

MARIAFLAVIA (NINA) HARARI

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2025- Associate Professor of Real Estate, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
2016–2025 Assistant Professor in Real Estate, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
2015–2016 Lecturer in Real Estate, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
2022- Leonard J. Horwitz Faculty Scholar

AFFILIATIONS

2025- Research Affiliate, Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)
2019- Invited researcher, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
2019- Faculty Affiliate, Penn Development Research Initiative
2016 – Research Affiliate, International Growth Centre (IGC)

EDUCATION

2016 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, PhD, Economics
2009 Bocconi University, M.Sc. summa cum laude, Economics and Social Sciences
2007 Bocconi University, B.A. summa cum laude, Economics and Social Sciences
2006 New York University, Undergraduate exchange student

RELEVANT POSITIONS

2016 – Recurring visiting scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
2015 Visiting scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2011 Field research assistant to Esther Duflo, India
2009 Research assistant to Guido Tabellini, IGIER Bocconi
2008 Research assistant to Roberto Perotti, IGIER Bocconi

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS

Harari, Mariaflavia, and Eliana La Ferrara, “Conflict, Climate and Cells: a Disaggregated Analysis” (joint with Eliana La Ferrara), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100 (4), 594–608, 2018.

Harari, Mariaflavia, “Women’s Inheritance Rights and Bargaining Power: Evidence from Kenya”, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 68 (1), 189–238, 2019.

Harari, Mariaflavia, “Cities in Bad Shape: Urban Geometry in India”, *American Economic Review*, 110 (8), 2377–2421, 2020.

Harari, Mariaflavia, and Maisy Wong, “Slum Upgrading and Long-run Urban Development: Evidence from Indonesia”, Accepted for publication, *Review of Economic Studies*, 2024.

Harari, Mariaflavia, and Maisy Wong, “Colonial Legacy and Land Market Formality”, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 149, 2025.

WORKING PAPERS

Harari, Mariaflavia, “Residential Patterns and Local Public Goods in Urban Brazil”, 2024 (Revision requested, *American Economic Review*).

OTHER WRITING

Harari, Mariaflavia (co-editor), with Gabriel Ulyssea (Editor), Matteo Bobba, and Lucie Gadenne, “Informality”, *VoxDevLit*, 6(2), April 2025.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Harari, Mariaflavia and Guido Tabellini, “The Effect of Culture on the Functioning of Institutions: Evidence from European Regions”, in Harrison, L. and E. Yasin, eds., “Culture Matters II: Focus on Russia”, New York: Lexington Books, 2014.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Mapping Out Property Rights and Informality in Indonesia”, with Adil Ahsan and Maisy Wong.

“Racial Segregation and Inequality in Access across U.S. Neighborhoods”, with Bryan Stuart.

“Big Data and Poverty Targeting in Indonesia”, with Vivi Alatas, Elan Satriawan, and Maisy Wong.

TEACHING

2026 Managerial economics (Undergraduate, Wharton)

2025- Cities in Developing Countries (Applied Economics PhD, Wharton)

2022 – Girls Who Invest, invited lecturer

2016 - Real Estate Investment: Analysis and Financing (Undergraduate and MBA, Wharton)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Invited Presentations:

2026 (including planned): Hoyt Institute, Wake Forest.

2025: University of Wisconsin, Inter-American Development Bank, New York University, WASH Econ conference, Barcelona Summer Forum, 19th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association in Montréal, London School of Economics, 17th Annual Conference on Urban and Regional Economics (discussant), Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) Rio de Janeiro, 4th Annual LACEA/LAUrban Meeting.

2024: 13th European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, 7th Workshop on Urban Economics at IEB – Universitat de Barcelona, Urban Economics Workshop at NBER Summer Institute, Penn Development Research Initiative seminar, Online Spatial and Urban Seminar, 6th Handbook of Regional and Urban Economics Conference (discussant), University of Toronto, University of Warwick, University College London, UCLA, USC Price School, UC Irvine, Harvard Cities and Development Conference, Northeastern Universities Development Consortium, 16th Annual Conference on Urban and Regional Economics (CURE), University of Birmingham (on line), National Tax Association Conference, Princeton University, USC Economics Department, Boston University, NBER Development Fall Program Meeting.

2023: Université du Québec à Montréal, World Bank/George Washington University Sustainable Cities Workshop on Urban Inclusion and Development, Urban Economics Association 2023 Summer School (keynote speaker), Urban Economics Workshop at NBER Summer Institute (discussant).

2022: RWI - Leibniz-Institut Essen Workshop on Causal Inference with Spatial Data (keynote speaker), Hitotsubashi University (on line), Junior Spatial Economics Conference at Chicago Booth, George Washington University.

