

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Alessandra Colombelli

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Sex Female | Nationality Italian

Alessandra Colombelli (PhD) is a Full Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at Politecnico di Torino (Italy), where she also leads the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre (EIC). She is a Research Associate at CNRS-GREDEG, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis (France), and BRICK, Collegio Carlo Alberto (Italy). In addition, she serves as a Technical Assessor at the I3P incubator and as a member of the Scientific Council of the ESSCA Business School.

She is actively engaged in institutional roles promoting diversity and inclusion. She is President of the Equal Opportunity Committee (CUG), Scientific Coordinator of the Gender Research Coordination Group (GReG), and a member of the Gender Observatory Working Group at Politecnico di Torino.

She has served as an elected member of the Board of the Italian Association of Management Engineering (AiG) and held editorial roles in leading international journals, including Associate Editor of Regional Studies, The Journal of Technology Transfer, and Eurasian Business Review; Editorial Review Board member for Small Business Economics; and Editorial Board member for Climate and Economics.

Previously, she was a Marie Curie Fellow at Manchester Business School, and a research fellow at both University Lumière Lyon 2 and the University of Nice Côte d'Azur. She has contributed to numerous national and international research projects funded by institutions such as the European Commission, the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, Invitalia, the Bank of Italy, and CNRS (France).

Her research spans entrepreneurship, the economics of innovation, and regional economics, with publications in top-tier journals including Research Policy, Economic Geography, Regional Studies, Small Business Economics, Industry and Innovation, Industrial and Corporate Change, and Economics of Innovation and New Technology. She has also served as guest editor for several special issues in these fields.

WORK EXPERIENCE

October 2022 - Present

Full Professor

Department of Management and Production Engineering (DIGEP)

Politecnico di Torino, Italy

2024 - Present

President of the Equal Opportunity Committee

Politecnico di Torino

2022 - Present

Coordinator of the Gender Research coordination Group (GReG)

Politecnico di Torino

2019 - Present

Head of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre – EIC

Politecnico di Torino, Italy

2025 - Present

Member of the Scientific Council

ESSCA Business School, France

May 2008 - Present

Research Associate

BRICK, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino, Italy

January 2011 – Present

External affiliate

GREDEG-CNRS and University Cote d'Azur, France

December 2016 – September
2022

Associate Professor

Department of Management and Production Engineering (DIGEP)
Politecnico di Torino, Italy

August 2011 - November 2016

Assistant Professor

Department of Management and Production Engineering (DIGEP)
Politecnico di Torino, Italy

June 2011 – July 2011

Post-doc Fellow

Department of Economics "S. Cagnetti de Martini"
University of Turin, Italy

June 2009 – May 2011

Research Fellow

Facoltà di Scienze Politiche and CRENoS
University of Cagliari, Italy

December 2009 – August 2010

Post-Doc Fellow

Laboratoire d'Économie de la Firme et des Institutions (LEFI)
University Lumière Lyon2, France

May 2008 – May 2009

Post-Doc Fellow

Department of Economics "S. Cagnetti de Martini"
University of Turin, Italy

September 2006 – March 2007

Marie Curie Fellow

Manchester Business School
The University of Manchester, UK

May 2004 – October 2004

Research Fellow

Department of Management and Information Technology
University of Bergamo, Italy

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2008

PhD in Economics and Management of Technology

University of Bergamo and Polytechnic of Torino, Italy

2006-2007

Visiting scholar

Manchester Business School
The University of Manchester, UK

2003 Master of Science in Management Engineering

University of Bergamo, Italy

1999 ERASMUS visiting student

University of Sheffield, UK

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Responsibilities and participation to research projects (selected)

September 2025 – August 2028 Local Unit Coordinator – ChallengED - Empowering Innovation, Environmental Action, and Civic Engagement through Challenge-Based Entrepreneurship Education, Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships

September 2025 – August 2028 Local Unit Coordinator – EVOLVE - Evolution of Electric Vehicles with V2I, Energy Management, and Smart Mobility, Regionally funded research

March 2025 – February 2027 Principal Investigator – ProDI - Promoting Equality: Diversity and Inclusion Strategies for a New Model of Work, financed by INAIL.

June 2025 – December 2025 Principal Investigator – BdG - Widespread Gender Budgeting and an Observatory for Gender Equality Policies, financed by Bank of Italy

October 2024 – June 2026 Principal Investigator – Industry 4.0: the effects of the digital transition on SMEs and on the evolution of lifelong learning policies. The role of Competence Centers and European Digital Innovation Hubs, INAPP

July 2024 – present Principal Investigator – CIRCLE-UP - Circular Innovative Start-ups: Data, Indicators and evidence-based Policies, PNRR – Missione 4

September 2023 – present Principal Investigator – IEES - Institutions, Education and Entrepreneurship Studies: a Novel Perspective on University Impact (IEES), (2023-2025) - Ricerca Nazionale – PRIN, MINISTERO DELL'UNIVERSITA' E DELLA RICERCA.

