

**MARTA MORANDO**

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**EDUCATION**

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LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE - PhD in Economics	2023-Present
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE - MRes in Economics, <i>Distinction</i>	2021-2023
BOCCONI UNIVERSITY - MSc in Economic and Social Sciences, <i>Summa cum laude</i>	2018-2021
BOCCONI UNIVERSITY - BSc in Economic and Social Sciences, <i>Summa cum laude</i>	2015-2018

**RESEARCH FIELDS**

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Political Economy, Organizational, Labour Economics (primary)  
Public, Environmental Economics (secondary)

**AFFILIATIONS**

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Suntory and Toyota International Centres for Economics and Related Disciplines (STICERD, LSE) 2023-

**WORKING PAPER**

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**Polarized Technologies** (with Gaia Dossi), CEP Discussion Paper No. 2116, March 2026.

*Abstract:* We study whether, and how, societal views about which problems are most socially important or worth solving are reflected in the direction of technological progress. We map polarized issues in the U.S. public debate to related technologies and link inventor records to voter registers. Compared to Republicans, Democrats are one-third more likely to patent technologies addressing climate-change mitigation or women's reproductive health, and one-third less likely to patent weapons. These gaps are not explained by differences in inventive ability and persist within organizations. Party-technology alignment has strengthened over the past two decades, alongside rising polarization in U.S. society. This pattern also appears in subsequent innovation: inventors are more likely to build on aligned technologies and less on misaligned ones. These findings suggest that societal views and their polarization are important drivers of technological change, operating in part through inventors' technology choices, with implications for innovation policy.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

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**Consulting Contracts and The Organizational Economics of the State**

**The Geography of Development Programs**  
(with Beyza Gulmezoglu & Eddy Zou)

**The Cost of Identity: Theory and Experimental Evidence from the Energy Sector**  
(with Gaia Dossi & Matthew OBrien)

## EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

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BSE Summer Forum (Barcelona, Spain)	2026
IEB Workshop on Political Economy (Barcelona, Spain); UniCredit Marco Fanno Alumni Workshop (Turin, Italy); Environmental Populism Conference (London, UK); 2025 NICEP Conference (Nottingham, UK); LSE PSPE Seminar (London, UK)	2025
Hayek Workshop on Institutions and Political Economy in Historical Perspective (London, UK); Society for Economic Dynamics (SED) Annual Meeting (Barcelona, Spain); European Economic Association (EEA-ESEM) Annual Congress (Rotterdam, Netherlands); Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture (ASREC) Europe Conference (Thessaloniki, Greece); Bristol Economics of Innovation Workshop (Bristol, UK) ( <i>invited</i> ); Lewis Lab Graduate Student Workshop (Manchester, UK)	2024
LSE POID Research Seminar (London, UK); LSE PSPE Seminar (London, UK); ACES Summer School in Political Economy (Berkeley, USA)	2023
Bocconi Christmas Workshop (Milan, Italy); Bocconi Summer Workshop (Milan, Italy)	2022

## RESEARCH GRANTS

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**Total grant funding: ≈ \$44,000 (€38,000)**

Global School of Sustainability PhD Small Project Grant (£5,000)	2026
Programme on Cohesive Capitalism PhD Grant (£5,000)	2026
STICERD PhD Grant (£5,190)	2026
Google Cloud Research Credits Program (\$980)	2026
STICERD PhD Grant (£5,000)	2024
STICERD PhD Grant, joint with Gaia Dossi (£5,000)	2023
STICERD Michio Morishima Fund (£700)	2023
LSE Phelan Research Grant (£2,500)	2023
STICERD Hayek Programme PhD Grant, joint with Gaia Dossi (£4,000)	2022

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

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Cohesive Capitalism PhD scholarship	2024
LSE Class Teacher Award, based on student ratings	2023
Outstanding Distinction for the “Bonaldo Stringher” scholarship, Bank of Italy	2022
LSE Economics Departmental Award	2021
UniCredit Foundation “Fabrizio Saccomanni Scholarship”	2021
Fondazione Famiglia Legnanese scholarship	2019

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Research assistant to Tim Besley (LSE)	2025-
Research assistant to Michael Callen (International Growth Centre & LSE)	2023
Research assistant to Gilat Levy and Ronny Razin (LSE)	2022
Research assistant to Paolo Pinotti (CLEAN, Bocconi University)	2020-2021
IGIER visiting student, mentored by Guido Tabellini	2019-2021
Research assistant to Swapnil Singh (CEFER, Central Bank of Lithuania)	2019

## OTHER WRITING

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“Polarization is Not a Myth: It Is Reflected in the Creation and Diffusion of New Technologies” (with G. Dossi), *LSE United States Politics and Policy Blog*, March 2026

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (LSE), *Average Student Evaluations 4.6/5*

Graduate Teaching Assistant for:

- Introduction to Statistics (PP430E) for Executive Master of Public Administration and Policy students 2024
- Introduction to Quantitative Methods (PP408) for Master of Public Administration students 2024
- Pre-Sessional Coding and Mathematics Bootcamp (PP407) for Master in Data Science for Policy students 2024
- Econometrics 1 (EC1C1) for undergraduates 2023-2025
- Microeconomics 1 (EC1A3) for undergraduates 2022

Graduate Teaching Fellow for:

- Quantitative Methods for Public Policy (PP402) for Master of Public Policy students 2023

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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**Referee:** *Economica*; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization

**Organizer:** Environmental Populism Conference (2025), LSE Applied Microeconomics Student-Only Seminar (2023-2024)

**Co-Founder:** LSE Applied Microeconomics Student-Only Seminar (2023)

**Discussant:** Barcelona Summer Forum (2026); Arthur Lewis Lab Student Workshop (University of Manchester, 2024)

**Other:** Managing LSE Economics database for Research Excellence Framework (2025-)

## SKILLS

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**Programming & Softwares:** Stata, Python,  $\LaTeX$ , Qualtrics, MS Office

**Languages:** Italian (Native); English (Fluent); Spanish (Basic)