

February 8, 2023

From: Professor Badi Baltagi, Professor Jean-Marie Dufour, Professor Sir David Hendry, Professor Chihwa Kao, Professor Lynda Khalaf, and Professor Alain Pirotte.

To: To whom it may concern

Subject: Letter of support for professor Giovanni Urga

Professor Giovanni Urga has a consolidated reputation as a well-established international researcher. He has consistently published high profile research in the highest ranked journals in the field of econometrics and financial econometrics such as the Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Journal of Financial Econometrics, Journal of Banking & Finance, Journal of Financial Markets, Journal of Money Credit and Banking, International Journal of Forecasting, Econometric Reviews. He has regularly directed and published with a large number of graduate students, and secured prestigious research sponsorships and several research grants. Furthermore, professor Urga has established a global network of collaborators and has continuously presented the results of his research at the most prominent international conferences. He is member of several leading international bodies and has organised international events attended by leading scholars in econometrics and finance.

His dedication to Bergamo University has been exemplary, and in many ways beyond the call of duty. The time and hard work he devoted to the university was evident to us by any measure, as he promoted Bergamo to us and attracted us to the university. Indeed, we have had the privilege to visit the University of Bergamo under the auspices of the "Progetto ITALY®" - Azione 2: Grants for Visiting Professor and Scholar". These visits, that were organized by professor Urga to position Bergamo relative to the international academic scene, included seminar presentations and direct interaction with promising students and talented junior members of several Departments. Motivated by the same keen desire to connect Bergamo internationally, Professor Urga has promoted international events including two international Conferences in Memory of Carlo Giannini. Since all the above has no material nor career implications for professor Urga himself, the hard work he has put into the promotion of Bergamo University and the Italian academic community is selfless and outstanding.

This letter is a testimony of his international standing, his success as a researcher, educator and mentor, and to his enthusiasm, passion and energy, all of which have contributed beyond compare to the international visibility of Bergamo University.

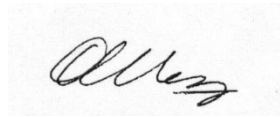
Badi H. Baltagi. Distinguished Professor of Economics, CPR Senior Research Associate, Syracuse University



Jean-Marie Dufour. Professor of Economics, William Dow Chair of Political Economy, McGill University, CIRANO, CIREQ; Fellow, Société Royale du Canada / Royal Society of Canada.



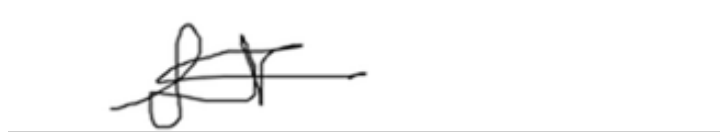
Sir David F Hendry. Professor FBA, FRSE, FAcSS, University of Oxford.



Chihwa Kao. Professor and Department Head, Department of Economics, University of Connecticut



Lynda Khalaf. Professor. Carleton University. Co-directeur, CMFE. CIREQ.



Alain Pirotte. Professor of Economics. University Paris-Panthéon-Assas. CRED.



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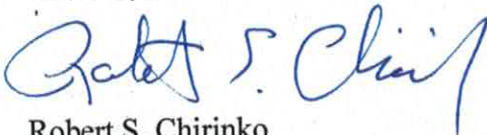
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to affirm my support for the numerous and important accomplishments of Professor Giovanni Urga detailed in the letter signed by Professors Baltagi, Dufour, Hendry, Kao, Khalaf, and Pirotte. However, I am not in a position to sign that letter because I have not participated in the "Progetto ITALY®" - Azione 2: Grants for Visiting Professor and Scholar" program.

Nonetheless, using other funding, Professor Urga had invited me to Bergamo, and I had the opportunity to present my research in a seminar and to meet with faculty and students.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Chirinko
Professor, Department of Finance

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