2021: University of Strathclyde, World Bank and George Washington University Workshop on Economic Effects and Policy Responses to Climate Change and Natural Disasters (discussant), Harvard Kennedy School Center for International Development seminar series, CREI Workshop on Geography, Trade and Growth.

2020: University of Syracuse, Online spatial and urban seminar, World Bank's Sustainable Development Practice Group Webinar series, Conference on Urban and Regional Economics (discussant).

2019: Inter-American Development Bank, UC Irvine, USC, 6th World Bank-GWU Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Conference (discussant).

2018: 13th Meeting of the Urban Economics Association in New York, BREAD/CEPR/STICERD/TCD Conference on Development Economics, UC Berkeley Haas, 5th World Bank-GWU Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Conference (discussant), Urban Economics Workshop at NBER Summer Institute (discussant), 2018 Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Dynamics, V Workshop on Urban Economics at IEB – Universitat de Barcelona, CIFAR Research Workshop - Smart Inclusive Cities in Banff, Alberta.

2017: University of Delaware, Urban Economics Workshop at NBER Summer Institute, Stanford University, Harvard Cities and Development Conference, Authors' Workshop for the Flagship Study on Cities Productivity and Growth in Latin America and the Caribbean at The World Bank.

2016: Bocconi University, Central European University, Penn State University, IV Workshop on Urban Economics at IEB – Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum, CRED-PODER Summer School in Namur (keynote lecture), CEMFI, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Stockholm University, Stockholm School of Economics, Festival dell'Economia in Trento, Marron Institute at New York University, Cities and Regional Development Workshop at University of Toronto.

2015: 5th UniCredit Gender Economics workshop at Bocconi University, 10th Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Urban Economics Workshop at NBER Summer Institute, IGC Cities Research Group Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Carey Business School at Johns Hopkins University, World Bank Research Division, University of Rochester, The Wharton School at University of Pennsylvania, Geography Department at the London School of Economics, University of Zurich, Economics Department at London School of Economics, School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

2014: Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference, Boston University.

2013: Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference at Harvard University, 28th Annual Congress of the European Economic Association at University of Gothenburg (invited speaker).

2012: Boston Working Group on African Political Economy at MIT.

Referee:

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Annals of Regional Science, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Environment and Planning, International Economic Review, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Nature: Cities, Oxford Economics Papers, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Real Estate Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, The Economic Journal, World Bank Economic Review.

Professional service

- 2024-2025 Urban Economics Association (UEA) Board at-large member
- 2022 UEA North American Meeting, Student Prize Committee
- 2018 Econometric Society European Meetings, program committee member
- 2018-2021 UEA North American Meeting, program committee member

Professional associations: American Economic Association (AEA), American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA), Urban Economics Association (UEA).

PhD Dissertation committees: Thiago Patto, INSPER São Paulo, Sunny Lee, Wharton Applied Economics PhD, Rafael Pucci, INSPER São Paulo, Angela Gunn, Wharton Applied Economics PhD.

Committees:

- 2025- Zell/Lurie pre-doctoral mentor and placement coordinator
- 2022- Wharton Real Estate Department Visitors' program co-organizer
- 2021-2022 Wharton Real Estate MBA advisor
- 2018-2021 Wharton Real Estate Workshop, organizer
- 2018-2021, 2022-2023, 2025- Wharton Curriculum Innovation Committee
- 2015-2021 Wharton Applied Economics Workshop, co-organizer
- 2015 – 2020, 2026 Wharton Applied Economics PhD admissions Committee
- 2015- Wharton Real Estate Department faculty recruiting committee

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2026 Hoyt Institute Postdoctoral Honoree
- 2016, 2024 Zell/Lurie Center, The Berger Scholar in Real Estate
- 2015 UniCredit & Universities Foundation, UWIN Best Paper Award on Gender Economics, 5th edition
- UniCredit & Universities Foundation, “Foscolo Europe” fellowship, 6th edition (declined)
- 2013 MIT Travel Grant (for Graduate Students)
- 2009 - 2011 “Albert Ando - Franco Modigliani” fellowship for graduate studies, MIT
- 2007 -2009 Bocconi Scholarship for Outstanding Students

GRANTS

2020 Tanoto ASEAN Initiative research grant, “Place-based poverty targeting in Indonesia”, with Maisy Wong.

2017 Wharton Global Initiatives, “Spatial Configuration of Cities and Real Estate Development in Indonesia”, with Maisy Wong.

2016 Wharton Global Initiatives, “Spatial Dimensions of Poverty and Inequality in Indian cities”.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Italian citizen, U.S. permanent resident.

Languages: English (fluent), Italian (native), German, Spanish, French (intermediate).