

Ignacio Leon-Nina

Research Fields: Labor economics · Economics of education · Crime and development

CONTACT INFO

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REFERENCES

Marc-Arthur Diaye
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Carla Canelas
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
American University of Paris
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Research Fellow
Centre for Economic Performance
London School of Economics
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EDUCATION

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne <i>Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Defence Expected on June 2026</i> Dissertation : <i>Education and Crime in South America</i> Supervisors : Marc-Arthur Diaye and Carla Canelas Visiting : London School of Economics (sponsored by Rui Costa and Stephen Machin)	Paris, France 2022–2026
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne <i>M.Res. Economics</i> Applied Microeconomics	Paris, France 2021–2022
ESCP Business School <i>M.Res. Economics (Programme Grande École)</i> Economics and Public Policy	Paris, France 2019–2022
Lycée René Cassin <i>CPGE ECE — Intensive Preparatory Program</i> Rigorous two-year curriculum (B.Sc. equivalent) in Economics, Mathematics, and Philosophy	Bayonne, France 2017–2019

JOB MARKET PAPER

The Criminal Trap of Education : Low School Attendance and Organized Crime

(latest version)

Abstract : This paper examines the causal impact of school disruption during the COVID-19 pandemic on youth crime in Ecuador. Leveraging administrative arrest records matched by location to school-level data, I identify, for each grade-cohort, the schools that experienced higher dropout in 2020 and implement a difference-in-differences framework. The results show that school disruption increased arrest rates for 15- and 16-year-olds by 12.4 percent in 2021 and 10.5 percent in 2022, with the strongest effects for cohorts born between 2004 and 2007. The impacts are heterogeneous across gender, urban and rural areas, exposure to organized crime, and local labor market conditions. In addition, school disruption had persistent effects on prison and homicide rates, underscoring the dynamic dimension of disrupted human capital accumulation. Together, these findings demonstrate that educational continuity plays a central role in preventing youth violence, particularly where alternative legal opportunities are limited.

WORKING PAPER

From Decentralized to Centralized University Admissions : Evidence from Ecuador

with *Carla Canelas*

(latest version)

Abstract : This paper examines the effects of Ecuador's 2012 higher education reform on university enrolment. We exploit discontinuities in age cohorts and the timing of the announcement of the reform to implement a difference-in-differences approach. Overall, we find that the reform had a detrimental effect on the likelihood of an individual enrolling in a university immediately after completing high school. Our results suggest that the exam acted as a barrier, reducing university enrolment in the first year of the reform by 8 percentage points (p.p.), a 31% decrease with respect to the pre-treatment period. This effect was heterogeneous, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, including women, rural residents, and the poor, thereby increasing inequalities in access to higher education. Moreover, the centralisation of the admissions process failed to alleviate congestion.

WORK IN PROGRESS

The Effects of Organised Crime Exposure on Youth Outcomes

with *Rui Costa and Matteo Sandi*

Funding Public Education and Ethnic Fragmentation

with *Marc-Arthur Diaye*

GRANTS AND AWARDS

4th year of PhD funding ATER position (2025 - 2026) : Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Funding Call (2024): Institut de Recherche pour le Développement IRD (3,570€)

Funding Call (2023): Agence Nationale de la Recherche ANR-17-EURE-001 (2,500€)

PhD Funding (2022-2025): Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (SAET)

Best Master Thesis (2022): Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Best National Essay (2020): Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and Central Bank of Spain

POLICY REPORTS

Migration and Migration Policy in Ecuador (2000-2021)

United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Elements to Understand Challenges of Migration 2022
assisting Gioconda Herrera

Public Policy Analysis of Housing in the French Overseas Departments (DROM)

SOLIHA - National Council of Housing 2021

PRESENTATIONS

2024: RGS Doctoral Conference, JMA (Lille), International Conference on Development Economics (Aix-en-Provence), Public Policy PhD Conference (Paris)

2025: CEP Education Seminar (London), CEP Junior Seminar (London), JMMA (Le Havre), Paris 1 Development Economics Seminar, European Society Population Economics Conference ESPE (Naples), JMA (Poitiers), HEC PhD Conference (Paris), Public Policy PhD Conference (Paris)

TEACHING

Econometrics with R

Paris, France

Teaching Assistant, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Graduate Level, 144 hours

2022-2026

Introduction to Probabilities

Paris, France

Teaching Assistant, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Undergraduate Level, 24 hours

2025-2026

Economics of Poverty and Inequalities

Paris, France

Lecturer, St. John's University, Undergraduate Level, 160 hours

2024-2025

Introduction to Macroeconomics

Paris, France

Lecturer, American University of Paris, Undergraduate Level, 72 hours

2023-2024

Introduction to Microeconomics	Paris, France
<i>Lecturer, American University of Paris, Undergraduate Level, 36 hours</i>	<i>2023–2024</i>
Economics of Social Protection	Paris, France
<i>Teaching Assistant, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Undergraduate Level, 36 hours</i>	<i>2022–2023</i>

SERVICE

CES PhD Seminar	Paris, France
<i>Co-organiser, Weekly internal seminar</i>	<i>2025–2026</i>
Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (SAET)	Paris, France
<i>Co-organiser, Annual Conference</i>	<i>2023</i>
Sorbonne Workshop on Economic Theory (SWET)	Paris, France
<i>Co-organiser, Annual Workshop</i>	<i>2022, 2023 and 2024</i>
Time Uncertainty and Strategies (TUS)	Paris, France
<i>Co-organiser, Annual Conference</i>	<i>2022</i>

SKILLS

Coding: R, Stata, Python, Excel (VBA)
Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Fluent)

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Football, Climbing, Salsa Music