

# Isabela Manelici

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<b>Employment</b>	<b>London School of Economics</b> Department of Economics. Assistant Professor <b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> Department of Economics. Visiting Professor <b>Princeton University</b> IES and Department of Economics. Postdoctoral Associate <b>The World Bank</b> Infrastructure Unit. Junior Professional Associate	London, UK 2021- Cambridge MA, US Spring and Fall, 2024 Princeton NJ, US 2020-2021 Washington DC, US 2010-2012
<b>Appointments</b>	European Commission, DG GROW 2026 Fellow ROCKWOOL Foundation Berlin (RFBerlin), Research Affiliate International Growth Centre (IGC), Research Affiliate CESifo Research Network, Global Economy, Affiliate Programme on Innovation and Diffusion (POID), Senior Associate CEPR, International Trade and Regional Economics, Research Affiliate Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), Trade and Urban, Associate Suntory & Toyota International Centre for Economics (STICERD), Associate	2026 2025- 2025- 2022- 2022- 2021- 2021- 2021-
<b>Editorial Roles</b>	Editorial Board Member, <i>Review of Economic Studies</i> Associate Editor, <i>Journal of International Economics</i>	2024- 2023-
<b>Short-Term Visits and Fellowships</b>	<b>Yale University</b> Cowles Foundation and Department of Economics. Visiting Faculty <b>Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) Munich</b> Junior Fellowship in International Trade <b>Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth</b> International Economics Visiting Scholar	New Haven CT, US April, 2023 Munich, DE Summer, 2022 Hanover NH, US Fall, 2018
<b>Education</b>	<b>University of California, Berkeley</b> Department of Economics. Ph.D. in Economics <b>CEMFI (Centro de Estudios Monetarios y Financieros)</b> Master in Economics and Finance <b>École Polytechnique - École des Mines - École des Ponts</b> Master in Transportation and Sustainable Development <b>École des Ponts ParisTech</b> Ingénieur de l'École des Ponts ParisTech. Major in Civil Engineering	Berkeley, US 2015-2020 Madrid, ES 2012-2014 Paris, FR 2009-2010 Paris, FR 2007-2009
<b>Interests</b>	International Economics, Economic Development, Firm Organisation	
<b>Peer-Reviewed Publications</b>	“The Effects of Joining Multinational Supply Chains: New Evidence from Firm-to-Firm Linkages” (w/ Alonso Alfaro-Ureña and José P. Vasquez). <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> . Vol. 137, Issue 3, August 2022, Pages 1495-1552  “Industrial Policy at Work: Evidence from Romania’s Income Tax Break for Workers in IT” (w/ Smaranda Pantea). <i>European Economic Review</i> , Vol. 133, April 2021  “Terrorism and the Value of Proximity to Public Transportation: Evidence from the London Bombings.” <i>Journal of Urban Economics</i> , Vol. 102, Nov. 2017, Pages 52-75	
<b>Working Papers</b>	“Responsible Sourcing? Evidence from Costa Rica” (w/ Alonso Alfaro-Ureña, Benjamin Faber, Cecile Gaubert, and José P. Vasquez). Second Round Revise & Resubmit at the <i>American Economic Review</i>	

“The Gains from Foreign Multinationals in an Economy with Distortions” (w/ Mauricio Ulate, José P. Vasquez and Román David Zárate)

“The Effects of Multinational Firms on Workers: Evidence from Costa Rican Microdata” (w/ Alonso Alfaro-Ureña and José P. Vasquez)

### Selected Work in Progress

“The Ins and Outs of Multinational Firms in Four National Production Networks” (w/ Alonso Alfaro-Ureña, Banu Demir, Cédric Duprez, Priya Manwaring, and José P. Vasquez). Part of ERC STG LINK4DEV agenda

“Multinationals in (Four) Production Networks: The Efficiency and Aggregate Implications of Technology Transfers” (w/ Alonso Alfaro-Ureña, Banu Demir, Cédric Duprez, Priya Manwaring, Thomas Sampson, and José P. Vasquez). Part of ERC STG LINK4DEV agenda

“Global Sourcing Within the Multinational Firm” (w/ Amit Khandelwal, Rocco Macchiavello, and José P. Vasquez). Part of ERC STG LINK4DEV agenda

