

MICHELANGELO VASTA

Department of Economics and Statistics

University of Siena

Piazza S. Francesco 7

53100 Siena, Italy

Telephone (office): + 39 0577 – 233096

E-mail: michelangelo.vasta@unisi.it

Web: <http://docenti.unisi.it/michelangelovasta/>



CURRENT APPOINTMENT

- 2013- Qualification for full professorship in Economic History and in Economic Policy
- 2005- Associate Professor of Economic History, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Siena, Italy

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Economic growth in history
- Patents and inventive activities
- International trade
- Technical change in historical perspective
- Ownership structure and corporate network
- Business history

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

- 2000-2004: Assistant Professor in Economic History, University of Siena, Department of Economics
- 1995-1999: Research director for applied economics and economic history research, Ciriect, Centro italiano di ricerche e d'informazione sull'economia pubblica, sociale e cooperative, Milan

FELLOWSHIPS

- 1999-2000 Postdoctoral Research Fellow (assegnista di ricerca) (University of Florence – Economic History Institute)
- 1996 Accademia dei Lincei and British Academy Research Fellow (University of Oxford – Wolfson College)
- 1995 CNR NATO Senior Fellowships (University of Oxford – Modern History Faculty)
- 1995 Accademia dei Lincei and British Academy Research Fellow (University of Oxford – Wolfson College)

EDUCATION

- 1991-1996 D.Phil in Economic History, University of Oxford (supervisors: Charles Feinstein and Robert Fox)
- 1988 Degree (Laurea) in Economic History - First Class Honours with distinction (110 cum laude), University of Florence (supervisor: Renato Giannetti)

ACCADEMIC APPOINTMENT

- 2014- Member of the Auditing team in Economics for journals and books – Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca (ANVUR)
- 2013- Member of Academic Senate, University of Siena
- 2012- Head of Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Siena
- 2007-2012 Head of Department of Economics, University of Siena

RECENT SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

- “Independent invention in Italy during the Liberal age, 1861-1913” [with A. Nuvolari], *The Economic History Review*, 68 (3), 2015, pp. 858-886.
- “What do we really know about protection before the Great Depression: evidence from Italy, [with G. Federico], *The Journal of Economic History*, 75 (4), 2015, pp. 993-1029.
- “The only way to grow? Italian Business groups in historical perspective” [with A. Colli, A. Rinaldi], *Business History*, 2015, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00076791.2015.1044518>.
- “Passive Modernization? The new Human Development Index and its components in Italy’s regions (1871-2007)” [with E. Felice], *European Review of Economic History*, 19 (1), 2015, pp. 44-66.
- “Large and entangled: Italian business groups in the long run” [with A. Colli], *Business History*, 57 (1), 2015, pp. 64-95.
- “Wealthy by accident? Firm structure, institutions and economic performance in 150 (+3) years of Italian history: Introduction to the special forum” [with P. Di Martino], *Enterprise & Society*, 16 (2), 2015, pp. 215-224.
- “The Ghost in the Attic? The Italian National Innovation System in Historical Perspective, 1861-2011” [with A. Nuvolari], *Enterprise & Society*, 16 (2), 2015, pp. 270-290.
- “Happy 150th birthday Italy? Institutions and economic performance since 1861” [with P. Di Martino], *Enterprise & Society*, 16 (2), 2015, pp. 291-312.
- “Opening the black box of Entrepreneurship: the Italian case in a historical perspective” [with P.A. Toninelli], *Business History*, 56 (2), 2014, pp. 161-186.
- “The Italian corporate network after the ‘Golden Age’ (1972-1983): from centrality to marginalization of State-owned enterprises” [with A. Rinaldi], *Enterprise & Society*, 13 (2), 2012, pp. 378-413.
- “Was industrialization an escape for the commodity lottery? Evidence from Italy 1861-1939” [with G. Federico], *Explorations in Economic History*, 47 (2), 2010, pp. 228-243.
- “Companies’ insolvency and ‘the nature of the firm’ in Italy, 1920s-1970s” [with P. Di Martino], *The Economic History Review*, 63 (1), 2010, pp. 137-164.
- “Italian export capacity in a long run perspective (1861-2009): a tortuous path to stay in place”, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, 15 (1), 2010, pp. 133-156.

Book chapters:

- “Business group in Italy” [with A. Colli], in A. Colpan and T. Hikino (eds), *Business Groups in the West*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2016 (*forthcoming*).
- “Persistent and Stubborn. The State in Italian Capitalism: 1913-2001” [with A. Rinaldi], in T. David and G. Westerhuis (eds), *The power of corporate networks: a comparative and historical perspective*, Routledge, New York, 2014, pp. 169-188.
- “Size, boundaries, and distribution of Italian State-Owned Enterprise (1939-1983)” [with P.A. Toninelli], in F. Amatori, R. Milward and P.A. Toninelli (eds), *Reappraising State-Owned Enterprise. A comparison of the UK and Italy*, Routledge, New York, 2011, pp. 68-99.
- “Introduction: forms of enterprise in 20th century Italy” [with A. Colli], in A. Colli and M. Vasta (eds), *Forms of Enterprise in Twentieth century Italy. Boundaries, Structures and Strategies*, Elgar, Cheltenham, 2010, pp. 1-21.
- “Big Business” [with R. Giannetti], in A. Collin and M. Vasta (eds), *Forms of Enterprise in Twentieth century Italy. Boundaries, Structures and Strategies*, Elgar, Cheltenham, 2010, pp. 25-51.
- “Italian Entrepreneurship: Conjectures and Evidence from a Historical Perspective” [with P.A. Toninelli], in J.L. Garcia-Ruiz and P.A. Toninelli (eds), *The determinants of entrepreneurship: leadership, culture, institutions*, Pickering & Chatto, London, 2010, pp. 49-79.

