

# Lidia Bonifati

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## General information

- Date of birth: 18/09/1993
- Personal website: [www.lidiabonifati.com](http://www.lidiabonifati.com)
- Citizenship: Italian
- ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6087-105X>

## Current Positions

- Since March 2024: **Postdoctoral Researcher** – Baffi Centre on Economics, Finance and Regulation, Bocconi University.
- Since June 2023: **Affiliated Researcher** – Research Group on Government and Law, University of Antwerp.
- Since Sept 2018: **Teaching Assistant of Comparative Constitutional Law** – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna.

## Research Interests and Methods

**Primary interests:** *Minority rights and diversity governance* – constitutional design for divided societies; territorial and non-territorial autonomy; asymmetric federalism; federalism and legal pluralism.

**Secondary interests:** *AI and armed conflicts* – dual-use technologies and fundamental rights; international humanitarian law and advanced technologies; AI and peace-building; digital colonialism.

**Methods:** comparative research methodologies; decolonial comparative law; empirical legal studies.

## Academic Positions

March 2024 – present	<b>Postdoctoral Researcher</b> Bocconi University – Baffi Centre on Economics, Finance and Regulation Title of the research project: “Decision-Making in the Age of Emergencies. New Paradigms in Recognition and Protection of Rights [DeMa]” (PRIN 2020). Principal investigator: Prof. Arianna Vedaschi.
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## Education

2019 – 2023	<b>Ph.D. in Legal Studies</b> University of Bologna and University of Antwerp (Joint Ph.D.) Research area: Comparative Constitutional Law – Final grade: Excellent Thesis’ title: “Comparative Constitutional Design for Divided Societies: A Model to Explain Constitutional Asymmetries”. Supervisors: Prof. Susanna Mancini, Prof. Patricia Popelier.
2019	<b>Seminar in Parliamentary Studies and Research “Silvano Tosi”</b> University of Florence – Department of Legal Studies Coordinators: Paolo Caretti, Giovanni Tarli Barbieri, and Massimo Morisi.
2016 – 2018	<b>Master’s degree in International Relations (cum laude)</b> University of Bologna – Department of Social and Political Sciences

Thesis' title: "The Future of Power Sharing in European Multi-National States: The Cases of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Northern Ireland".  
 Supervisors: Prof. Susanna Mancini, Prof. Filippo Andreatta.  
 2013 – 2016 **Bachelor's degree in Social, Political and International Sciences**  
 University of Bologna – Department of Social and Political Sciences  
 Thesis' title: "La Corte Europea dei Diritti dell'Uomo Condanna la Bosnia-Erzegovina: Verso una Costituzione Non Discriminatoria?"  
 Supervisor: Prof. Pieralberto Mengozzi.

## Work Experience

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June 2023 – present **Affiliated Researcher**  
 Research Group on Government and Law – University of Antwerp, Antwerp (Belgium)  
 Director: Prof. Patricia Popelier

Sept 2018 – present **Teaching Assistant of Comparative Constitutional Law**  
 Department of Legal Studies – University of Bologna, Bologna (Italy)  
 Chair: Prof. Susanna Mancini

Nov – Dec 2024 **Research Assistant**  
 Oxford Internet Institute – University of Oxford (United Kingdom)  
 Title of the research project: "The Ethics of AI in National Defence."  
 Principal Investigator: Prof. Mariarosaria Taddeo

Feb – Dec 2023 **Junior Researcher**  
 Institute for Comparative Federalism – EURAC Research, Bolzano/Bozen (Italy)  
 Supervisor: Dr. Alice Valdesalici

Dec 2019 – May 2023 **Junior Researcher**  
 Research Group on Government and Law – University of Antwerp, Antwerp (Belgium)  
 Director: Prof. Patricia Popelier

Mar – May 2020 **Trainee**  
 Venice Commission – Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France)  
 Supervisor: Dr. Gaël Martin-Micallef

