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Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies
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Curriculum Vitae

Rome (Italy), 13 February 1983
Nationality: Italian, Swiss

Habilitation (Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale) as Associate Professor of East Asian History
issued by the Italian Ministry of University on May 9th, 2021

Education:

- 2016, March 9 PhD, East & South Asian Studies
[thesis: 'Confucian World Order: Kang Youwei's *Datongshu*']
Advisor: Prof. Dr. Donatella Guida (*Chinese History*)
Dept. of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies
University of Naples "L'Orientale" (Italy)
- 2015, July "ToChina Summer School", Workshop on Contemporary China
Dept. of Cultures, Politics and Society
University of Turin (Italy)
- 2009, Jan-Dec Postgraduate Specialization Course,
International Protection of Human Rights,
Dept. of Political Science
Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)
- 2008, July MA *cum laude*, Oriental Languages and Cultures
[thesis: 'Political History of Amdo-Qinghai, 1916-1932']
Dept. of Oriental Studies
Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)
- 2004, Dec BA *cum laude*, Oriental Languages and Cultures
[thesis: 'Japan and the Chinese Revolution of 1911']
Dept. of Oriental Studies
Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)
- 2001, July High School Diploma, 100/100
Liceo Classico Giulio Cesare, Rome (Italy)

Employment:

- 2020, Nov – present *Ricercatore* – Lecturer/Assistant Professor of Chinese History
University of Naples “L’Orientale” (Italy)
- 2017, Oct – 2020, Sep *Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter* – Postdoc researcher in Sinology
Friedrich-Alexander University in Erlangen (Germany)
- 2017, Apr - July *Professore a contratto* – Adj. Professor of East Asian Religions
Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna (Italy)
- 2017, Apr – May *Professore a contratto* – Adj. Professor of Chinese History
International University of Languages and Media (Italy)
- 2017, Feb - July *Professore a contratto* – Adj. Professor of Chinese Culture
D’Annunzio University in Chieti-Pescara (Italy)

Research Fellowships & Grants:

- 2024, March-June Fulbright Visiting Research Scholar.
Project title: “Conceptualizing American Federalism in 20th-century China & Taiwan”
University of Chicago (USA)
- 2023, March-July Visiting Researcher.
Project title: “Translating The Polis: Intellectuals In Republican China And The Reception Of Ancient Greek Political Concepts”
Centre for Advanced Studies, Sofia (Bulgaria)
- 2023, January Young Talents Research Grant (10000€)
University of Naples “L’Orientale” (internal competition)
- 2022, March – July Research Fellow.
Project title: “Chinese Narratives on the Collapse of Yugoslavia”
Polish Institute of Advanced Studies, Warsaw (Poland)
- 2021, May – June Research Fellow.
Project title: “A Conceptual History of Federalism in 20th-century China”
European Institute for Chinese Studies, Paris (France)

Memberships & Affiliations

- 2023, January – present Non resident Senior Fellow
ChinaMed Project – Torino World Affairs Institute
- 2022, June – present Fellow
Royal Historical Society

2022, January – present Board Member
European Association for Chinese Philosophy

Editorial Duties:

2016, Jan - present Managing Editor, *Ming Qing Yanjiu*,
University of Naples “L’Orientale” / Brill

Research Interests:

Chinese political thought; Intellectual, political and religious history of late Qing and Republican China; Conceptual History in China; Global Conceptual History; Chinese Historiography and Philosophy of History; Chinese Federalism; Utopianism in East Asia.

List of Publications:

- Monographs:

Confucian Concord: Reform, Utopia and Global Teleology in Kang Youwei's Datong Shu. Leiden: Brill, 2020. ISBN: 978-90-04-43444-8

- Edited Volumes:

Oriens Extremus 59, special issue on “Chinese Political Thought: Global Perspectives”, co-edited with Lisa Indraccolo. 2022.

- Articles:

(with Anne Schmiedl and Phillip Grimberg), “Of Words, Change, and Transplantations. Reshaping Chinese Concepts between Empire and Modernity”, *Contributions to the History of Concepts*, 18 (2), 2023, pp. 18-27. <https://doi:10.3167/choc.2023.180202>

“From Modern to Feudal: Conceptual Articulations of Federalism in Republican China”, *Contributions to the History of Concepts*, 18 (2), 2023, pp. 64-79.
<https://doi:10.3167/choc.2023.180205>

“A Federal Nightmare: The People’s Republic of China and the Breakup of Yugoslavia”, *Global Perspectives*, 4 (1), 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1525/gp.2023.75315>

“Il Centro, il Potere, la Tecnica: lo Han Feizi e la “forza” secondo Xi Jinping (Centre, Power, Technique: the Han Feizi and Xi Jinping’s concept of “strength”)”, *Sulla via del Catai*, XV, 27, 2022, pp. 13-32.

“Bridging Chinese and global intellectual history: four utopian impulses against boundaries” (Review Essay of Peter Zarrow’s *Abolishing Boundaries*), *Global Intellectual History Journal*, 7 (6), 2022, pp. 1065-1069.

“Swiss Enchantment. Modern Chinese Intellectuals and a Federal Utopia”, *Asian Studies*, 9.2, 2021, pp. 145-164.

