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CURRENT POSITION:

Associate Professor of Political Science, Dept. of Cultures, Politics and Society, University of Turin (IT), since 2020;

Vice-President of the **Master Programme in International Relations**, University of Turin, since 2023;

Head of Program and Co-Founder, Torino World Affairs Institute (T.wai), since 2009.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS:

Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Turin (IT), 2012-2020;

Faculty Member, Scuola di Studi Superiori Ferdinando Rossi of the University of Turin, since 2014-2019;

Research Fellow, University of Turin (IT), 2008-2012;

Lecturer of Strategic Studies and of Political Science, University of Turin and Army Institute of Military Studies (IT), 2008-2012.

VISITING POSITIONS:

Associate, LSE Ideas, since 2019;

Visiting Scholar, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University, 2010.

AFFILIATIONS:

Member, Italian Military History Association (Società Italiana di Storia Militare – SISM), since 2012;

Member, Italian Political Science Association (Società Italiana di Scienza Politica – SISP), since 2010.

EDUCATION:

PhD in Strategic Studies, University of Turin and Army School of Military Studies (IT), 2007;

MA in International Relations, University of Turin (IT), 2003 – *summa cum laude*.

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Non-state armed actors in international relations

Private military and security companies

Global governance of anti-piracy activities

Conflict transformation and peacebuilding

Myanmar political transition and peace process

RESEARCH NETWORKS

2010-13: member of the research network "The Commercialization of Security: Consequences for Peace and Reconciliation" (COSEPAR), hosted at the **Peace Research Institute Oslo** (PRIO), co-financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and directed by Anna Leander (Copenhagen Business School).

2010-14: co-director of the research network "The Emerging Patterns of Insecurity Dialogue" (EPID), co-convened by **Cornell University** (Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies) and **T.wai** - Torino World Affairs Institute.

Since 2014: member of the Myanmar-Europe Research Network (**MYErn**), hosted at the University of Turin.

Since 2015: member of the **Italian Ethnological Mission in Equatorial Africa**, hosted at the University of Turin, co-sponsored by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and directed by Cecilia Pennacini (University of Turin).

PUBLICATIONS (selected):

Books and edited volumes:

- **2020**, *Piracy and the Privatisation of Maritime Security: Vessel Protection Policies Compared* (with E. Cusumano), Palgrave Macmillan, Cham;
- **2016**, *Non-State Challenges in a Re-Ordered World: The Jackals of Westphalia* (edited volume, with A. Jakobi e C. Geisler), Routledge, Abingdon and New York;
- **2011**, *Guerre conto terzi. Aziende di sicurezza e privatizzazione della funzione militare* (“Fighting others’ war: Private security firms and military privatization”), Il Mulino, Bologna.

Peer reviewed articles:

- **2019**, “Authoritarian resilience through top-down transformation: making sense of Myanmar’s incomplete transition” (with G. Gabusi and D. Pellegrino), *Italian Review of Political Studies*, 49:2, pp. 193-209;
- **2018**, “The political cost-effectiveness of private vessel protection: The Italian case” (with E. Cusumano), *The International Spectator*, 53:3, pp. 132-48;
- **2018**, “Security privatisation at sea. Piracy and the commercialisation of vessel protection” (with E. Cusumano), *International Relations*, 31:1, pp. 80-103;
- **2015**, “There are two sides to every COIN: Of economic and military means in Myanmar’s comprehensive approach to illiberal peacebuilding”, *European Journal of East Asian Studies*, 14:1, pp. 76-97;
- **2015**, “Contractors as a second best option: The Italian Hybrid Approach to Maritime Security” (with E. Cusumano), *Ocean Development & International Law*, 46:2, pp. 111-122.

