Tommaso Sonno

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics University of Bologna Piazza Scaravilli 2 Bologna, 40126, Italy	tommaso.sonno@unibo.it www.tommasosonno.com	
Positions	Associate Professor of Economics, University of Bologna Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Bologna	2025- 2019-2024	
	Vice Director, PNRR Lab, SDA Bocconi School of Management Adjunct Professor, Italian Institute for International Political Studies Adjunct Professor, Bocconi University Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins SAIS	2022- 2020- 2019- 2019-	
Affiliations	CEP - London School of Economics Johns Hopkins SAIS Green - Bocconi University Baffi Carefin - Bocconi University		
Education	Ph.D. Affiliate, London School of Economics Ph.D., Economics, Université catholique de Louvain M.S. Joint Degree, Economics, Bocconi and Université cath. de Louvai B.S., International Economics and Management, Bocconi	2015-2018 2013-2018 2010-2013 2007-2010	
Publications	- <i>Economic Journal</i> (2025) "Globalization and Conflicts: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Corporations in Africa", 135 (668), pp. 1108–1140		
	- Review of World Economics (2024) "Curse or Blessing? Multinational Corporations and Labor Market Outcomes in Africa", 160 (2), with M. Mendola and G. Prarolo		
	- <i>Economica</i> (2024) "Economic Insecurity and the Demand of Populism in Europe", 91 (362), pp. 588–620, with L. Guiso, H. Herrera, and M. Morelli		
	- Environmental Research Letters (2021) "Saving the World From Your Couch: The Heterogeneous Medium-Run Benefits of COVID-19 Lockdowns on Air Pollution", 16, with J. P. Bonardi, Q. Gallea, D. Kalanoski, R. Lalive, R. Madhok, F. Noack, and D. Rohner		
	- Economic Policy (2019)		

- Economic Policy (2019)

"Global Crisis and Populism: the Role of the Euro Zone Institutions", 34 (97), pp. 95–139, with L. Guiso, H. Herrera, and M. Morelli

- Journal of Economic Literature (2017)

"On Economic Interdependence and War", 55 (3), pp. 1084-97, with M. Morelli

BOOK CHAPTERS

- "Global Value Networks", in J. Amador and F. di Mauro ed., *The Age of Global Value Chains: Maps and Policy Issues*, CEPR Press, London, 2015, pp. 85-106, with C. Altomonte, I. Colantone, and A. Rungi
- "Firm-Level Productivity and Exporting. Diagnosing the role of Financial Constraints", in *Product Market Review 2013*, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission Publication, 2013, pp. 30-48, with C. Altomonte and H. Vandenbussche

WORKING PAPERS

- "Business Groups as Knowledge-Based Hierarchies of Firms" CEPR DP 16677, with C. Altomonte, G. Ottaviano, and A. Rungi Rev&Res Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization
- "Liquidity as Competitive Advantage: The Role of Intangibles" CEP DP 1740, with C. Altomonte, M. Morlacco, and D. Favoino Rev&Res Journal of International Economics
- "Dear Brothers and Sisters: Pope's Speeches and the Dynamics of Conflict in Africa" CEPR DP 20108, with M. Couttenier, S. Hatte, and L. Laugerette
- "Large Scale Land Acquisitions: Trees, Trade, and Structural Change" CEP DP 2075, with D. Zufacchi
- "The Environmental Impact of Multinational Firms" with F. Noack, and D. Rohner
- "Business Groups, Strategic Acquisitions and Innovation" CEP DP 1996, with C. Altomonte and N. El-Mallakh
- "The Financial Drivers of Populism in Europe" Bocconi WP 166-2021, with L. Guiso, H. Herrera, and M. Morelli
- "Populism: Demand and Supply" CEPR DP 11871, with L. Guiso, H. Herrera, and M. Morelli

Work in Progress - "The Changing Organization of Business Group" with C. Altomonte and G. Ottaviano

> - "Intangibles and Knowledge-Sharing in Business Groups" with C. Altomonte, A. Greppi, and A. Pisa

DORMANT PROJECTS- "Fighting Malnutrition: Merging Traditional and Conventional Medicine in a Randomized Control Trial in Africa" with A. Guariso

> - "Firm's Financial Conditions and the R&D-Export trade-off" with C. Altomonte and H. Vandenbussche

