case studies in selected energy-intensive industries, DG GROW, European Commission.
- Busse, M., de Groen, W.P., Zarra, A. and Ecorys (2018), Study on an EU initiative for a restriction on payments in cash, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission.
- Colombo, C., Mauweuse, A., Renda, A. and Zarra, A. (2018), Impact assessment of possible actions at EU level for an open, efficient and independent European Union administration, EPRS, European Parliamentary Research Service.
- Echikson, W. and Zarra, A. (2018), Meeting the Internet Connectivity Challenge: the role of Community Networks, Internet Society.
- Van Camp, S., Bouyon, S., & Zarra, A. (2017), Introduction of a lifespan guarantee in the proposed online sales and digital content directives. Impact assessment of substantial amendments. Final Study for the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS).
- Núñez Ferrer, J., Simonelli, F., Renda, A., Di Salvo, M., Zarra, A., Bosc, R., Rinaldi, D. (2017). Mid-term evaluation of the Hercule III programme, European Commission.

SELECTED CONFERENCES

- Presented the article "Artificial Intelligence and the Law: a Bibliometric and Machine Learning Analysis of the Legal Scholarship" at the EMLE Midterm Meeting, Hamburg University (Feb 2021).
- Presented the results of the study on "Composition and drivers of energy prices and costs" at the Inter-service steering group of the European Commission, DG GROW (May 2018).
- Presented CEPS' projects at the Think Week 2017 "Value Chains and the Future of Work in the Digital Age" organised by the Economic Policy Forum in Beijing, China (Oct 2017)

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I am a second year PhD student in Law and Economics from Hamburg University. I have a background in economics and public policy, and both my working and educational experience have been characterized by the coexistence of multiple disciplines, from social sciences to data science. My combined interest in technology in all of its forms and policy led me to center my research project around artificial intelligence and its regulation.

My doctoral dissertation looks at AI through the lenses of law and economics, scrutinizing the economic and legal incentives that would justify any policy intervention in the field, with a specific focus on liability issues, data ownership and AI trustworthiness. First, my research aims to evaluate the role of regulators in encouraging efficient rules for algorithm-based technologies. Second, the economic theory developed by Calabresi and Melamed (1972) is used to explain under which circumstances entitlements in the realm of artificial intelligence should be protected under property or liability rules, and how such a choice impacts firms' investments in innovation. Third, my research contributes to the behavioral sphere of the contract theory literature with regard to the concept of "trust", considering human-to-human versus human-to-machine interactions, deviating from the neoclassical economic theory. In the upcoming months I aim to add a behavioral section to the thesis by designing a virtual experiment. I plan to test how humans' perception about machines changes, with particular focus on the concept of trust in a contractual setting.

I am eager to exchange views and know-how with other young researchers working on similar topics and I am ready to learn from experienced professionals in the field of the economics of AI. Please contact me if I can provide any additional material that might help the committee evaluate my qualifications. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application .

I sincerely thank you for your time and attention.

Kind regards,

Antonella Zarra