

Mattia Di Ubaldo

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CURRENT and PAST POSITIONS

2025 – Present	Principal Research Fellow, Department of Economics, University of Sussex Business School.
2024 – Present	Deputy Director, UK Trade Policy Observatory (UKTPO)
2022 – Present	Researcher, Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy (CITP).
2018 – Present	Research Affiliate, Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), Dublin.
2021 – 2025	Senior Research Fellow, Department of Economics, University of Sussex Business School.
2018 – 2021	Research Fellow, Department of Economics, University of Sussex Business School.
2018 – 2023	Fellow, UK Trade Policy Observatory (UKTPO)
2020 – 2022	World Economic Forum, Council on Future Trade and Investment, Fellow.
2016 – 2018	Postdoctoral Researcher, Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin.

EDUCATION

2016	PhD in Economics, University of Sussex: “ <i>Firms and Trade in Downturns</i> ”. Thesis committee: Prof. Gianmarco Ottaviano, Prof. Giordano Mion.
2011	MSc in International Economics, University of Sussex, with <i>Distinction</i> .
2009	BA, International Relations and Political Science, University La Sapienza, Rome.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Trade, Trade Policy, FDI, Economics of Innovation.

PUBLICATIONS

“The Disconnects between Trade Policy and the Rhetoric of Inclusive Trade”, 2026, with Amrita Saha, Amrita Bahri and L. Alan Winters, *World Development*, 206, 107465.

“Could Spillovers from Multinationals Affect the Trade Activities of Local Firms?”, 2022, with Iulia Siedschlag, *Economics Letters*, vol. 221(C).

“Non-trade issues in trade agreement and FDI”, with Michael Gasiorek, 2022, *European Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 75(C). Featured in **VoxEU**

“Voluntary programs and emissions revisited: What is the effect of EU trade agreements with environmental provisions?”, 2022, with Steven McGuire and Vikrant Shirodkar, *Journal of International Business Policy*, vol. 5(4), pages 467-489. Featured in **VoxEU**.

“Investment in Knowledge-Based Capital and Productivity: Firm-Level Evidence from a Small Open Economy”, 2021, with Iulia Siedschlag, *Review of Income and Wealth*, vol. 67(2), pages 363-393, June.

“The Pursuit of Non-Trade Policy Objectives in EU Trade Policy”, 2021, with Ingo Borchert, Paola Conconi and Cristina Herghelegiu, *World Trade Review*, vol. 20(5), pages 623-647, December. Featured in **VoxEU**.

“International trade regulation and job creation”, 2020, with L. Alan Winters, *IZA World of Labor*, Institute of Labor Economics (IZA), pages 1-75, February.

“Innovation and Self-Employment”, 2020, with Tommaso Ciarli and Maria Savona, in K. Zimmermann, Ed, *Handbook of Labour, Human Resources and Population Economics*, Springer, Cham.

RESEARCH GRANTS

“Study on the Developing Countries Trading Scheme”, **£609,200, Principal Investigator**, Funder: Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, duration 2025-2030.

“Domestic legislation and FTA environmental provisions”, **£76,848, Principal Investigator**, Funder: ESRC, duration 2024-2025.

“Foreign Direct Investment Research”, **£49,714, Co-Investigator**, Funder: Welsh Government, duration 2022.

“Brexit Uncertainty and the Northern Ireland Protocol: The consequences for Northern Ireland firms and their trade within the UK's Internal Market”, **£748,118, Co-Investigator**, Funder: Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), duration 2021-2023.

“Unlocking the potential for future India-UK trade and development”, **£329,870; lead Co-Investigator**, Funder: Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), duration 2021-2023.

“Fostering the positive linkages between trade and sustainable development (TRADE4SD)”, **£205,754; Co-Investigator**, Funder: EU Horizon 2020 Framework, duration 2021-2024.

“Foreign Direct Disinvestment”, **£72,094; Co-Investigator**; Funder: Department for International Trade; Duration 2020.

“Innovation Productivity and Wages in the GLA and the UK”, **£25,076; Co-Investigator**; Funder: Greater London Authority; Duration: 2019.

WORKING PAPERS

“Trade and the intensity of product regulation”, 2025, with Barry Reilly, Michael Gasiorek, Aldo Sandoval Hernandez, Working Paper Series 0325, Department of Economics, University of Sussex.

“Northern Ireland’s Trade in Goods in an Era of Brexit Uncertainty: Firm-level Evidence”, 2025, with Ruby Acquah, Barry Reilly, Michael Gasiorek, Working Paper Series 0225, Department of Economics, University of Sussex.