Book chapters:

- **2022** - “The Privatisation of Maritime Security: Implications for International Security” (with E. Cusumano), in S.R. de Sousa Ferreira, R. Bosilisca and B.J. Ryan (eds), *Routledge Handbook of Maritime Security*, Routledge, London and New York;
- **2022** - "Rwenzori in Uganda: the failures of reconciliation", in A. Özerdem, S. Akgül-Açıkmeşe, and I. Liebenberg (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Conflict Response and Leadership in Africa*. Routledge: London and New York, 275-284;
- **2020**, “Piracy and the privatisation of vessel protection. Isomorphic convergence in maritime security” (with E. Cusumano), in E.R. Lucas, T. Crosbie, S. Rivera-Paez, and F. Jensen (eds.), *Maritime Security: Counter-Terrorism Lessons from Maritime Piracy and Narcotics Interdiction*, IOS Press - NATO Science for Peace and Security Series: Amsterdam;
- **2020**, “The Horn of Africa: NATO and the EU as Partners against Pirates”, in E. Cusumano and S. Hofmaier (eds.), *Projecting Resilience Across the Mediterranean*, Palgrave Macmillan, Cham;
- **2019**, “Myanmar”, in A. Ozerdem and R. Mac Ginty (eds.), *Comparing Peace Processes*, Routledge, Abingdon and New York;
- **2018**, “Myanmar” (with G. Gabusi), in H.J. Giessmann and R. Mac Ginty (eds.), *The Elgar Companion to Post-Conflict Transition*, Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham;
- **2018**, “United States anti-piracy policies: between military missions and private sector responsabilization” (with E. Cusumano), in M. Clementi, M. Dian e B. Pisciotta (eds.), *US Foreign Policy in a Challenging World. Building Order on Shifting Foundations*, Springer, New York;
- **2016**, “Regardless of Clausewitz? Classical strategic theory in a hybrid world” (with G. Giacomello) in S. Ruzza, A. Jakobi e C. Geisler (eds.), *Non-State Challenges in a Re-Ordered World: The Jackals of Westphalia*, Routledge, Abingdon and New York;
- **2013**, “Keeping or selling stocks? The Italian way of commercializing security”, in A. Leander (ed.), *The Commercialization of Security in Europe: Consequences for Peace and Reconciliation*, PRIO New Security Studies, Routledge, Abingdon and New York.

Other publications:

- **2016**, “Dawn of a Thousand Suns: Or How a Letter Made the Bomb Unavoidable”, *Quaderno SISM 2016*, Società Italiana di Storia Militare, Acies Edizioni, Milano, pp. 487-496;

- **2016**, “The emergence of war in human societies” (with G.L.F. Berruti), in F. Coimbra and D. Delfino (eds.) *The Emergence of warrior societies and its economic, social and environmental consequences*, British Archaeological Reports, International Series, Archeopress Publishing, Oxford, pp. 27-38.

Book reviews:

- **2017**, Review of G. Millar, *An Ethnographic Approach to Peacebuilding: Understanding Local Experiences in Transitional States* (Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2014), *European Journal of International Studies*, 1/2017, pp. 110-112.

Opinion-editorials:

- **2017**, “Identity manipulation and spontaneous mobilization: the persistence of low-intensity conflict in the Rwenzori region”, T.note N° 33, 27 June, www.twai.it;
- **2016**, “(Un)democracy and security in the African Great Lakes Region”, T.note N° 6, 6 February, www.twai.it;
- **2015**, "Military Spending in East Asia: A Growing Concern?", T.note N° 3, 10 November, www.twai.it.

My op-eds (in Italian) have been published, *inter alia*, on “**La Stampa**” and “**Il Sole 24 Ore**” (national newspapers) and on “**Informazioni della Difesa**” (MoD monthly journal). I also have been a guest on **Radio24** (private national radio), **Radio 3** (public national radio), on **TV2000** (Episcopal Conference of Italy TV), and on **Indus News** (Pakistani TV network).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-founder and Head of Program, Torino World Affairs Institute (T.wai), since 2009. T.wai is a non-profit, independent research institute based in Turin, operating in the fields of area studies, global politics and security studies.