Books:

- *Forms of Enterprise in Twentieth century Italy. Boundaries, Structures and Strategies* [with A. Colli] (eds), Cheltenham, Elgar, 2010.
- *Evolution of Italian Enterprises in the 20th Century* [with R. Giannetti] (eds), Heidelberg-New York, Physica-Verlag (Springer), 2006.

Paper under revision or submitted:

- “All that glitters is not gold”: law, firms’ governance and management in the Italian economic miracle (1950-1973)” [with P. Di Martino], 2014, *revised and resubmitted*.
- “A counterfactual analysis of the bank-industry relationship in Italy, 1913-1936” [with C. Drago, R. Ricciuti, A. Rinaldi], 2015, *revised and resubmitted*.

Work in progress:

- “Does centralization foster human capital accumulation? Quasi-experimental evidence from Italy’s Liberal Age” [with G. Cappelli].
- “The Geography of Innovation in Italy, 1861-1913: Evidence from Patent Data” [with A. Nuvolari], WP Department of Economics and Statistics – University of Siena, no. 724, December 2015.
- “What makes a successful entrepreneur? Historical evidence from Italy (XIX-XX centuries)” [with A. Nuvolari, P.A. Toninelli], WP Department of Economics and Statistics – University of Siena, no. 723, December 2015.
- “The Italian patent system(s) during the long nineteenth century (from the Congress of Vienna to World War I)” [with A. Nuvolari].
- The evolution of Italian wages since Unification [with G. Federico, A. Nuvolari].
- “The evolution of corporate networks in Latin economies: Argentina and Italy compared (1923-2000) [with A. Lluch, A. Rinaldi, E. Salvaj].

MAIN GRANTS

- 2014-: e-doing business, *Insolvency and bankruptcy legislation, models of business, and firms governance in historical and comparative perspective (1900-2010)*, funded by The Leverhume Trust, International Network Grant
- 2011-2013: European Project e-Frame, *European Framework for Measuring Progress*, FP7-ICT-2011-3, Theme SSH.2011.6.2-1, funded by European Commission DG for Research and Innovation and Istat
- 2011: *L’industria italiana nel contesto internazionale: 150 anni di storia*, funded by Istituto Commercio Estero (ICE) and Comitato Leonardo
- 2010-2011: *Mapping Italian entrepreneurs: a quantitative approach*, funded by CISEPS (Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Economics, Psychology and Social Science)
- 2008-2010: *I grandi gruppi nel capitalismo italiano del Novecento*, funded by Assonime
- 2007-2010: FIRB Project, *Creation of a Centre for Advanced Studies and Research in Cooperation and Development at Bethlehem University*
- 2008-2009: *Social and economic determinants of entrepreneurship, a long-term perspective*, funded by Madrid Community
- 2006-2009: *Dimensione e performance dell’impresa pubblica italiana (1933-1991): il gruppo IRI*, funded by Fondazione IRI
- 2004-2006: PRIN Project, *Models of enterprise in the Italian 20th century industrial capitalism*

TEACHING

- Economic history (BA), Business history (MA), Economic history (MA), Economic history (PhD)

EDITORSHIP

- Senior Editor of *Management and Organizational History*

REFEREEING

- Business History
- Economic History Review
- Enterprise & Society
- European Review of Economic History
- Financial History Review

- Historical Methods: A Journal of Quantitative and Interdisciplinary History
- History of Technology (HofT)
- Imprese e Storia
- Industrial and Corporate Change
- Journal of Economic History
- Journal of Evolutionary Economics
- Journal of Institutional Economics
- Management and Organizational History
- Scandinavian Economic History Review
- Structural Change and Economic Dynamics
- Technology and Culture (T&C)

MEMBERSHIP

- Società Italiana degli Storici dell'Economia (SISE)
- Associazione di Storia e Studi sull'Impresa (ASSI)
- American Economic Association (AEA)
- European Historical Economics Society (EHES)
- European Business History Association (EBHA)
- Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)
- Economic History Society (EHS)

MAIN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN WHICH I GAVE SEMINARS OR PRESENTED PAPER AT CONFERENCE (in alphabetical order)

Copenhagen Business School (Denmark); École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris (France); European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole (Italy); Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main (Germany); Hellenic Open University, Athens (Greece); Kyoto University (Japan); Instituto Rocasolano CSIC, Madrid (Spain); Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (Portugal); London School of Economics (United Kingdom); Lund University (Sweden); Miami University (Florida - US), Stellenbosch University (South Africa); Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain); Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina); Universidad de Cantabria (Spain); Universidad de Granada (Spain); Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain); Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona (Spain); Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV (France); Université Paris IV-Sorbonne (France); University of Cambridge (United Kingdom); University of Eindhoven (Netherlands); University of Geneva (Switzerland); University of Hawai'i-Mānoa (United States); University of Helsinki (Finland); University of Lausanne (Switzerland); University of Manchester (United Kingdom); University of Massachusetts Lowell (Massachusetts - US); University of Oslo (Norway); University of Oxford (United Kingdom); University of Pisa (Italy); University of Reading (United Kingdom); University of Wolverhampton (United Kingdom); University of Warwick (United Kingdom); University of York (United Kingdom); Utrecht University (Netherlands).