

Curriculum Vitae – Fall 2023

Family name: Crosta
Given name: Tommaso
Gender: male
Date of birth: (11/03/1997)
Citizenship: Italian
email address: tommaso.crosta@phd.unibocconi.it

Qualifications

Sept 2019-Apr 2022 University Luigi Bocconi, Milano, Italy
MSc in Economics and Social Sciences 110/110 cum laude
PhD courses: Real Analysis I (Measure Theory), Probability I
Thesis: "Memory, Emotions and Poverty"

Sept 2016-Feb 2019 University Luigi Bocconi, Milano, Italy
Bachelor degree in Economics and Social Sciences 110/110
Thesis: "A tale of taxes and transfers: an analysis of the redistributive effect of fiscal systems in OECD countries"

Research Interests

Development Economics, Causal Inference

Working papers

“Unconditional Cash Transfers: A Bayesian Meta-Analysis of 50 Randomized Evaluations in 26 Low and Medium Income Countries”, joint with Dean Karlan, Finley Ong, Julius Ruschenpohler, Cristopher Udry (2023).

Using Bayesian meta-analysis methods, we estimate the impact of unconditional cash transfers on nine primary outcomes in a sample of 50 randomized evaluations from middle and low income countries. We find strong and positive average treatment effects per dollar transferred on consumption, food security, and income. Critically, given theoretical and policy debates on the topic, we do not find evidence that cash discourages work. We document important heterogeneity along four key dimensions. First, there are important differences by disbursement schedule. Though both stream and lump sum transfers generate increases in consumption and income, the impact of streams flows through food consumption and labor supply while lump sum transfers tend to facilitate asset accumulation. Second, treatment effects across the board show no sign of dissipation over time. Third, effects generally tend to be larger for samples that are less poor to begin with. Fourth, and in line with earlier work, we find slightly diminishing marginal returns to transfer size. Benefit-cost analyses that define benefits as the net present value of the predicted treatment effect on consumption yield ratios between 83% and 414%.

Studies abroad

*University of Saint Andrews, Scotland, UK
Semester abroad as a part of Bocconi's exchange program*

Work Experience

Sept 2022 - July 2023 *Research Analyst at Northwestern University for Global Poverty Research Lab*
Sept 2021 - July 2022 *Research Analyst at University Bocconi for professor Guido Tabellini*
Feb 2021 - July 2021 *Research Analyst at University Bocconi for professor Nicola Gennaioli*



Language Skills

English (C2)

German (B1)

Spanish (B1)

IT Skills

- *Word, Excel, Power Point (advanced)*
- *Stata (advanced)*
- *Latex (advanced)*
- *R (advanced)*
- *Python (advanced)*