AWARDS, GRANTS AND POSITIONS

- Modigliani Research Grant (20k), UniCredit Foundation, 2021-2022
- Cordusio Research Grant (20k), UniCredit Foundation and Cordusio SIM, 2019-2020
- Essay Award for Young Economist, Review of World Economics, 2018
- ECB Young Economists' Competition, 10 Ph.D. students shortlisted worldwide, 2017
- Lectureship (sabbatical cover), offered by University College London (refused for F.R.S.-FNRS Research Fellowship), 2016
- Research Fellow (fully funded), Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS), 2016-2018

Teaching

Instructor

Economics of Conflict (graduate), Johns Hopkins SAIS	2025
Globalization: Trade, Migrations, and Multinationals (undergraduate),	2024-
University of Bologna	
Current Public Policy Issues (graduate), University of Bologna	2024-
International Economics (undergraduate), University of Bologna	2024-
Macroeconomic Risk and International Finance (graduate), Johns	2023-
Hopkins SAIS	
International Economics II (graduate), Johns Hopkins SAIS	2021-
Economics: Economics: Advanced Topics and Cases (master), ISPI	2020-
European Economic Policy (undergraduate), Bocconi University	2019-
International Trade Theory (graduate), Johns Hopkins SAIS	2019-2020

Referee

Referee for Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of European Economic Association, Economic Journal, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Development Economics, European Journal of Political Economy, Economic Policy, Plos ONE, Economica, European Economic Review

Presentations

2023-2024: Seminars: Johns Hopkins SAIS. Conferences and Workshops: OECD, Workshop on resilience, peace and private sector development in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

2022-2023: Seminars: University of Groningen, University of Munich (LMU). Conferences and Workshops: Innovative Financing For Peace (German Federal Foreign Office, United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office, Interpeace), European Trade Study Group.

2021-2022: Seminars: Unit for Stabilisation and Peacebuilding, German Federal Foreign Office, Online Political Economy Seminar Series. Conferences and Workshops: Peacebuilding Support Office, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations.

2020-2021: Seminars: University of Leicester. Conferences and Workshops: European Trade Study Group, Online Political Economy Seminar Series, Political Economy of Power Relations.

2018-2019. Conferences and Workshops: Households in Conflict Network Workshop 2019; the Workshop on Institution, Individual Behavior and Economic Outcomes 2019; European Political Science Association 2019; Bruneck-Brunico Workshop on Political Economy 2018; European Economic Association Annual Meeting 2018; European Trade Study Group 2018.

2017-2018. Seminars: Aarhus University; Carlo Alberto; University of Bologna; University of Naples; University of Nottingham; Banca d'Italia. Conferences and Workshops: European Trade Study Group 2017; LSE International Trade Workshop; LSE Political Economy Workshop; IRES Doctoral Workshop; EDP Jamboree; Danish International Economics Workshops 2018.

2016-2017. Conferences and Workshops: Royal Economic Society Symposium 2016; the LSE International Trade Workshop; IRES Doctoral Workshop, EDP Jamboree; Italian Trade Study Group 2016; Petralia Workshop.

2015-2016. Conferences and Workshops: ASSA Annual Meeting 2016; GEP-CEPR Postgraduate Conference 2016; LSE International Trade Workshop; IRES Doctoral Workshop; EDP Jamboree.

Professional Experience An emocyte

Member of the Board of Directors.

Interpeace and German Federal Foreign Office

2022-

2024-

Lead Researcher for a series of research projects related to the Finance for Peace initiative.

Nasara for Burkina - NGO

2003-

Together with my family and friends, we manage an NGO which has been operating in Burkina Faso for more than 20 years. We manage a Social Center in the slum outside of the capital city, with more than 20 local full-time employees, more than 600 students enrolled in our schools, and a medical clinic that offers monthly more than 400 treatments. We also offer a series of services to the population, such as more than 1500 drums of water distributed every day, 30 women participating in literacy classes in French, and 180 women benefiting from microcredit.

European Youth Parliament (EYP) - NGO

2008-2015

- President of the Italian National Board of Appeals (2015-2017), President (2013-2015), Former: Vice-President, Fund-raising, Institutional Relations
- Responsible for training (problem-solving, committee work, team building)
- Head Organizer, yearly National Selections (150+ European students, experts, politicians)

Bloomsbury School, Milan

2008-2009

Part-time teacher (Physics, Mathematics, Economics)

Comp. Skills

Stata, ArcGIS, Mathematica, PackOffice, LaTex, SPSS, Bloomberg, Datastream

Additional Information

- Languages: Italian (mother tongue), English (fluent), French (basic)
- Long-term volunteering experience with children, people with disabilities and seniors (Scout-AGESCI)
- Interests and sports: theatre (yearly plays), scouting and swimming

LAST UPDATE

April 2025