

CV of Stefano Bartolini

Presentation

My research concerns a wide variety of topics that revolve around a question: is it possible to reconcile economic prosperity with the sustainability of the environment, human relationships, leisure and happiness? In fact, economic growth has freed developed countries from mass poverty, allowing access to consumer goods, education, healthcare, etc. But has also produced pervasive negative effects such as increasing ecological crises and an impoverishment of social and interpersonal relationships, resulting in recent decades in mass solitude. Furthermore, most of us are time squeezed: we live in a rush among hasty individuals. Finally, available measures indicate that the impact of economic growth on people's happiness has been disappointing. Discomfort, malaise, unhappiness, mental illness, suicides, addictions have often grown in industrial societies. In recent years these issues have become very topical. Intense research has developed around them, involving all the social sciences, and attracting interest from the public. My activity on these issues has developed along three lines: research, dissemination, teaching.

My research on happiness has had international resonance. I have been invited as a keynote speaker to important international conferences, I have organized some of them, I have collaborated with institutions such as the OECD and the World Bank, participated in important international research panels and contributed to structuring and directing research groups on these issues in research institutions abroad. The large amount of research on these issues ended up providing evidence-based policies indicating a positive answer to my central question on the possibility to reconcile economic prosperity with the various dimensions of sustainability.

It is the great importance of these issues that motivates my dissemination activity, based on two books accessible to a wide audience. The first is the Manifesto for Happiness, a long-seller translated into 5 languages (forthcoming in English, published by Palgrave-McMillan) that has drawn attention from Italian and foreign media. The second, Ecology of Happiness, has been published in 2021 in Italian and it is being translated to English and Japanese. As for teaching, the University of Siena created a course of Happiness Economics (master's degrees, 40 hours) and a 10-hour course on Happiness Economics within the PhD in Economics of the Tuscan universities. I regularly held both.

Personal Data

Born: 1959-8-19

Citizenship: Italian.

National Scientific Habilitation

Full professor: 13/A1 (Economia Politica, (2018-2027) and 13/A2 (Politica Economica, 2013-2027)

Current position

Associate Professor of Economics

Department of Economics and Statistics

University of Siena (since 2007)

Former positions

Researcher (since 1999)

Department of Economics and Statistics

University of Siena

Researcher (since 1994)

Department of Economics

University of Trento

Research interests

Well-being

Environmental resources

Social capital

Labor

Growth

Health

Development

Education

1993 Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Siena

Thesis: Growth, Externalities, Property Rights

1988 Graduate, *magna cum laude*, University of Florence

Scholarships

- 1996** Scholarship in the “Human Capital and Mobility” EU Commission program for a report on “How to cope with water pollution: the case of Third Italy”
- 1994** Scholarship in the “Human Capital and Mobility” EU Commission program
Host Institution LATAPSES, Sophia-Antipolis (Valbonne), France
- 1993** Post-doctoral scholarship University of Florence

Consulting, collaborations, visiting and affiliations

- 2020-2021** Affiliation to the School of Social Sciences, Waseda University (Tokyo)
- 2019** Visiting professor at Waseda University, Tokio, November, December and January
- 2015** Visiting professor at the Tinbergen Institute, Erasmus University Rotterdam, November
- 2010-11** Visiting Professor at CEPS/INSTEAD (Luxembourg)
- 2011-2024** Affiliation to Isqols (International Society for Quality of Life Studies)
- 2008-9** Collaboration with the OECD for the Global Project
- 1999** Short term consultant for the World Bank

Recent invitations to international panels and conferences (as keynote speaker)

- 2021** Keynote speech at the online conference: Measuring Progress, STATEC, Luxembourg, June
- 2021** Keynote speech at the online conference: Policies for Better Lives, Canada, June 14
- 2020** Keynote speech at the conference: Well-being: Knowledge for Informed Decisions, STATEC, Luxembourg, March 18-21
- 2019** Keynote speech at the conference: Construction of a Convivial Society Beyond the Global Divide, Waseda University, Tokio, November 21
- 2019** Keynote speech at the ISQOLS annual Conference: Happiness in a Multicultural World, Granada, September 4-7
- 2018** University of Southern California Happiness Conference (in honor of the retirement of Richard Easterlin, Los Angeles, April 6
- 2018** Organizer and key-note speaker at the International Conference on Policies for Happiness and Health, University of Siena, March 19-21
- 2016-18** Member of the World Wellbeing Panel, formed by scientists selected by the Center for Economic Performance (LSE) to define policies aimed at increasing well-being
- 2015-16-17** “Lead author” for the IPSP (International Panel on Social Progress). The panel issued a report on social progress (on the model of the IPCC, International Panel on Climate Change)