January 2023 – present co- Local Unit Coordinator “Circular competences to Foster manufacturing innovation in Training company” (INFINITY), *EIT Manufacturing, awarded by the European Union*.

January 2023 – present Local Unit Coordinator “A University Partnership for Acceleration of European Universities” (AupaEU), *Widening Participation and spreading excellence (WIDERA), European Commission*.

March 2023 – December 2023 Contract Expert - Impact evaluation “Servizio di consulenza per la Valutazione dell'intervento “Riserva PON IC del Fondo di Garanzia per le PMI”, *Invitalia, Italian Ministry of Economic Development*.

January 2023 – present Contract Expert - Impact evaluation “Servizio di Valutazione unitaria in itinere dei Programmi co-finanziati con fondi dell'Unione Europea nel periodo di programmazione 2014/2020 relativo al Programma Operativo Regionale – FEASR – 2014/2020 del Friuli Venezia Giulia”.

January 2023 – December 2023 co- Local Unit Coordinator “Empowering women in manufacturing through leadership development” (STRADA), *EIT Manufacturing, awarded by the European Union*.

October 2022 – December 2022 Contract Expert - Impact evaluation “Attività di progettazione e Realizzazione di una survey a livello nazionale per identificare e analizzare i principali fattori che inibiscono la crescita delle start-up e il passaggio alla fase di scale-up”, *Invitalia, Italian Ministry of Economic Development*.

December 2021 – January 2022 “Indagine sul livello di innovazione delle imprese delle Valli di Susa e Pinerolese”, *Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e della Piccola e Media Impresa (CNA), Associazione della Città Metropolitana di Torino*.

October 2021 – September 2022 Member “The making of female star innovators: a patent-based analysis of peer effects”, *Fondation Partenariale Paris-Dauphine*.

October 2020 – January 2023 Senior Expert - Impact evaluation “Evaluation of the Italian policy instrument Smart&Start for the support of innovative startups/Esercizio di valutazione sul sostegno alla nascita di nuove imprese innovative tramite lo strumento Smart & Start Italia”, *Invitalia, Italian Ministry*

of Economic Development.

Publications (selected)

Papers in refereed journals

Battaglia, D., Colombelli, A., Panelli, A., Paolucci, E., Raguseo, E., (2026), Entrepreneurs-as-Scientists and entrepreneurial team formation strategies: A randomized control trial experiment, Research Policy, forthcoming.

Colombelli, A., D'Amico, E., Panelli, A., & Paolucci, E. (2026). Creators or adopters: Entrepreneurial team experience and AI startup emergence. Journal of Small Business Management, 1-32.

Zeng, X., Xu, L., Liu, R., Hopp, C., & Colombelli, A. (2026). Industry Associations and Small-Firm Innovation: The Strategy Tripod Perspective in Emerging Economies. IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management, 73, 232-246.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., & Ravetti, C. (2025). Women in innovative start-ups and regional inclusiveness: 'green' and socially-responsible companies. Regional Studies, 59(1), 2340999.

Cicerelli, F., Colombelli, A., Niesten, E., & Ravetti, C. (2025). The role of alliance portfolio diversity for corporate decarbonization, circular economy and eco-innovation. The Journal of Technology Transfer, 1-50.

Civera, A., Temporin, G., Meoli, A., Caviggioli, F., & Colombelli, A. (2025). Women's Academic Entrepreneurship: Understanding Gender Disparities. Foundations and Trends in Entrepreneurship, 21(6), 591-737.

Colombelli, A., & Tubiana, M. (2025). Social capital, the knowledge filter and innovative start-ups: the Italian evidence. Economics of Innovation and New Technology, 1-25.

Battaglia, D., Colombelli, A., Panelli, A., Paolucci, E., & Raguseo, E. (2025). Assessing the importance of managerial and entrepreneurial experience in entrepreneurial training programs. Journal of Small Business Management, 63(5), 2357-2385.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., Le Masle, B., Ravetti, C., & Tubiana, M. (2025). Knowledge spillovers, green entrepreneurship and the demand for sustainability: evidence from Italian innovative startups. The Journal of Technology Transfer, 1-26.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., & Meliciani, V. (2025). Explaining Spatial Diversity in Entrepreneurship. The Oxford Handbook of Spatial Diversity and Business Economics, 249.

