



Seminari di Economia

Giovedì 11 maggio 2023

Ore 12:00 – Aula Anfiteatro

Facoltà di Scienze Economiche Giuridiche e Politiche - Via Sant'Ignazio 17

Daria Denti

Gran Sasso Science Institute

Equal justice under law? Local justice quality and crimes

con Marco Di Cataldo

Abstract. Efficient criminal justice systems are widely speculated to improve socioeconomic growth by deterring crimes and fostering trust. However, the evidence supporting this perspective is both scarce and mixed. This paper estimates the effect of the structural reform of the Italian criminal justice system which occurred in 2012 on crime incidence. Through a difference-in-difference estimation, the paper finds that the reform improved efficiency of criminal courts and this, in turn, had a deterrence effect on several types of crimes. In particular, evidence suggests that property crimes decreased as a consequence of the reform, while felonies pertaining to organized and violent crimes were not affected.