

About University:

The University of Bari Aldo Moro, one of the 58 State universities in Italy, was founded in 1925 and is attended today by about 60,000 students, across the Bari, Brindisi, and Taranto campuses. The University offers various courses for undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students. Aside from teaching, the University is also focused on scientific research at the doctorate level. The University reaches its institutional goals in teaching and research through the Departments. The Department of Economics and Finance is part of the University of Bari Aldo Moro and it is specialized in the following research areas: economic theory, applied economics, development economics, econometrics, economic history, and economic statistics. The Department is devoted to promote high-quality research, seminars and conference activities, with the aim of contributing to the national and international policy debate. The Department offers Undergraduate, Master of Science and Master level programs in the fields of Economics and Finance.

Short biography:

Francesco Prota (Ph.D. in Agricultural and Environmental Economics, University of Naples 'Parthenope'; M.Phil. in Environmental and Sustainable Development, University of Glasgow) is Lecturer in Economics at the University of Bari "Aldo Moro" (Italy) and member of the teaching board of the Doctoral School in Economics, Management and Quantitative Methods at the University of Salento. He has extensive experience teaching both at undergraduate level (Macroeconomics and Development Economics) and at postgraduate level (Development Economics). His research interests include development economics; public policy evaluation;



innovation economics; regional economics and international economic integration. He is author of several articles in economics journals, including *World Development*, *Regional Studies*, *Papers in Regional Science*, *Journal of International Development*, *Development Policy Review*, *Economics Letters*, *European Planning Studies*, *Economia Politica*. Journal of Analytical and Institutional Economics. Besides serving as referee for international journals, he is Associate Editor for *Regional Studies*, *Regional Science* and for *L'Industria*. *Review of Industrial Economics and Policy*.

Since 2011, he has been acting as consultant to UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) on several research projects (mainly on cluster development and FDI in Africa). He has also a long track record of collaboration with different Italian government departments and agencies (Public Investment Evaluation Unit of the Department for Development Policies and Economic Cohesion; Department for the Planning and Coordination of Economic Policy - Presidency of the Council of Ministers; Formez; Sviluppo Italia; Unit for the Evaluation of Public Investments of the Apulia Region).