

# Ignacio Leon-Nina

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

## CONTACT INFO

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## REFERENCES

**Marc-Arthur Diaye**  
Professor of Economics  
Department of Economics  
Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne  
Marc-Arthur.Diaye@univ-paris1.fr

**Carla Canelas**  
Professor of Economics  
Department of Economics  
American University of Paris  
ccanelas@aup.edu

**Rui Costa**  
Research Fellow  
Centre for Economic Performance  
London School of Economics  
R.M.Vieira-Marques@lse.ac.uk

## EDUCATION

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

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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

(*latest version*)

**Abstract :** This paper investigates the causal impact of reduced school attendance on youth criminal behavior 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 during 2020 and implement a difference-in-differences framework. The results show that school disruption due to the pandemic increased arrest rates for individuals aged 15 and 16 by 12.38% in 2021 and by 10.48% in 2022, relative to the 2019 baseline. The most affected cohorts are those born between 2004 and 2007. The effects are heterogeneous across gender, urban and rural areas, exposure to organized crime, and local labor market conditions. These differential patterns are consistent with the Beckerian framework of time allocation, whereby school disruption raises the cost of attending school and the elasticity of crime with respect to education depends on individuals' alternative opportunities.

## WORKING PAPERS

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### **The Higher Education Reform in Ecuador : Transitioning from a Decentralised to a Centralised Application Process**

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

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### **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*

## POLICY REPORTS

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### **Migration and Migration Policy in Ecuador (2000-2021)**

([link](#))

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

## PRESENTATIONS

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**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

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### **Econometrics with R**

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

**Paris, France**

2022-2026

### **Introduction to Probabilities**

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

**Paris, France**

2025-2026

### **Economics of Poverty and Inequalities**

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

**Paris, France**

2024-2025

### **Introduction to Macroeconomics**

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

**Paris, France**

2023-2024

### **Introduction to Microeconomics**

*Lecturer, American University of Paris, Undergraduate Level, 36 hours*

**Paris, France**

2023-2024

### **Economics of Social Protection**

*Teaching Assistant, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Undergraduate Level, 36 hours*

**Paris, France**

2022-2023

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **London School of Economics - CEP**

**London, United Kingdom**

*Data Associate*

*since jan. 2025*

Sponsored by *Rui Costa and Matteo Sandi*

**SOLIHA - National Council of Housing**  
*Research Assistant*  
Public Policy Analysis of Housing in the French Overseas Departments (DROM)

**Paris, France**  
**2021**

## SERVICE

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

## 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

## SKILLS

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

## PERSONAL INTERESTS

Football, Climbing, Salsa Music