Silvia Dalla Fontana

ESCP Business School via Andrea Doria 27 10123 Torino Italy

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EDUCATION

ESCP Business School, Torino, Italy

Assistant Professor of Finance, September 2024 -

Swiss Finance Institute & USI Lugano, Lugano, Switzerland

Ph.D. Student in Finance, 09/2018 - 08/2024

Imperial College Business School, London, UK

Visiting Ph.D. Student, 01/2022 - 07/2022

Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia, Italy

Master of Science in Economics and Finance, 09/2014 - 03/2017

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France

Erasmus Program, 01/2016 - 06/2016

Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia, Italy

Bachelor in Business Administration, 09/2010 - 03/2014

Research area

Entrepreneurial Finance, Venture Capital, Innovation, Sustainability.

Working Papers

Entry and Specialization in the VC industry

solo authored

From in-person to online: the new shape of the VC industry with Liudmila Alekseeva, Caroline Genc, and Hedieh Rashidi Ranjbar

 $R \mathcal{E}R$ Journal of Corporate Finance

The Look of Success: AI-Measured Face Factors and Venture Financing

with Liudmila Alekseeva, Caroline Genc, and Lin Peng

Publications

Innovating to Net Zero: Can Venture Capital and Startups Play

a Meaningful Role? with Ramana Nanda

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy and the Economy, Volume 2, 2023

Presentations

2025 Columbia Business School (WEFI Annual Meeting, NYC)

2024Erasmus School of Economics (Rotterdam), ESCP Business School (Paris), NHH Norwegian School of Economics (Bergen), Nova SBE (Lisbon), ESSEC Business School

(Paris), Babson College (Boston)

2023 Politecnico di Milano School of Management (EFI seminar, Milano), Naples School of Economics (PhD Workshop, Naples), HEC Finance (PhD Workshop, Paris), Swiss Finance Institute (Research Days, Gerzensee), London Business School* (Private Capital Symposium), HEC* (FutInfo Conference, Poster Session), Columbia Business School (PE Conference, NYC), AFA (Poster Session, New Orleans)

2022 Stanford University* (Remote Work Conference), HEC Finance* (PhD Workshop, Paris), WEFI PhD Workshop (Online), Imperial College Business School (PhD Student Seminar, London), NBER (EIPE conference, Washington DC), SFI-USI Summer School (Lugano), AFA (Online Poster Session)

2021 Nova School of Business and Economics (Finance PhD Pitch Perfect, Online), Swiss Finance Institute (Research Days, Gerzensee), University of Zurich (Sustainable Finance Research Seminar, Online)

* = by coauthor

OTHER WEFI Fellows, 04/2021 - Present

Trainings, PhD Workshop in Entrepreneurial Finance & Innovation

Workshops Prof. Michael Ewens, Columbia Business School

NBER Entrepreneurship Bootcamp, July 2022

Organized by Prof. David Robinson, Duke University's Fuqua School of Business

TEACHING ESCP Business School, Corporate Finance (MiM Program, 2024-)

ESCP Business School, Financial Management (BiM Program, 2024-)

ESCP Business School, Advanced Financial Modelling (MiM Program, 2024-) USI Lugano and SFI, Entrepreneurial Finance (Master Program, 2018-2024) USI Lugano and SFI, Finance and Sustainability (Master Program, 2019-2023)

ACADEMIC Co-Organizer

SERVICES CCA-ESCP Workshop on Financial Institutions and Corporate Finance (2025)

3rd European Sustainable Finance PhD Workshop (2025)

WEFI Annual Meeting (2025)

WEFI Student Workshop (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023)

Referee

Review of Finance, Review of Financial Studies, Management Science

DISCUSSIONS CCA-ESCP Workshop (2025), NSE Workshop (2023), Nova SBE Final Countdown

(2022), CEBRA Annual Meeting (2022), SFI Research Days (2020, 2021, 2023)

Grants & EFA Travel Grant, European Finance Association, 2023

HONORS AFA Travel Grant, American Finance Association, 2023

Swiss National Science Foundation Mobility Grant, 2022

Best Discussant Award, SFI Research Days, 2021

Swiss Finance Institute Scholarship for the first year of graduate studies, 2018

Erasmus Exchange Program Scholarship, 2015

SOFTWARES Stata, Python

LANGUAGES Italian (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Spanish (intermediate)

CITIZENSHIP Italian

WORK European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

EXPERIENCE Research Analyst, 10/2017 - 08/2018

Deutsche Bundesbank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Guest Researcher, 08/2017 - 08/2018

Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Research Assistant to Prof. Loriana Pelizzon, 08/2017 - 08/2018

Euler Hermes - Allianz, Vicenza, Italy Credit Risk Analyst, 09/2015 - 07/2017