

CURRICULUM VITAE

Riefolo Melania

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. Student** in Neuroscience and Education, Action IV Innovation at the *University of Foggia, Department of Humanistic Studies. Letters, Cultural Heritage, Educational Sciences.*
- **Master's degree in business administration**, *University of Foggia, Economic Department, Italy, with a final score of 110 cum Laude (18/07/2024)*
- **Bachelor's degree in business administration**, *University of Foggia, Economics Department, Italy, with a final score of 110 cum Laude (14/07/2017)*

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- **Member of the Family Firms Research Center (IFM, Institut für Mittelstandsforschung) of the Business School of Mannheim University.** Since August 2023, I have been a member of the Family Firms Research Center, where I implement big data and artificial intelligence to explore family firms, sustainability, organizational behavior, and culture diversity.
- **Track chair** for the **#18 INTERNATIONAL, INTERCULTURAL, AND MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP track of the IECER Conference**, Innsbruck, Austria, from 18 to 20 September 2024.
- **Track chair** for the **#18 INTERNATIONAL, INTERCULTURAL, AND MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP track of the IECER Conference**, Iceland, from 12 to 14 September 2025.
- **Lecturer for bachelor's course** at the Business School of Mannheim "MAN 458: Crowdfunding for Ecological Entrepreneurship" (<https://www.mcei.de/teaching/undergraduate/man-458>).
- **Visiting Research period of six months at the Business School of Mannheim** under the supervision of PD Dr. habil. Jan-Philipp Ahrens, where I implemented big data and artificial intelligence to explore family firms, sustainability, organizational behavior, and culture diversity.
- **Research period of three months at the Office of Territorial Studies and Statistics of IFEL** (Istituto per la Finanza e l'Economia Locale) from March to June 2024, during which I updated municipal databases on some demographic, economic, productive and institutional variables through the systematization of institutional source databases. I also managed documentary research, bibliographic analysis, drafting of reports/papers regarding municipalities.
- **Research period of three months at the Chair of Economics and Business Management of the University of Economics** in Krakow for drafting a scientific article about entrepreneurial universities.

AWARDS

- Most Innovative Paper Award, European Academy of Management (EURAM), June 2024.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

- Industrial Economics and Industrial Policy SIEPI Summer School, Centro Residenziale Universitario di Bertinoro (CEUB), Bertinoro, Italy. 9-12 September 2024.
- 5th AISRe Summer School. Policy Evaluation in Regional Science. Department of Political Sciences, Roma Tre University. May 2024.
- Economy-wide models for policy impact evaluation, 4th Giovanni Anania Summer School, University of Cosenza, Cosenza, Italy. July 2023.
- Resilience of Territories and Firms: Theories, Measures and Applications, Italian Association of Regional Sciences (AISRE), University of Palermo, Palermo, Italy. June 2023.
- The opportunities of the Recovery Plan and Community and National funds for territorial cohesion, University of Foggia, Foggia, Italy. April-November 2022.
- Assessment of the impact of public policies, concepts, methods, applications, Centro di Ricerche Economico e Sociali Manlio Rossi-Doria, University of Roma Tre, Rome, Italy. September 2022.
- Program Evaluation Method in Econometrics, Italian Econometric Association (SIdE), Bertinoro, Italy. July 2022.

CONFERENCES

- Certificate of attendance at the *INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMICS - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES* (ICECO), Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Predeal, Romania. 10-12 October 2024.
- Certificate of attendance at the *XLV Conferenza scientifica annuale—Città e regioni nell'era digitale. La sfida della transizione verso l'economia circolare—AISRE* (Associazione Italiana di Scienze Regionali), Università di Torino, Torino, Italy. 4-6 September 2024.
- Certificate of attendance at the *40th EGOS Colloquium—Crossroads for Organisations: Time, Space, and People*. University of Milano Bicocca, Milano, Italy. 4-6 July 2024.

- Certificate of attendance at the *XXII Workshop Annuale SIEPI* (Società Italiana di Economia e Politica Industriale), Università degli studi di Bergamo, Bergamo, Italy. 13-14 June 2024.
- Certificate of attendance at the *2024 SPGC Global Family Business Summit*, Vietri Sul Mare, Italy. 15-17 May 2024.
- Certificate of Attendance at *Paper Development Workshop*—Academy of Management (AMJ), Darmstadt, Germany. 30th January 2024.
- Certificate of attendance at the *2nd Workshop on Organization Studies & Family Firms* (OSF), EBS Universität für Wirtschaft und Recht, Germany. 6-8 December 2023.
- Certificate of attendance at the *Interdisciplinary European Conference on Entrepreneurship Research* (IECER), Covilha, Portugal. 25-27 October 2023.
- Certificate of attendance at the *XLIV Annual Scientific Conference AISRE*, Associazione Italiana di Scienze Regionali, Università di Napoli, Napoli, Italy. 6-8 September 2023.
- Certificate of attendance at the *Workshop Annuale SIEPI*, Società Italiana di Economia e Politica Industriale, Napoli, Italy. 15-16 June 2023.
- Certificate of attendance at the *61th CONGRESS European Regional Science Association (ERSA—Disparities in a Digitalising (Post-Covid) world – Networks, Entrepreneurship and Regional Development*”, Pécs, Hungary. August 2022.