Director, Human Security (HS), since 2016. HS is a monographic periodical issued every four months, and focuses on violent conflict, adopting mainly a human security perspective. It aims to provide the best research produced at national and international level to the Italian readers, with rigour and in a clear, dry and accurate style. Publication started in 2016. HS can be downloaded for free at: <https://www.twai.it/journals/human-security/>

Director, Summer school "Engaging Conflict: Prevention, Management and Resolution", University of Turin and T.wai, 2012-2022. Engaging Conflict is an intensive peace and conflict studies 2-week course.

Supervision of the Italian translation of the **SIPRI Yearbook Booklet**, since 2011. The booklet is published in Italian by T.wai.

Commission research for the **Italian MOD Military Center for Strategic Studies** (CEMISS - Centro Militare di Studi Strategici), "L'impiego delle compagnie di sicurezza private quali team di protezione a bordo dei mercantili: scomoda concorrenza o opportunità per future sinergie nella lotta alla pirateria?" (*The use of private security companies as protection teams on board merchant vessels: uncomfortable competition or opportunities for future synergies in the fight against piracy?*).

Commission research for the **Italian MOD Defense and Analysis Research Institute** (IRAD - Istituto Ricerche e Analisi della Difesa), "La privatizzazione dei conflitti: ruolo e impatto delle Private Military and Security Companies (PMSC) nelle Proxy Wars, con particolare riferimento a risultati ottenuti, conseguenze, costi, vantaggi e svantaggi" (*The role and impact of Private Military and Security Companies (PMSC) in Proxy Wars*).

Cooperation with the **Italian Army - Post-Conflict Operations Study Centre (PCOSC)**, pertaining the development and the delivery of joint educational activities. Since 2006.

CONFERENCES (selected):

Joint **LSE Ideas, New Strategy Center, and University of Nicosia** symposium “What is new with the new world order? Post-Pandemic and Post-War Probabilities”, Nicosia (Cyprus), November 2022. Delivered a presentation about the use of proxy actors by Russia and Turkey in the Mediterranean and the Caucasus.

Kyoto Peace Conference 2021, University of Kyoto (Japan), October 2021. Organization and chairing of the panel “Emerging security challenges in the maritime domain”.

6th Asia Borderland Research Network (ABRN) conference, Bishkek (Kirghizistan), August 2018. Paper presented: “Reappraising Myanmar's peace process”.

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Atlanta (USA), March 2016. Paper presented: “Piracy and the commercialisation of vessel protection. A comparative analysis” (with E. Cusumano, Leiden University).

“Peacebuilding in Asia Scholars Forum”, Yangon (Myanmar), June 2015. Convened by **Australian National University, London School of Economics, and York University**. Paper presented: “There are two sides to every COIN: of economic and military means in Myanmar's approach to illiberal peacebuilding”.

17th Congress of the **Union Internationale des Sciences Préhistoriques et Protohistoriques (UISPP)**, Burgos (Spain), September 2014. Paper presented: “The emergence of war in human societies” (with G.L.F. Berruti, University of Ferrara).

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto (Canada), March 2014. Panel proposed, organized and chaired: “Wars, Smugglers and Victims: New Perspectives on Non-State Violence and Crime”, with Peter Andreas (Brown University), Gustavo Flores-Macias (Cornell University), Giampiero Giacomello (Università di Bologna), Anja P. Jakobi (Royal Holloway, London). Paper presented: “Regardless of Clausewitz? Fitting Non-State Actors in the Vom Kriege” (with G. Giacomello, University of Bologna).

BISA-ISA International Conference, Edinburgh (UK), June 2012. Speaker in the roundtable “State-making and Non-State armed actors: Lesson from History”, with Fabio Armao (Università di Torino), Deborah Avant (University of Denver) and Kimberly Marten (Columbia University).

Workshop “The Transnational Governance of Violence and Crime”, **Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)**, Frankfurt (Germany), November 2011. Tasked as discussant.