Nov 2016 – Jun 2017 **Academic Tutor**  
 School of Political Sciences – University of Bologna, Bologna (Italy)  
 Coordinator: Prof. Daniela Giannetti

Oct 2016 – May 2017 **Research Assistant**  
 Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development (CCSDD), Bologna (Italy)  
 Director: Prof. Justin Orlando Frosini

## Research Stays and Visits

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Jan – Mar 2024 **Visiting Research Fellow**  
 Oxford Internet Institute – University of Oxford (United Kingdom)  
 Sponsor: Prof. Mariarosaria Taddeo

Sept – Oct 2022 **Visiting Scientist**  
 Institute for Comparative Federalism – EURAC Research, Bolzano/Bozen (Italy)  
 Supervisor: Prof. Francesco Palermo

Feb – Apr 2022	<b>Visiting Joint Ph.D. Researcher</b>
Mar – May 2021	Research Group on Government and Law – University of Antwerp(Belgium) Supervisor: Prof. Patricia Popelier
Sept 2021 – Jan 2022	<b>Visiting Ph.D. Student</b> Department of Law – European University Institute (EUI), Florence (Italy) Supervisor: Prof. Gábor Halmai
Nov 2018	<b>Visiting Research Associate</b> School of Law – Queen’s University of Belfast (United Kingdom) Supervisor: Prof. Christopher McCrudden

## Publications

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### *Books*

Bonifati, Lidia. *Asymmetries, Courts, and Comparative Constitutional Law. A Dynamic Accommodation of Diversity in Divided Multi-Tiered Systems*. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2025 (forthcoming).

### *Articles*

1. Bonifati, Lidia. “I droni umanitari nei contesti di emergenza: un’analisi comparata a partire dal caso ucraino.” *DPCE Online* (under review).
2. Frosini, Justin O., and Lidia Bonifati. “Ascesa e declino della dinastia Karađorđević in Serbia.” *DPCE Online* (under review).
3. Bonifati, Lidia. 2025. “Il regionalismo asimmetrico alla prova delle corti: il caso italiano in prospettiva comparata.” *Percorsi Costituzionali*, no. 1 (forthcoming).
4. Bonifati, Lidia. 2025. “Le ‘corti ibride’ negli ordinamenti multinazionali: una prospettiva comparata.” *DPCE Online*, vol. 66, Special Issue 2 (forthcoming).
5. Bonifati, Lidia. 2024. “Constitutional Asymmetries and Mixed Legal Systems: New Itineraries for Legal Comparison.” *Rivista di Diritti Comparati*, no. 3: 156-180.
6. Bonifati, Lidia. 2024. “La questione nordirlandese alla luce della Brexit. Quale futuro per Belfast?” *Costituzionalismo Britannico e Irlandese* 1: 245-264.
7. Bonifati, Lidia. 2023. “Constitutional Design and the Seeds of Degradation in Divided Societies: The Case of Bosnia-Herzegovina.” *European Constitutional Law Review* 19, no. 2: 223-248.
8. Bonifati, Lidia. 2021. “Towards a Comprehensive Theory on Self-Determination? Some Remarks Starting from a Recent Book by Pau Bossacoma Busquets.” *Osservatorio Costituzionale* 4: 1-27.
9. Bonifati, Lidia. 2020. “Molto rumore per nulla? Dieci anni dalla sentenza Sejdić-Finci.” *Forum di Quaderni Costituzionali* 1: 60-70.
10. Bonifati, Lidia. 2019. “Democrazie consociative e trattati di pace: un’analisi comparata di Bosnia-Erzegovina, Irlanda del Nord e Macedonia del Nord.” *Federalismi* 18: 2-20.
11. Bonifati, Lidia. 2019. “Il Parlamento Europeo: aagli Stati ai popoli?” *Osservatorio sulle Fonti*, Special Issue no. 2 “Tosi Ricerca 2019”: 174-188.
12. Bonifati, Lidia. 2019. “The Impact of Brexit on the Constitutional Status of Northern Ireland.” *Percorsi Costituzionali* 2018, no. 1: 209-224.