Antonelli, C., Colombelli, A. (2025). The creative response: the Schumpeterian legacy. Eurasian Business Review, 1-17.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., Meliciani, V. (2025). Knowledge and cultural diversity in entrepreneurship: untangling the relationship. Eurasian Business Review, 15(1), 175-204.

Biconne, V., Colombelli, A., & Marullo, C. (2024). Open innovation in tourism micro-firms: evidence from the Italian Alps. Current Issues in Tourism, 27(22), 3802-3819.

Colombelli, A., Paolucci, E., Raguseo, E. et al. (2024), The creation of digital innovative start-ups: the role of digital knowledge spillovers and digital skill endowment, Small Business Economics. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-023-00789-9>

Colombelli, A., D'Amico, E., & Paolucci, E. (2023). When computer science is not enough: universities knowledge specializations behind artificial intelligence startups in Italy. The Journal of Technology Transfer, 1-29.

Cavallo, A., Colombelli, A., D'Amico, E., & Paolucci, E. (2023). "Balanced" or "polarized" entrepreneurial ecosystem types? Evidence from Italy. The Journal of Technology Transfer, 1-30.

Caviggioli, F., Colombelli, A., De Marco, A., Scellato, G., & Ughetto, E. (2023). The impact of university patenting on the technological specialization of European regions: a technology-level

analysis. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 188, 122216, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2022.122216>

Caviggioli F., Colombelli A., De Marco A., Scellato G., Ughetto E. (2023), Co-evolution patterns of university patenting and technological specialization in European regions, *Journal of Technology Transfer*, 48(1), 216-239, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10961-021-09910-0>

Caviggioli, F., Colombelli, A., Ravetti, C. (2022). Gender differences among innovators: a patent analysis of stars, *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10438599.2022.2065634>

Colombelli, A., Panelli, A., Serraino, F. (2022). A Learning-by-Doing Approach to Entrepreneurship Education: Evidence from a Short Intensive Online International Program. *Administrative Sciences*, 2022, 12(1), 16 <https://doi.org/10.3390/admsci12010016>

Colombelli, A., Loccisano, S., Panelli, A., Pennisi, O.A.M., Serraino, F. (2022) Entrepreneurship Education: The Effects of Challenge-Based Learning on the Entrepreneurial Mindset of University Students. *Administrative Sciences*, 12(1), 10 <https://doi.org/10.3390/admsci12010010>

Colombelli, A., De Marco, A., Paolucci, E., Ricci, R., & Scellato, G. (2021). University technology transfer and the evolution of regional specialization: the case of Turin. *The Journal of Technology Transfer*, 46(4), 933-960, <https://doi-org.ezproxy.biblio.polito.it/10.1007/s10961-020-09801-w>.

Colombelli A., Grinza E., Meliciani V. & Rossi M.C. (2021) Pulling Effects in Immigrant Entrepreneurship: Does Gender Matter?, *Economic Geography*, 97:1, 1-33

Colombelli, A., Orsatti, G. and Quatraro, F. (2021), Local knowledge composition and the emergence of entrepreneurial activities across industries: Evidence from Italian NUTS-3 regions, *Small Business Economics*, 56, 613–635. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-019-00192-3>.

Colombelli, A., Krafft, J. and Quatraro, F. (2021), “Firms' growth, green gazelles and eco-innovation: Evidence from a sample of European firms”, *Small Business Economics*, 56, 1721–1738, doi:10.1007/s11187-019-00236-8.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., Meliciani, V., & Quatraro, F. (2020). Newborn Firms and Regional Diversification Patterns: The Role of Cultural Diversity. *Economic Geography*, 96(4), 336-362.

Audretsch, D., Colombelli, A., Grilli, L., Minola, T., & Rasmussen, E. (2020). Innovative start-ups and policy initiatives. *Research Policy*, 49 (10), 104027.

Colombelli, A., D'Ambrosio, A., Meliciani, V., & Quatraro, F. (2020). Newborn Firms and Regional Diversification Patterns: The Role of Cultural Diversity. *Economic Geography*, 96(4), pp. 336-362 <https://doi.org/10.1080/00130095.2020.1807320>.

Colombelli, A., Grilli, L., Minola, T., & Mrkajic, B. (2020). To what extent do young innovative companies take advantage of policy support to enact innovation appropriation mechanisms? *Research Policy*, 49 (10).

Caviggioli, F., Colombelli, A., De Marco, A., & Paolucci, E. (2020). How venture capitalists evaluate young innovative company patent portfolios: empirical evidence from Europe. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research*, Vol. 26 No. 4, pp. 695-721

Sansone, G., Andreotti, P., Colombelli, A., & Landoni, P. (2020). Are social incubators different from other incubators? Evidence from Italy, *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, Vol. 158, 120132.