Teaching experience (over the past 15 years)

2010-present “Happiness and Sustainability” (10 hours), PhD program in Economics, University of Siena

2011-present “Political Economy” (60 hours), undergraduate, University of Siena

2014-present “Economics of Happiness”(44 hours), master degree, University of Siena

2010-2013 “Social Economics”, (40 hours), undergraduate, University of Siena

I regularly held various undergraduate, master and PhD courses since the academic year 2000-2001.

Supervision of PhD students

2022-present Supervision of Alessandro Toso, PhD Candidate, PhD program in Economics, University of Siena

2018-2021 Supervision of Giulia Slater, PhD Candidate, PhD program in Economics, University of Siena

2013-2016 Supervision of Marcin Piekalkiewicz, PhD’s thesis, PhD program in Economics, University of Siena

2011-2013 Supervision of Simona Cannistraci, PhD’s thesis, PhD program in Economics, University of Genoa

2006-2009 Supervision of Francesco Sarracino, PhD’s thesis, PhD program in Development Economics, University of Florence

Peer-reviewed journals

“The moderation effect of social capital in the relationship between own income, social comparisons and subjective well-being: Evidence from four international datasets” (with M. Piekalkiewicz, F. Sarracino and G. Slater), *Plos one*, 18(12), e0288455, 2023

“Investigating environment-society-economy relations in time series in Europe using a synthetic input-state-output framework” (con Sporchia, F., Paneni, A., Pulselli, F. M., Caro, D., e Coscieme, L.), *Environmental Science & Policy*, 125, pp. 54-65, 2021

“Do People Care About Future Generations? Derived Preferences from Happiness Data” (with F. Sarracino), *Ecological Economics*, 143, pp. 253–275, 2018

“Money, Trust and Happiness in Transition Countries: Evidence from Time Series” (with M. Mikucka and F. Sarracino), *Social Indicators Research*, 130, pp. 87–106, 2017

“Twenty-five years of materialism: do the US and Europe diverge?” (with F. Sarracino), *Social Indicators Research*, 133(2), 787-817, 2017

“The dark side of Chinese growth: declining social capital and well-being in times of economic boom” (with F. Sarracino), *World Development*, 74: 333–351, 2015

“Building sustainability through greater happiness”, *The Economic and Labor Relations Review*, Symposium on Development, Equity and the Environment, 25, pp. 587-602, 2014

“Happy for How Long? How Social Capital and GDP relate to Happiness over Time”, (with F. Sarracino), *Ecological Economics*, 108, pp. 242–256, 2014.

“The great recession and the bulimia of U.S. consumers: deep causes and possible ways out” (with L. Bonatti and F. Sarracino), *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 38, pp. 1015–1042, 2014

“Predicting the trend of well-being in Germany: How much do comparisons, adaptation and sociability matter?” (with E. Bilancini and F. Sarracino), *Social Indicators Research* pp. 169-191, 114 (3), 2013

“Did the Decline in Social Connections Depress Americans’ Happiness?”, (with E. Bilancini and M. Pugno), *Social Indicators Research*, 110, (3) pp. 1033-1059, 2013

“If not only GDP, what else? Using relational goods to predict the trends of subjective well- being”, (with E. Bilancini), *International Review of Economics*, 57 (2), pp. 199–213, 2010

“Endogenous growth, decline in social capital and expansion of market activities”, (with L. Bonatti), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 67 (3), p.917-926, 2008

“The role of social capital in enhancing factor productivity: does its erosion depress per-capita GDP?” (with L. Bonatti), *Journal of Socio-Economics*, 37 (4), p.1539-1553, 2008

“The mobilization of human resources as an effect of the depletion of environmental and social assets”, (with L. Bonatti), *Metroeconomica*, 57, pp.193-213, 2006