### *Book chapters*

1. Bonifati, Lidia. “The ‘Constituent Peoples’ Case’ and its Impact on The Multinational Nature of Bosnia and Herzegovina.” In *Comparative Constitutional History. Volume 3: Landmark Judgments*, edited by Francesco Biagi, Justin O. Frosini, and Jason Mazzone. Leiden and Boston: Brill (forthcoming 2025).

2. Bonifati, Lidia. 2022. "Constitutional Design v. Constitutional Degradation. Strengthening the Rule of Law in Bosnia-Herzegovina." In *Framing and Diagnosing Constitutional Degradation*, edited by Tania Groppi, Valentina Carlino, and Gianmaria Milani, 83-92. Genova: Consulta Online.

#### **Case notes**

1. Bonifati, Lidia. 2023. "Kovačević c. Bosnia ed Erzegovina: un nuovo affondo alla Costituzione di Dayton." *Quaderni Costituzionali* 4: 922-925.

## **Conferences**

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### **International Conferences**

1. Sept 17-18, 2024: Annual Conference of the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies – IACFS (University of Antwerp, Belgium): Presentation of the paper: "*Constitutional Asymmetries and Constitutional Courts: (Re)shaping Federal Dynamics*".
2. Jul 8-10, 2024: 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Society of Public Law – ICON-S (IE University Law School, Madrid, Spain). Presentation: "*Decision-Makers and New Technologies in Humanitarian Missions: A Constitutional Perspective on Humanitarian Drones*".
3. Oct 26-27, 2023: Inaugural Conference of the ICON-S Benelux Chapter (University of Maastricht, Netherlands). Presentation: "*The European Union as a Driver for Constitutional Change in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Northern Ireland: Past and Present Challenges*".
4. Sept 14-15, 2023: 5<sup>th</sup> Illinois-Bologna Conference on Constitutional History: Comparative Perspectives (University of Bologna, Italy). Presentation of the paper: "*The 'Constituent Peoples' Case' and its Impact on the Multinational Nature of Bosnia-Herzegovina*".
5. Dec 5-9, 2022: 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Association of Constitutional Law – IACL (University of Johannesburg, South Africa). Presentation of the paper: "*Seeds of Degradation? The Role of Imposed Constitutional Design and International Presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina*".
6. Sept 1-2, 2022: 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Netherlands Academy for Empirical Legal Studies, Amsterdam, Netherlands). Presentation: "*The Role of Causality in Comparative Legal Research and the Use of Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA)*" (with Alberto Nicotina, University of Antwerp).
7. Jul 4-6, 2022: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Society of Public Law – ICON-S (University of Wroclaw, Poland). Presentation of the paper: "*Seeds of Degradation? The Role of Imposed Constitutional Design and International Presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina*".
8. May 26-27, 2022: British Association of Comparative Law (BACL) Postgraduate Workshop (University of Kent, United Kingdom). Presentation: "*Comparative Constitutional Design for Divided Societies: A Model to Explain Constitutional Asymmetries*".
9. Oct 7-8, 2021: Conference "The Dust of Time? Towards a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Constitutionalism" (European University Institute, Fiesole, Italy). Presentation: "*The Impact of European Integration and Disintegration on Power-Sharing Democracies*".
10. Dec 4, 2020: Rijeka Doctoral Conference RIDOC 2020 (University of Rijeka, Croatia). Presentation: "*Asymmetric Federalism and Divided Societies: A Synthesis Between Integration and Accommodation?*".
11. Sept 10, 2020: International Doctoral Seminar in Law IDSL 2020 (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia). Presentation: "*Comparative Constitutional Design for Divided Societies: A Model to Explain Constitutional Asymmetries*".

### **National Conferences**

1. Nov 21, 2024: Seminar of the Association of Comparative Public and European Law – DPCE (University of Trento). Presentation of the paper: "*Dual-use Technology e Tutela dei Diritti Fondamentali: Alcune Riflessioni a Partire dall'Uso dei Droni nei Contesti di Emergenza*".