“Who Pays the Price of Supply Chain Disruptions? Evidence from a Cyberattack on Customs” (w/ Jonathan Garita, José P. Vasquez, and Alberto Vindas). Part of ERC STG LINK4DEV agenda

### Other Publications

VoxDevLit Foreign Direct Investment and Development (w/ Alviarez, Boudreau, Dardati, Fan, Farrokhi, Garcia-Lembergman, Garetto, Gu, Hale, Hemous, Limodio, Martin, Morales, Pandalai-Nayar, Pavcnik, Pellegrina, Ramondo, Vasquez, and Vezina). Volume 13(1). February 2025

VoxDevLit International Trade (w/ Atkin, Boudreau, Dix-Carneiro, Khandelwal, McCaig, Medina, Morjaria, Pascali, Rijkers, and Startz). Volume 4(2). February 2025

### Honors, Grants, Fellowships

**2025-2030** ERC Starting Grant for LINK4DEV (“Can Multinational Linkages Be Leveraged for Development?”), Principal Investigator, 1.49 million Euros

**2024** Duke University Applied Micro Jamboree (*selected participant*)

**2024** LSE Excellence in Education Award (on the recommendation of the Head of Department, awarded for outstanding teaching contribution and educational leadership)

**2021** Structural Transformation & Economic Growth (STEG) Research Grant £15,000

**2020** China Star Tour; Journal of Development Economics Award; UC Berkeley Department of Economics Graduate Student Award for Public Policy Research; Best Graduate Student Submission at the West Coast Trade Workshop

**2019-2020** Center for Equitable Growth Continuing Student Fellowship, Tuition Fees and Stipend for One Semester; Opportunity Lab, Promoting Opportunity and Growth through Place-Based Policies Initiative \$5,000

**2019+2018+2016** Clausen Center Grant Award for Doctoral Research (UC Berkeley), \$4,000 + \$5,000 + \$3,000

**2018-2019 + 2017-2018** Burch Center for Tax Policy and Public Finance Fellowship, Tuition Fees and Stipend for One Semester per Academic Year

**2018-2019 + 2017-2018** Exploratory Research Grants from PEDL (CEPR / DFID Research Initiative), £11,060 + £11,000

**2018** Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) 2018 Spring Development Challenge Award, \$5,000

**2017** George Break Prize in Public Finance for Outstanding Performance in the Public Finance Field Courses, UC Berkeley (Berkeley, CA)

**2016-2017** Weiss Family Program Funding for Research in Development Economics (Harvard Economics Department), \$12,800

**2016** Summer Fellowship from the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (UC Berkeley), \$2,500

**2015-2020** Economics Department Fellowship (UC Berkeley)

**2014-2015** GSAS Fellowship and Wueller Fellowship (Columbia University)  
**2014** Luis Angel Rojo Award for the Best Student of the 2012-2014 Class, Master in Economics and Finance, CEMFI (Madrid, ES)  
**2012-2014** Fellowship (Bank of Spain)  
**2011** Class Valedictorian, Master in Transportation and Sustainable Development, École Polytechnique - École des Mines - École des Ponts (Paris, FR)  
**2009-2010** Unconditional Scholarship (Renault Foundation)  
**2009** Augustín de Betancourt Excellence Prize, École des Ponts (Paris, FR)

**Presentations, Ordered by Date**     **2026** [*Spring term: maternity leave #2*] CEP Annual Conference (Growth Session), CEP-IFS Labour Conference, Uppsala U, CEU, ETH Zurich

**2025** PSE/EU Tax Observatory, Nottingham Globalisation and Economic Policy/CEPR Postgraduate Conference (*keynote*), Kiel Institute for the World Economy/CEPR Workshop on “Firms and International Trade” (*keynote*), NBER SI Development Economics, Stanford/SITE, ERMAS, ESADE, IFC, EIEF, Imperial College London, Monash/OASIS, TEDE/Birmingham

**2024** Dartmouth/Tuck International Economics Sem., MIT/Harvard International Sem., USC Econ/Marshall Trade/Spatial Mini-Conference, Tufts U Departmental Sem., Boston U International/Development Sem., NYU Development Sem., Columbia U Development Sem., Penn State Trade & Development Sem., Minneapolis Fed, NBER “Megafirms and the Economy” Conf., Michigan International Sem., UToronto Trade Mini-Conf., Harvard/MIT Development Sem., UChicago Trade & Spatial Day, NEUDC, UCSD Trade/Spatial Day, Boston College, UC Berkeley, UCLA