I also take part regularly in the general conference of the **Italian Political Science Association (SISP - Società Italiana di Scienza Politica)**.

GUEST LECTURES and PRESENTATIONS (selected):

Since 2006: involvement on a regular basis in several education and training programs run by the **Italian Army** and the **Italian Navy**: Staff Courses; OMLT (Operational Mentor and Liason Team), MAT (Military Advisor Team) and PAT (Police Advisor Team) Courses, Stabilization and Reconstructions Courses (at both Junior and Senior levels), SSR and DDR Courses.

Black Sea and Balkans Security Forum, Bucharest (Romania), **New Strategy Center**, May 2023. Speaker in the panel “Wagner Group and Its Role in the Russia’s War in Ukraine”.

Speaker at the “Eagle Eye seminar”, **NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Italy (NRDC-IT)**, October 2022.

Seminar “Is Myanmar's Democracy Dead? Understanding Authoritarian Resilience in Burma”, **Université Libre de Bruxelles**, May 2021.

Workshop “Dealing with non-state actors: which policies, which tools?”, **NATO Public Diplomacy Division** e and **IAI – Istituto Affari Internazionali**, June 2019. Tasked as discussant.

Lecturer, Peace and Security at Sea (PaSS) Spring School & Conference “The use of force at sea”, **University of Basel** and **University of Turin**, April 2018. Lecture delivered: “Private Security Companies vs. Vessel Protection Detachments. A Cross-Country Comparison”.

International Seminar “ASEAN and the world @ 50th anniversary of ASEAN and beyond”, **Center for Strategic Studies, Royal Thai Armed Forces**, Bangsaen, Thailand, August 2017. Paper presented: “The Fight Against Piracy: Lessons Learned from the Struggle in the Gulf of Aden” (with E. Cusumano, Leiden University).

NATO Academic Conference “What NATO for what threats? Warsaw and beyond”, Bertinoro (Italy), October 2015. Conference co-convened by **NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT)**, **University of Bologna** and **Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)**. Tasked as discussant.

Lecturer, “Cornell in Turin” Summer School, **Cornell University**, Turin, Italy, 2012-2014. Lectures delivered: “From Machiavelli to Afghanistan: Italy and its armed forces”; “From Piedmont to Unified Italy: Armed Forces and State-Building”; “War of the Nation: Italy in WWI”.

Presentation “China and the West: what could we learn from each other in the promotion of peace and stability”, Annual Roundtable, **Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and Italian General Consulate of Shanghai**, Shanghai (RPC), November 2012.

Lecture, “The evolution of China's peacekeeping”, **Zhejiang University**, Hangzhou (PRC), November 2012.

Lecture, “Non-state armed actors” (included in the course “Global Conflict and Terrorism”) and seminar “Private military contractors and armed NGOs: What’s the world coming to?”, **Cornell University**, Ithaca - NY (USA), March 2012.

Seminar, “Researching security between academia and the armed forces: an Italian perspective”, **Cornell University**, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Ithaca - NY (USA), December 2010.

I have also been a guest lecturer or panelist in several Italian universities: Catholic University of Milan, University of Rome – Sapienza, Roma Tre University, University of Bologna, University of Pavia.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

I have provided blind reviews for: *Defence Studies*, *Interdisciplinary Political Studies*, *International Journal*, *Modern Asia Studies*, *Peacebuilding*, *Politics and Governance*, *Regulations and Governance*.

GRANTS AND AWARDS:

German Marshall Fund grant (\$25.000) awarded for starting up a research network focused on the study of non-state armed actors (the *Emerging Patterns of Insecurity Dialogue – EPID*), 2010-2015;

Progetto Alfieri grant awarded for conducting a research on private military/security companies, 2007;

Italian MoD scholarship granted through the complete duration of Ph.D studies, 2003-2007;

Full public scholarship granted for the complete duration of college studies, 1998-2003.