2. Oct 18-19, 2024: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference ICON-S Italian Chapter (University of Trento, Italy). Presentation of the paper : *“I droni umanitari nei contesti di emergenza. Alcune riflessioni a partire dal caso ucraino”*.
3. May 16-17, 2024: Joint AIDC/DPCE Young Scholars Conference (Link Campus University, Rome, Italy). Presentation of the paper: *“Asimmetrie Costituzionali e Sistemi Giuridici Misti. Nuovi Itinerari di Comparazione”*.
4. Oct 13-14, 2023: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference ICON-S Italian Chapter (Bocconi University, Milan, Italy). Presentation: *“Il Federalismo Bosniaco alla Luce della Giurisprudenza della Corte Costituzionale”*.
5. Sept 15-16, 2023: 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Comparative Public and European Law – DPCE (University of Milan, Italy). Presentation of the paper: *“Le Corti ‘Ibride’ negli Ordinamenti Multinazionali”*.
6. Sept 16-17, 2022: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference ICON-S Italian Chapter (University of Bologna). Presentation: *“Symmetry or Asymmetry, that is the Question. The Cases of Italy and Spain During the Pandemic”* (with Nicolò Paolo Alessi, University of Verona/Fribourg).
7. Jun 22-23, 2021: DIPEC Workshop “Framing and Diagnosing Constitutional Degradation: A Comparative Perspective” (University of Siena, Italy). Presentation of the paper: *“Constitutional Design v. Constitutional Degradation: Strengthening the Rule of Law in Bosnia-Herzegovina”*.
8. Jun 5-6, 2020: Joint AIDC/YCC Young Scholars Conference (University of Perugia). Presentation: *“A Diachronic Comparison of Brexit: The Transformative Role of the Speaker of the House of Commons in Constitutional Distress”* (with Stefano Bargiacchi, University of Siena).

## Teaching Experience

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- Lecture in Italian (2 hours) on **“Federalismo Asimmetrico e Tutela delle Minoranze”**: invited speaker in the course Diritto Comparato dei Gruppi e delle Minoranze (Prof. Elena Ferioli) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2024/2025, 2023/2024, 2022/2023).
- Lecture in English (2 hours) on **“Constitutional Asymmetries in Multi-Tiered Systems: A Comparative Perspective”**: invited speaker in the course Comparative Federalism (Prof. Patricia Popelier) – Faculty of Law, University of Antwerp (A.Y. 2021/2022).
- Lecture in English (2 hours) on **“Consociational Democracies: A Comparative Analysis”**
  - o Recurrent invited speaker in the course Comparative Constitutionalism (Prof. Susanna Mancini and Prof. Francesco Biagi) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2022/2023, 2021/2022, 2020/2021, 2019/2020, 2018/2019)
  - o Invited speaker in the course Comparative Constitutional Law (Prof. Enrico Campelli) – Department of Law, Economics, Politics and Modern Languages, LUMSA University (A.Y. 2022/2023).
- Lecture in English (2 hours) on **“SOGI Refugees and International Protection: Peculiar Aspects and Legal Framework”**: recurrent invited speaker in the course Gender and the Law (Prof. Susanna Mancini and Prof. Francesco Biagi) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2024/2025; 2023/2024, 2022/2023, 2021/2022, 2020/2021, 2019/2020, 2018/2019).
- Lecture in Italian (2 hours) on **“Democrazie Consociative: Una Prospettiva Comparata”**
  - o Recurrent invited speaker in the course Diritto Pubblico Comparato (Prof. Susanna Mancini, Prof. Francesco Biagi, Prof. Elena Ferioli) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2024/2025; 2023/2024, 2022/2023, 2020/2021, 2019/2020, 2018/2019).
  - o Invited speaker in the course Diritto Pubblico Comparato (Prof. Leonardo Pierdominici) – Department of Legal Studies – Ravenna Campus, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2023/2024).