“The Impact of GSP Graduations on Indian Exporters”, 2025, with Ingo Borchert, Working Paper Series 0125, Department of Economics, University of Sussex.

“The Trade Impact of Surprise Graduations from the EU’s GSP scheme”, 2024, with Ingo Borchert, Working Paper Series 1224, Department of Economics, University of Sussex.

“Deep Services Trade Agreements and their Effect on Trade and Value Added”, 2021, with Ingo Borchert, Policy Research working paper no. WPS 9608, Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.

“Go ahead and trade: the effect of uncertainty removal in the EU's GSP scheme”, with Ingo Borchert, 2020, Working Paper Series 0520, Department of Economics, University of Sussex Business School. Featured in VoxEU.

“The Cost of Imports and the Reaction of Trade: Lessons from the Trade Collapse”, 2020.

“Productivity Spillovers from Multinational Activity to Local Firms in Ireland”, with Martina Lawless and Iulia Siedschlag, OECD Productivity Working Papers, 2018-16, OECD. [submitted]

“Determinants of Firms’ Inputs Sourcing Choices: The Role of Institutional and Regulatory Factors”, 2018, with Iulia Siedschlag, ESRI Working Paper 599.

“The Impact of Investment in Innovation on Productivity: Firm Level Evidence from Ireland”, with Iulia Siedschlag, 2017. ESRI WP No. 571.

“Product Cost-Share: a Catalyst of the Trade Collapse”, 2016, WP No. 8015, Department of Economics, University of Sussex.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Do FTA Environmental Provisions Drive Domestic Law Changes?”, with Adriana Brenis.

“The effect of SDG-related provisions in FTAs on SDG outcomes”, with Ruby Acquah.

“Do Wages Benefit from Productivity Growth? Evidence from UK Firms and Labour Markets”, with Tommaso Ciarli and Maria Savona.

“From Innovation to Exporting in Times of Crisis”.

COLUMNS, POLICY PAPERS and REPORTS

“The UK’s new (and improved?) Developing Countries Trading Scheme”, 2023, with Guillermo Larbalestier and Manuel Tong Koecklin, UKTPO Briefing Paper 74.

“Scoping services trade agreements: What really matters”, with Ingo Borchert, 2021, Chapter 10 in: A.M. Fernandes, N. Rocha and M. Ruta: “[The Economics of Deep Trade Agreements](#)”, CEPR eBook, pp. 91-97.

“The joint effect of private and public environmental regulation on emissions”, 2021, with Steven McGuire and Vikrant Shirodkar, VoxEU.org 3 January, and chapter in *Combating Climate Change: a CEPR Collection*, CEPR.

“How FDI responds to non-trade provisions in preferential trade agreements”, 2021, with Michael Gasiorek, VoxEU.org, 5 January.

“[Trade preferences need predictability](#)”, 2021, with Ingo Borchert, VoxEU.org, 11 January.

“Economics of Trade”, 2021, with Ingo Borchert. In “Brexit and Beyond”, UK In a Changing Europe, [UKiCE eBook](#), pp. 103-104.

“Developing Country Trade Access after Brexit: The UK’s Plans for the Generalized System of Preferences”, with L. Alan Winters, Max Mendez Parra, Lee Robinson and Ian Mitchell, 2020, CGD Policy Paper 187.

“A post-Brexit Generalized System of Preferences for the UK: how to guarantee unchanged market access for developing countries?”, 2019, UKTPO Briefing Paper 32.

“The performance of the Single Market for goods after 25 years”, 2019. DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission. Framework Service Contract “Studies in the Area of European Competitiveness” (ENTR/300/PP/2013/FC-WIFO).

“Comparative performance of indigenous and multinational firms operating in Ireland”, 2018, Report No. 28182, DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission. Framework Service Contract “Studies in the Area of European Competitiveness” (ENTR/300/PP/2013/FC-WIFO).

“Investment in Knowledge-Based Capital and its Contribution to Productivity Growth: a Review of International and Irish Evidence”, 2017, ESRI WP No. 557.

“Intra-EU Production and Trade Linkages: Firm-level Analysis”, May 2017, in *Drivers and Obstacles to Competitiveness in the EU: The Role of Value Chains and the Single Market*; EC DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship; Framework Service Contract No. ENTR/2009/033.

“Quantitative analysis of investment needs, financing gaps and barriers to investment”, November 2016, in *Study on Investment Needs and Obstacles along Industrial Value Chains*, Framework Service Contract No. ENTR/300/PP/2013/FC-WIFO.

