

# Ignacio Leon-Nina

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

## CONTACT INFO

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## REFERENCES

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### 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

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### Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Defence Expected on June 2026

Dissertation : *Education and Crime in South America*

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

M.Res. Economics

Applied Microeconomics

Paris, France

2021–2022

### ESCP Business School

M.Res. Economics (Programme Grande École)

Economics and Public Policy

Paris, France

2019–2022

### Lycée René Cassin

CPGE ECE — Intensive Preparatory Program

Rigorous two-year curriculum (B.Sc. equivalent) in Economics, Mathematics, and Philosophy

Bayonne, France

2017–2019

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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### 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

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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

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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**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

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### 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

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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

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

## SERVICE

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

## SKILLS

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

## PERSONAL INTERESTS

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Football, Climbing, Salsa Music