- Invited speaker in the course Diritto Pubblico Comparato (Prof. Nicolò Paolo Alessi) – Department of Economics and Political Sciences, University of Aosta Valley (A.Y. 2022/2023).
- Lecture in English (2 hours) on “**Brexit and The Constitutional Status of Northern Ireland**”: invited speaker in the course Comparative Constitutionalism (Prof. Susanna Mancini and Prof. Francesco Biagi) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2019/2020).
- Lecture in English (2 hours) on “**Brexit and Parliamentary Procedures**”: invited speaker in the course Comparative Constitutionalism (Prof. Susanna Mancini and Prof. Francesco Biagi) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2019/2020).
- Lecture in Italian (2 hours) on “**Brexit e le Procedure Parlamentari nella Camera dei Comuni**”: invited speaker in the course Diritto Pubblico Comparato (Prof. Susanna Mancini, Prof. Francesco Biagi, Prof. Elena Ferioli) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2019/2020).
- Lecture in Italian (2 hours) on “**Il Divieto di Mandato Imperativo: Una Prospettiva Comparata**”: invited speaker in the course Diritto Parlamentare (Prof. Tomaso Francesco Giupponi) – Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2019/2020).

## Trainings

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- Masterclass “Colonial Legacies in Public Law,” taught by Prof. Philipp Dann – Queen Mary Centre of Law and Society in a Global Context (London, Jan 14-16, 2025)
- Training “ERC: Starting, Consolidator, and Advanced Grant Schemes” – Bocconi University (Milan, June 2023)
- Webinar series “Democratic Constitution Making. Between Deliberative And Crowd-Sourced Forms of Constitutionalism” – STALS – Sant’Anna Legal Studies (online, May 2023)
- Workshop “ICON-S Writing School” — International Society of Public Law (online, February 2023)
- Workshop “Social Science Methods for Legal Scholars” – European Society of International Law and Geneva Graduate Institute (online, Oct – Nov 2022)
- Winter School “Advanced Qualitative Comparative Analysis” — European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) (online, 14-18 Feb 2022)
- Summer School “Qualitative Comparative Analysis” — European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) (online, 9-13 Aug 2021)
- Post-graduate Training Program “Territory and Institutions” — University of Rome Sapienza (online, Dec 2020 – Feb 2021)
- MOOC “Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis” — University of Rotterdam (online, Dec 2020)
- MOOC “Federalism and Decentralization” — University of Leiden (online, Sept 2020)
- Winter School “Federalism and Language” — EURAC Institute for Comparative Federalism (Innsbruck/Bozen, Austria/Italy, 17-28 Feb 2020)
- Summer School “Mediation Theory and Skills” — Central European University (Budapest, Hungary, 2-6 July 2018)
- Advanced Diploma “European Affairs” — Italian Institute for International Political Studies (Milan, Italy, Mar 2017 - Mar 2018)
- Summer School “Fundamental Rights and EU Trade Agreements” — University of Bologna (Bertinoro, Italy, 25-30 June 2017)
- Summer School “European Union and Legal Reforms” — Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development (Igalo, Montenegro, 11-15 July 2016)

- Study Visit “Sarajevo Study Trip” — Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development (Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 17-20 January 2016)

## Languages

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**Italian** (mother tongue); **English** (C1); **French** (B2)

## Scholarships and Awards

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- 2021: Research grant (3 months) financed by the BOF Fellowship for Joint PhDs of the University of Antwerp
- 2020: Research grant (3 months) financed by the Program “Marco Polo” of the University of Bologna
- 2019: Ph.D. scholarship (3 years) financed by the Project “Department of Excellence” of the Italian Ministry of Education

## Memberships

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- **Associazione di Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo – DPCE** (ordinary member)
- **Associazione Italiana di Diritto Comparato – AIDC** (member of the Young Comparatists Group)
- **International Association of Constitutional Law – IACL** (individual member; “New Frontiers of Federalism” Research Group)
- **International Society of Public Law – ICON-S** (regular member; Italian and Benelux Chapters; Interest Group *Constitutionalism from the Global South*)