REFEREEING ACTIVITY

Applied Economics Letters; Economics Letters; European Journal of Political Economy; Journal of Comparative Economics; Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade; Journal of International Economics; Nature Scientific Data; Oxford Economic Papers; Research Policy; Review of International Economics;

Review of International Political Economy; Review of World Economics; The World Economy; World Trade Review.

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS and RELAVANT EXPERIENCE

2016	Local Organizer of the <i>Royal Economic Society</i> “Symposium of Junior Researchers”.
2011 – 2015	GTA (Graduate Teaching Assistant), 2011 – 2015, University of Sussex.
2011	“Best student in Economics MSc 2011” award, University of Sussex.
2010	ENPAV scholarship (ranked 5 th in Italy) for the year 2010 – 2011.
2009	Selected by the University of Trento as participant of the “Economics Festival”.

TEACHING and SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

2020 – present	PhD Supervision, Michela Bello, SPRU.
2021	MSc in Economics Dissertations supervision
2018 – 2019	Lecturer: Quantitative Methods for Economics and Business – UG
2015 – 2016	Tutor: Advanced Macroeconomics, Macroeconomics 1 and 2, Introduction to Economics – UG; (evaluation 4/5).
2014 – 2015	Tutor: Macroeconomics 1 and 2 – UG; (evaluation 3.8/5).
2013 – 2014	Tutor: Macroeconomics 1 and 2, Microeconomics 1 and 2 – Graduate Diploma and UG; (evaluation 4/5).
2012 – 2013	Lecturer: Introductory Course in Mathematics for Economics – PG, for MSc Economics students; (evaluation 4.4/5).
	Tutor: Advanced Macroeconomics, Macroeconomics 2 – UG; (evaluation 4.2/5).
2011 – 2012	Tutor: Advanced Macroeconomics, Macroeconomics 2 – UG; (evaluation 4.1/5).

CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2026	<i>RIS Roundtable</i> , New Delhi; <i>ABI-CITP Conference</i> , Hong Kong; <i>WTO Public Forum</i> , Geneva
2025	<i>CITP Conference</i> , Glasgow
2024	<i>ETSG 2024</i> , Athens
2023	University of Kent, Economics Department seminar; <i>European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) Congress</i> , Rennes; <i>ETSG 2023</i> , Surrey.
2022	Northern Ireland Department for the Economy
2021	<i>US International Trade Commission</i> , Economics Seminar Series (March and May); <i>RESPECT Final Conference</i> , EUI, Florence; <i>UKTPO Academic Conference 2021</i> ; <i>UNFSS 2021 Academic Advisory Council</i> , EUI, Florence.
2019	<i>World Trade Forum</i> , Bern; <i>IEA Conference</i> , Cork; <i>Overseas Development Institute</i> , London; <i>ETSG 2019</i> , Bern.
2018	<i>6th Conference on Empirical Issues in International Trade</i> , IIFT, New Delhi; <i>Economic and Social Research Institute</i> , Dublin; <i>RES Annual Conference 2018</i> , University of Sussex, Brighton.
2017	<i>CONCORDi 2017</i> , European Commission JRC, Seville; <i>ETSG 2017</i> , EUI, Florence; <i>LETC 2017</i> , FREIT, Izola, Slovenia; <i>ZEW/MaCCI Conference on the Economics of Innovation and Patenting</i> , Mannheim; <i>SITT Conference</i> , UCD, Dublin.
2016	<i>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</i> , Barcelona; <i>Kiel Institute for the World Economy</i> , Kiel; <i>Economic and Social Research Institute</i> , Dublin.
2015	<i>ETSG 2015</i> , Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris ; <i>DEGIT XX Conference</i> , Graduate Institute, Geneva; <i>LETC 2015</i> , FREIT, Izola, Slovenia; <i>Midwest International Trade Conference</i> , Ohio State University, Columbus.

2014 *Research in Progress Seminar*, University of Sussex, Brighton; *4th Conference on Empirical Issues in International Trade*, IIFT, New Delhi; *Conference for PhD students*, University of Sussex, Brighton.

TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS

2011 *Starting to Teach* Associate Tutors training course, University of Sussex.
2011 Postgraduate Teaching Assistants in Economics workshop, Economics Network (HEA accredited), UCL.

LANGUAGES AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Fluent: *English, Italian, Swiss German*. Basic: *French, German*.
Software: Stata, Scientific Workplace, Latex, Office.

REFERENCES:

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