**2023** IFC/World Bank/IGC “Private Sector Development Research Network”, Yale Development Lunch, CEP Annual Conf., GEP-CEPR Summer Trade Workshop, “VI Madrid Macroeconomics Annual Conf.: International Trade”, ECARES (ULB), “Trade, Firms, and Economic Development” Mannheim Workshop, Stockholm U Departmental Sem., Atlanta Fed “Firm Dynamics and the Macroeconomy” Conf., Yale/IGC Conf. on “Firms, Trade and Development”, 4th “Women in International Economics” Conf. (Rochester U), Goethe U, TSE Development Sem., Indiana U, EUI-IHEID Winter Workshop on Trade and Development

**2022** Warwick, Johns Hopkins SAIS, ERMAS, ECARES (ULB), Università Cattolica Milano, Northwestern Development Rookiefest, Cambridge, Inter-American Development Bank, UCL Gorman Conf., Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Geneva Trade and Development Workshop, ERWIT, CEPR New ITRE Member Series, LMU Munich International Economics Retreat, NBER SI Development Economics, Paris Trade Sem. (PSE/ Sciences Po/ INRAE), Aix-Marseille School of Economics, UAB, IPA-Columbia SIPA “Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Development” Conf., LSE Applications Sem., IFS-UCL-LSE/STICERD Development Economics Workshop, Trade Policy Research Forum, EconCR Conf.

**2021** [*Spring term: maternity leave #1*] Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG) Annual Conf., University of Virginia, Munich International Economics Sem., Boston College, “The Visible Hand” Podcast, “Firm-to-Firm Trade and International Production Networks” (hosted by GEP Nottingham and CEPR), NBER SI International Trade & Investment, IESR Workshop on “Supply Chain and Buyer-Seller Networks in Developing Countries”, Richmond Fed, US Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies, “Women in International Economics” Second Annual Conf., CEPR “Women in Economics – Advancing Research in Economics”, São Paulo School of Economics FGV, Toronto Economics, Oxford Applied Micro Sem., BCCR, Columbia International Trade and Spatial Economics Sem., EBRD, U of Oslo

**2020** Yale Growth Center “Trade and Development” Conf., West Coast Trade Workshop, China Star Tour (hosted by ShanghaiTech University and Fudan University), Penn State Trade & Development Sem., MIT/Harvard Development/Trade Sem., Princeton IES Sem., Wilfrid Laurier University, Ronald W. Jones Mini-Conf. in International Trade and Macroeconomics + Virtual International Trade and Macro Sem., 5th Zurich Conf. on Public Finance in Developing Countries, Workshop on International Economic Networks (WIEN)

**Recruiting Seminars:** Bocconi, NY Federal Reserve, Harvard Business School, Duke, LSE, World Bank DECRG, Brown, Harvard, Northwestern Kellogg, Chicago Booth, Georgetown McDonough, MIT Sloan, Notre Dame

**2019** UC Berkeley, LSE. **2018** NBER “Firms, Networks, and Trade” Conf., INCAE Business School, National Bank of Romania, UC Berkeley, IGC and Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development “Firms, Trade and Development” Conf.. **2017** UC Berkeley. **2016** UC Berkeley, UEA Annual Meeting. **2015** UC Berkeley. **2014** CEMFI, Columbia