## Editorial Activities

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- **Since January 2025 – Member of the Editorial Board – Percorsi Costituzionali**  
Scientific journal edited by Jovene (Napoli, Italy) – ISSN: 1974-1928. Director: Prof. Giuseppe de Vergottini.
- **Since January 2020 – Member of the Editorial Board – Sant’Anna Legal Studies (STALS)**  
Peer-reviewed and open-access scientific journal based at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa (Italy) – ISSN: 1974-5656. Directors: Prof. Giuseppe Martinico, Prof. Giacomo Delledonne, Dr. Filippo Fontanelli.
- **Since November 2023 – Anonymous referee**  
Blind reviews for *Perspective on Federalism*, *Nordic Journal of Social Law*, the Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development, and the Devolution Club.

## Organization of Conferences and Workshops

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- Conference “Decision-Making in the Age of Emergencies: Challenges and Future Perspectives”, within the PRIN2020 Project *Decision-Making in the Age of Emergencies* (Bocconi University, 14-15 April 2025) – Member of the organizing committee.
- Seminar Series “Decision-Making in the Age of Emergencies: The Role of Technology” within the PRIN2020 Project *Decision-Making in the Age of Emergencies* (Bocconi University, 4 Oct 2024 – 4 Apr 2025) – Member of the organizing committee.
- Conference “Intersezionalità, diritti fondamentali e rapporti sociali nel diritto comparato”, AIDC Young Comparatists Group (University of Bologna, 6 December 2024, and University of Trento, 21 March 2025) – Member of the scientific committee and main reference for the University of Bologna.

- Conference “Diritto e...”, AIDC Young Comparatists Group (Bocconi University, 5 December 2023, and University of Palermo, 22 March 2024) – Member of the scientific committee.
- Conference “Il Futuro dello Stato”, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference ICON-S Italian Chapter (University of Bologna, 16-17 September 2022) – Member of the organizing committee.
- Conference “Sostenibilità e Innovazione: Prospettive di Diritto Comparato”, AIDC Young Comparatists Group (University of Salerno, 13 May 2022) – Member of the scientific committee.
- Seminar series “Migro Perché Sono: Problematiche e Storie dell’Immigrazione LGBT”, University of Bologna (A.Y. 2018/2019, 2015/2016, 2014/2015) – Concept developer, organizer, and tutor.

## Other Activities

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- **2021-2022** – Ph.D. Student Representative (Ph.D. in Legal Studies, University of Bologna): preparation and collection of surveys on the educational activities of the Ph.D., liaison between Ph.D. students and the Ph.D. coordinator and faculty members, organization of Ph.D. students’ panels in various conferences (e.g., XXVI Biennal Colloquium of the Italian Association of Comparative Law; 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Italian Chapter of the International Society of Public Law).
- **2017-2021** – Member of the Editorial Team of Lo Spiegone (online magazine on international politics): recurrent author for the Europe and Law desks (40+ articles published) on topics related to South-Eastern Europe politics, EU enlargement policy, comparative constitutional law, British and Northern-Irish politics. Positions held: Europe desk editor (2018-2019), Deputy Editor-in-Chief (2020), Head of Administration (2021).

## IT Skills

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- Proficient user of Microsoft Office Package (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Proficient user of Google Package (Gmail, Drive, Calendar, Meet, GSuite)
- Proficient user of references management platforms (Zotero)
- Proficient user of co-working platforms (Slack, Microsoft Teams, Webex, Zoom)
- Basic user of R (especially “QCA” and “SetMethods” packages)

## References

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Susanna Mancini (Ph.D. Supervisor)

Full professor of Comparative Public Law  
University of Bologna  
Department of Legal Studies  
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Francesco Palermo (EURAC Director)

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Full professor of Comparative Public Law  
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Giuseppe Martinico (STALS Director)

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Patricia Popelier (Ph.D. Supervisor)

Full professor of Constitutional Law  
University of Antwerp  
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