Bailey, D., Clark, J., Colombelli, A.,... & Usai, S. (2020). Regions in a time of pandemic. *Regional Studies*, 54(9), pp. 1163-1174.

Colombelli, A., Ghisetti, C., & Quatraro, F. (2020). Green technologies and firms' market value: a micro-econometric analysis of European firms. *Industrial and Corporate Change*, Vol. 29 (3), 855-875.

Cavallo, A., Ghezzi, A., Colombelli, A., & Casali, G. L. (2020). Agglomeration dynamics of innovative start-ups in Italy beyond the industrial district era. *International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal*, 16(1), 239-262 <https://doi-org.ezproxy.biblio.polito.it/10.1007/s11365-018-0521-8>.

Bailey, D., Clark, J., Colombelli, A., Corradini, C., De Propriis, L., Derudder, B., ... & Kemeny, T. (2020). Rethinking regions in turbulent times. *Regional Studies*, 54(1), pp. 1-4 <https://doi-org.ezproxy.biblio.polito.it/10.1080/00343404.2019.1698837>.

Books and Book Chapters

Antonelli, C., & Colombelli, A. (2023). *The Creative Response: Knowledge and Innovation (Elements in Business Strategy)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Colombelli A., Orsatti G., Quatraro F. (2019), "Entrepreneurship, technological knowledge and industrial heterogeneity: Evidence from Italian NUTS3 regions" in Therin, Appio and Yoon (eds.) *Handbook on Techno-Entrepreneurial Ecosystems*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, forthcoming.

Colombelli, A. and Quatraro, F. (2019), Green start-ups and local knowledge bases: Newborn suppliers of energy-related technologies in Italian Provinces, *Handbook on Green Growth*, 2019, pp. 260-287.

Antonelli C., Colombelli A. (2018), The cost of Knowledge, in Antonelli C. (eds.) *The Evolutionary Complexity of Endogenous Innovation: The Engines of the Creative Response*, 2018, pp. 128-150.

Antonelli C., Colombelli A. (2018), External and internal knowledge in the knowledge generation function, in Antonelli C. (eds.) *The Evolutionary Complexity of Endogenous Innovation: The Engines of the Creative Response*, 2018, pp. 128-150.

Colombelli A., Foddi M., Paci R. (2013), "Scientific regions" in Capello R., Lenzi C. (eds.) *Territorial Patterns of Innovation An Inquiry on the Knowledge Economy in European Regions*. 43-69, Routledge, doi:10.4324/9780203085660.

Colombelli A., Quatraro F. (2012), "The European Firm" in Dietrich M. and Krafft J. (eds.) *Handbook on the Economics and Theory of the Firm*, 209-226, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, doi:10.4337/9781848446489.00026.

Colombelli A., von Tunzelmann G.N. (2011), "The persistence of innovation and path dependence" in Antonelli C. (eds.) *The System Dynamics of Technological Change*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham,.

Editorial activities

Associate Editor: *Regional Studies* (past), *Eurasian Business Review*, *The Journal of Technology Transfer*.

Awards

2024 shortlisted for the **Best Paper Award** at the R&D Management Conference for the paper "The role of alliance portfolio diversity for corporate decarbonization, circular economy and eco-innovation" (with Flavia Cicerelli, Eva Niesten and Chiara Ravetti).

2019 **Best Paper Award** 14th International Forum on Knowledge Assets Dynamics for the paper "Entrepreneurial activities and models of advanced European science and technology universities" (with Ricci, R and Paolucci, E.).

2012 **Emerald Award for Excellence** for the paper "Globalization and Directed Technological Change at the Firm Level: The European Evidence" published in *Advances in the Study of Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Economic Growth*.

Institutional offices and roles in Italian and foreign universities and/or public and private

2024 – present **President** of the CUG (The Equality, Non-Discrimination And Anti-Harassment Committee), Politecnico di Torino, appointed by Rectoral Decree n. 942/2020

institutions with scientific and/or
technology transfer aims
(selected)

2023 – present Member, Gruppo di Lavoro Osservatorio di Genere, Politecnico di Torino, appointed by Rectoral Decree n. 79/2023.

2022 – present Coordinator, Gender Research coordination Group (GReG), Politecnico di Torino.

2020 – 2024 Member of the Quality Assurance Committee, Politecnico di Torino, appointed by Rectoral Decree n. 87/2021

2020 – 2024 Member of the CUG (The Equality, Non-Discrimination And Anti-Harassment Committee), Politecnico di Torino, appointed by Rectoral Decree n. 942/2020

2019 – present Head of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre (EIC), Politecnico di Torino.

According to law 679/2016 of the Regulation of the European Parliament of 27th April 2016, I hereby express my consent to process and use my data provided in this CV

Torino, March, 24th, 2026