<b>Teaching</b>	<p><b>MIT</b>  14.772 PhD “Development Economics: Macroeconomic Issues” 2024  14.76/14.760 UG/MSc. “Firms, Markets, Trade and Growth” 2024  <b>London School of Economics</b>  EC338 Undergraduate International Trade 2023-  EC3016 Course Convenor, International Economics, EMFSS UoL programme 2023-  EC351 Summer School International Economics 2023  EC315 Undergraduate International Economics 2022, 2023  EC532 MRes/PhD International Economics 2022-  <b>UC Berkeley</b>  C181 UG International Trade 2016-2018</p>
<b>Guest Lectures</b>	<p><b>STEG-PEDL Course</b> on “Private Enterprises, Productivity, and Economic Growth”  Session on “International Trade, MNCs and GVCs” 2026  <b>Guest Lectures in PhD Courses</b>  ASE Romania. Guest lecture on “Industrial Policy” 2025  Chicago, Yale, Harvard. Guest lectures on “Trade and Development” 2021, 2023, 2024  LSE Master Lecture on Industrial Policy (w/ David Atkin &amp; Dave Donaldson) 2023  CES/LMU Mini-Course “Firms, Trade, and Development” 2022</p>
<b>Conference Organization</b>	<p><b>2025</b> LSE Environment Camp  <b>2025</b> STEG (Structural Transformation and Economic Growth) Annual Conference  <b>2024 + 2023</b> IGC/EGC(Yale) Conference on “Firms, Trade and Development”  <b>2023</b> LSE Environment Week  <b>2023</b> 5th GEP-CEPR Summer Trade Workshop  <b>2021</b> 15th North American Meeting of the UEA  <b>2020</b> BREAD/CEPR/STICERD/TCD Conference on Development Economics</p>
<b>Discussions</b>	<p><b>2025</b> CEP/Warwick Junior Trade Workshop: “The Labor Market Effects of Multinational Entry” (Marra)  <b>2024</b> NEUDC: “Residential Patterns and Local Public Goods in Urban Brazil” (Harari)  <b>2024</b> NBER Economic Growth Summer Institute: “R&amp;D Subsidy and Import Substitution: Growing in the Shadow of Protection” (De Souza and Garber)  <b>2024</b> NBER International Trade and Investment Summer Institute: “Multinational Networks and Trade Participation” (Conconi, Leone, Magerman, and Thomas)  <b>2023</b> CEP/Warwick Junior Trade Workshop: “The Effects of Road Disruptions on Trade Relationships: Evidence from Colombian Flower Exporters” (Martinez)  <b>2023</b> Princeton IES Summer Trade Workshop: “Understanding Migration Responses to Local Shocks” (Borusyak, Dix-Carneiro and Kovak)  <b>2023</b> EBRD/CEPR Research Symposium “The Geopolitics of Trade”: “Supply Chain Resilience: Evidence from Indian Firms” (Khanna, Morales, and Pandalai-Nayar)  <b>2023</b> Discussion on Ricardo Hausmann’s “Export-Led Growth” at the “London Consensus” Conference  <b>2022</b> Yale Cowles Trade Conference: “FDI Inflows and Domestic Firms: Adjustments to New Export Opportunities” (McCaig, Pavcnik and Wong)  <b>2021</b> 18th Annual Conference of the Euro-Latin Network on Integration and Trade (ELSNIT): “The U.S. Multinational Advantage during the 2008-2009 Financial Crisis: The Role of Services Trade” (Kamal and Kroff)  <b>2016</b> UEA Annual Meeting: “Measuring Congestion in a Highly Congested City: Bogota” (Akbar and Duranton)</p>

**Referee Service** *American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Econometrica, Economic Journal, Economic Letters, Economica, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies*

**Predoc Placement** **2024** Valerie Umaña Quesada (Geneva/IHEID, Master in International Economics), Vincenzo Trunfio (UBC/VSE, MA in Economics)  
**2023** Jose Ignacio Gonzalez Rojas (LSE, MRes/PhD in Economics and Management), Alonso Venegas Cantillano (PSE, M1 Economics)  
**2022** Brayan Segura (LSE, MRes/PhD in Economics), Andre Araya (TSE, MSc.)  
**2021** Marco Badilla (UC Berkeley, PhD in Economics), Stwarth Piedra (CEMFI, MSc.)

**Other Service Work** **2025** Evaluator for World Bank + European Commission EU-RCT Call  
**2022** Evaluator for STEG Small Research Grants and PhD Research Grants

**Predoc Research Assistance** **CEMFI** Madrid, ES  
RA to Diego Puga for the paper “International Trade and Institutional Change: Medieval Venice’s Response to Globalization” (with Daniel Trefler) 2013  
**CEMFI** Madrid, ES  
RA to Samuel Bentolila for the paper “The Impact of Local Political Parties on Housing Prices” (with Manuel Arellano) 2013

**Other Past Employment** **SAIPEM Energy** Paris, FR  
Junior Engineer on Arzew Liquefied Natural Gas Export Terminal 2009  
**Bouygues International** Tangier, MA  
Assistant Manager on Offshore Concrete Structures 2008

**Languages** Native: Romanian. Fluent: English, French, Spanish. Beginner: Portuguese

**Personal** Romanian citizenship, UK ILR  
Married, two children (born 2021 and 2025)

*Last updated: March 2026*