

Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Doctoral School of Economics I

Lecture: Cohesion policy in the EU. Building the digital backbone of Europe

March 4th, 2025 (starting at 9:00AM) ROOM: Paul Bran, Angelescu Building, 2nd floor

Guest speaker: Dr Nicola Matteucci

Professor of Applied Economics Marche Polytechnic University (Ancona, Italy)

BioData: Prof. Nicola Matteucci, PhD

Prof. Nicola Matteucci is Professor of Applied Economics at Marche Polytechnic University, (Ancona, Italy). He spent teaching and research periods at international institutions, and worked on ICT diffusion, digital regulation, gambling and health care policy. He coordinates Microeconomics at the UNIVPM doctorate, and serves in various journal boards. He is now working on conflicts of interest, lobbying, scientific misconduct and policy capture.

About the lecture:

The EU institutions, in collaboration with its member states, have been actively supporting and funding the development of digital infrastructure and services. Their stated goal was to establish a robust digital backbone for Europe and address the gaps in the EU digital market. Most digital policies have been financed through European Structural and Investment Funds, navigating complex compatibility trade-offs due to varying norms and economic incentives. These include cohesion policy, competition law, digital regulation, and other national norms such as constitutional law and privacy regulations. This review examines the prevailing insights from these initiatives, focusing on institutional performance and policy shortcomings, and identifies future challenges.