PUBLICATIONS

- Riefolo, M., Özkara, S., J.-P. Ahrens, & Niloufar, N. (2024, August 6). Should former leaders stay involved in the family firm? *FamilyBusiness.org*. Retrieved from <https://familybusiness.org/content/should-former-leaders-stay-involved-in-the-family-firm>
- Riefolo, M., Özkara, S., Istipliler, B., & J.P. Ahrens, 2024. Renewing the empire: a family firm's succession and refit journey. *FamilyBusiness.org*. Retrieved from <https://familybusiness.org/content/renewing-the-empire-a-family-firms-succession-and-refit-journey>
- De Pascale, G., Faccilongo, N., Riefolo, M., Romagno, A., Silvestri, R. 2023. Digital Innovation and Sustainable Development: Two Sides of the Same Coin. *Innovation - Research and Development for Human, Economic and Institutional Growth*. IntechOpen.
- Ahrens, J.P., Riefolo, M., Hauer, A., & Siegert, K. (2024, January 25). Better let your brother do it: men are still preferred in ceo successions. *FamilyBusiness.org*. Retrieved from <https://familybusiness.org/content/better-let-your-brother-do-itmen-are-still-preferred-in-ceo-suc>
- Magliocca, P. & Riefolo, M. 2021. Case 12: The digitalization for an Italian “Special Steel”. *HOW TO DO BUSINESS IN DIGITAL ERA? CASEBOOK*, Department of Public Management.
- Magliocca, P. & Riefolo, M., 2021. Digital firm’s activities. A textbook. *Mal opolska School of Public Administration, Cracow University of Economics*, pp.116-133.
- Cavaliere, L.P., Blescia, L., Riefolo, M., Faccia, A., Manieri, G., 2021. Leading strategies for independent accounting and audit professionals in the new normal. *International Journal of Engineering Science & Management* 11 (1), pp 1-21.
- Cavaliere, L.P.L., Ribaj, V.C., Riefolo, M., Blescia, L., 2022. A Review on Digital Marketing Management During the Pandemic Period. *International Journal of Social Science, Innovation and educational Technologies* 11(3), pp.130-138

WORKING PAPERS

- Riefolo, M.; Grosskopf, S.; Ahrens, J.P.; Collective intelligence theory: Using artificial intelligence to understand the sustainability of family & non-family firms. *Working paper*.
- Grosskopf, S.; Park K.; Riefolo, M.; Ahrens, J.P.; CHERRY ON TOP: THE IMPACT OF MULTICULTURAL INDIVIDUALS ON THE SUSTAINABILITY AWARENESS OF INTERNATIONAL TOP MANAGEMENT TEAMS. *Working paper*.
- Orsitto, L.; Riefolo, M.; Taormina, V.; Lombardi, M; Faccilongo, N. Critical Success Factors of Renewable Energy Communities in Europe: A Systematic Literature Review. *Working Paper*.
- Riefolo, M.; Scrocco, A.; Russo, S.; Faccilongo, N. Unveiling the Efficiency of Italian Municipalities for the period 2016-2019. *Working paper*.
- Beck, F.; Park K.; Merco, J.; Meurer, T.; Bubeck, S.; Riefolo, M.; Baumgardt, J.; Suwala, L.; Ahrens, J.P.; Brazilian large family firms & non-family: Bridging Regional Environment and Top Management Team Gender Diversity. *Working paper*.
- Riefolo, M.; Park, K.; Faccilongo, N. Are local authorities facilitating social innovation? A pilot project in the Apulia marginalised areas. *Working paper*.
- Reif, T.; Hosznofsky, V.; Junge, S.; Riefolo, M.; Ahrens, J.P. Navigating Succession: Unveiling Predecessor Preferences for Successor Attributes in Family Firms. *Working paper*.

WORK EXPERIENCES

- **Junior Staff Accountant at KPMG S.p.A.**, Milano, Italy. October 2019-2021.
 - Survey, analysis and testing of processes and respective controls implemented within companies.

- Identification and analysis of the company's risk areas and the financial statement items connected to them.
 - Implementation of audit procedures on financial statements of companies.
 - Analysis of compliance with the reference regulations of the financial state-ments of companies.
 - Understanding and analysis of the reference market sector of the companies.
 - Control of tax returns from companies.
 - Out-of-the-box experience in Risk Management on the Sales process, in particular, Consumer Claim & Product Operation and Product Exchange, with respective process detection activities and testing activities of the procedures implemented by the company.
- **Trainee for Official Accountant and Auditor Certificate at Studio Fiscale Tributario Pansini,** Barletta, Italy. October 2019-2023.
 - Maintaining regular accounting for companies.
 - Drafting of financial statements for companies.
 - Audit control of financial statements for companies.
 - Drafting of appraisal reports for companies.
 - Preparation and issuing of invoices.
 - Drafting of business plans for companies to be incorporated.
 - Drafting and checking of company books for companies.