“Negative externalities, defensive expenditures and labor supply in an evolutionary context” (with A. Antoci), *Environment and Development Economics*, 9, pp. 591-612, 2004

“Endogenous growth and negative externalities”, (with L. Bonatti), *Journal of Economics*, 79, pp. 123-144, 2003

“Undesirable growth in a model with capital accumulation and environmental assets”, (with L. Bonatti), *Environment and Development Economics*, 8, pp. 11-30, 2003

“Environmental and social degradation as the engine of economic growth”, (with L. Bonatti), *Ecological Economics*, 41, pp. 1-16, 2002

Under review

“Effects of Teaching Practices on Life Satisfaction and Test Scores: Evidence from the Program for International Student Assessment (Pisa)”, (with Kelsey O’Connor), revised version under review at *Kyklos*

Books

“Ecologia della Felicità”, Aboca Edizioni, 2021

“Manifesto for Happiness. Shifting society from money to well-being”, forthcoming in 2024, Palgrave-McMillan.

The book was published in Italy in 2013 (publisher Feltrinelli), in France in 2013 (publisher Les Liens qui Libèrent), in Albania in 2014 (publisher Botine Perpjekja) and in Japan in 2018 (publisher Commons Publishing Inc.). A part of the book was published in Spanish in the volume *Políticas Y Bienestar Sujetivo* (D. Gómez-Álvarez e V. Ortiz Ortega (eds.) 2016).

Article contributions to books

“Happier and Sustainable. Possibilities for a post-growth society”, forthcoming in Zimmermann K. F. (ed.), *Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics*, Springer

“Unhappiness as an Engine of Economic Growth”, in Rojas, M. (ed.). *The Economics of Happiness*. Springer, pp. 271- 301, 2019

“Introduction”, (with E. Bilancini, L. Bruni and P. L. Porta), in S. Bartolini, E. Bilancini, L. Bruni and P. Porta (editors.), “Policies for Happiness”, Oxford Univ. Press, pp. 1-17, 2016

“Social Capital Predicts Happiness Over Time: World-Wide Evidence from Time Series”, (with E. Bilancini and F. Sarracino), in S. Bartolini, E. Bilancini, L. Bruni and P. Porta (editors.), “Policies for Happiness”, Oxford Univ. Press, pp. 175-198, 2016

“Buying alone: how the decreasing American happiness turned into the current economic crisis”, in Timo J. Hämäläinen and Juliet Michaelson (eds.), *Well-Being and Beyond: Broadening the Public and Policy Discourse*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, pp. 144-181, 2014

“Are stressful jobs the price to pay for economic prosperity”, (with F. Sarracino) in F. Sarracino, (ed.), *The happiness compass: theories, actions and perspectives for well-being*, chapter 9, Nova Science Publishers, 2013

“Che tipo di animale siamo?” in E. Basile, G. Lunghini e F. Volpi (eds.), *Pensare il Capitalismo*, Franco Angeli, Milan, pp. 51-60, 2013

“Social Assets, Technical Progress and Long-Run Welfare”, (with L. Bonatti), in L. Sacconi and G. Degli Antoni (eds.), “Social Capital, Corporate Social Responsibility, Economic Behavior and Performance”, Palgrave Mc Millan, pp. 305-328, 2010

“Why are People so Unhappy? Why do They Strive so Hard for Money? Competing Explanations of the Broken Promises of Economic Growth”, in L. Bruni and Porta P. L. (eds.), “Handbook of Happiness Economics”, Elgar, Cheltenham, 2007

“Beyond Accumulation and Technical Progress: Negative Externalities as an Engine of Economic Growth”, in Basili M., Franzini M., Vercelli S. (eds.), “Environment, Inequality and Collective Action”, Routledge, London and New York, 2006

Edited Books

“Policies for Happiness” (E. Bilancini, L. Bruni and P. Porta, co-editors.), Oxford Univ. Press, 2016

Encyclopedias

Authored the entry “Relational Goods”. In: Michalos AC (Ed.). Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research. Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 5428- 5429, 2014

Unpublished working papers

“Social capital as disease prevention”, Quaderni del Dipartimento di Economia Politica e Statistica, University of Siena, n. 778, 2018

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