“Hong Kong, the Chinese Myth of Unity and the Failure of Federalism”. EURICS Briefs, 7, 2020. http://www.eurics.eu/upload/document/20201218061204_eurics-december2020.pdf

“The Vital Centre: Understanding the Concept of Yao 要 in the *Han Feizi* 韓非子”, *Asiatische Studien*, 74.3, 2020: pp. 635-654.

“Russia, China, and the universalism of modernity: the “account of the reforms of Peter the great” by Kang Youwei”, *Journal of Modern Chinese History*, 14.1, 2020, pp. 1-22.

“A Harmonious Dialectic. Tang Yijie 汤一介 (1927-2014) and the ‘confucianization’ of Marxism”, *Oriens Extremus*, 57/58, 2018-19, pp. 71-86.

(with Chiara Ghidini) “Cosmopolitismo, Nazionalismo e Religioni nella Cina tardo-imperiale”, *Quaderni di Studi e Materiali di Storia delle Religioni*, 18, 2017, pp. 440-449.

“L’Impero invisibile: il ‘nazionalismo tradizional-socialista’ come cifra culturale della presidenza Xi?”, *Geopolitica*, 6.1, 2017, pp. 9-22.

“‘If China had a Pope’: Catholicism and the Political Role of Religion in Kang Youwei’s Italian Journal (*Yidali youji*)”, in Francesco Guardiani et al (eds), *Italy and China: Centuries of Dialogue*, Florence: Franco Cesati Editore, 2017, pp. 233-249.

“Transforming Benevolence: Classicism, Buddhism and Politics in Kang Youwei’s Lecture on ‘Ren’ 講仁字”, *Archiv orientální* 85, 2017, pp. 99-117.

“‘You Don’t Wear a Fur in Summer’ : Kang Youwei’s ‘Impartial Words on Republicanism’ (1917) and the Fate of Chinese Democracy”, *Asiatische Studien*, 71.1, 2017, pp. 5-30.

“A Tale of Two Utopias: Kang Youwei’s Communism, Mao Zedong’s Classicism and the ‘Accommodating Look’ of the Marxist Li Zehou”, *Asian Studies*, 5.1, 2017, pp. 103-122.

“‘Poisoning China’: Kang Youwei’s ‘Saving the Country’ and His Stance Against Han Nationalism”, *Ming Qing Yanjiu*, 18, 2014, pp. 133-158.

- Book Reviews:

Review of 张翔: 《大同立教——康有为政教思想研究》(Zhang Xiang: Establishment of Confucianism on Datong: A Study of Kang Youwei's Political and Religious Philosophy). *European Research Centre for Chinese Studies*, February 2024 [online]. <https://erccs.hypotheses.org/2112>

Thomas Tanase, *“Jusqu’aux limites du monde” : la papauté et la mission franciscaine, de l’Asie de Marco Polo à l’Amérique de Christophe Colomb* (École française de Rome, 2013) . *Ming Qing Yanjiu*, 18, 2014, pp. 191-192.

Gang Zhao, *The Qing Opening to the Ocean. Chinese Maritime Policies, 1684-1757* (Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 2013) . *Ming Qing Yanjiu*, 18, 2014, pp. 192-195.

Peter Zarrow, *After Empire: The Conceptual Transformation of the Chinese State, 1885-1924* (Stanford University Press, 2012) . *Ming Qing Yanjiu*, 18, 2014, pp. 195-197.

Claudine Salmon (ed.), *Literary Migrations: Traditional Chinese Fiction in Asia (17th - 20th Centuries)*, (Iseas Publishing, 2013) . *Ming Qing Yanjiu*, 18, 2014, pp. 197-198.

Conference Presentations, Talks and Lectures:

“Liberal Dangers: The Chinese Communist Party and the ‘Mexican Lesson’”.
Conference “When Global East Meets Global South”, University of **Kansas**, 29 March 2024.

“Huang Zunxian (1847-1905) as a “Confucian federalist”? Provincial self-government in China and the global circulation of political models”.
Inaugural Conference of the Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies, **Singapore** Management University, 19-22 June 2023.

“Conceptualizing Self-government in Republican China: Three Essays by Zhang Weici”.
Conference of the British and Irish Association for Political Thought, University of **Oxford**, 5-7 January 2023.

“Building Sovereignty Through Names: The Concept of Ming 名 in the Han Feizi 韩非子”.
Workshop “The Power of Language: Correcting Names in Chinese Thought and Society Past and Present”, University of **Prague**, 17-19 November 2022.

““Weaving the Periphery into the Centre: A Sociological Gaze on the Political Philosophy of Kang Youwei (1858–1927)”.
International Conference “Sociological Approaches to Modern Confucian Philosophy”, University of **Basel**, 29–31 August 2022.

“Han Fei and Thomas Hobbes: A Trans-Chronic Dialogue on Free Will, Power and Politics”.
International Conference “Beyond Free Will: Variety in Understanding of Choice, Luck, and Necessity”, University of **Vilnius**, 21 June 2022.

“Translating Federalism in Republican China: A Conceptual Analysis of Chen Jiongming’s Modest Proposal for the Unification of China”.

Conference "From Empire to Federation: Ideas and Practices of Diversity Management in Eurasia, 1905–1950", **Heidelberg** University, 23-24 May 2022 [online].

"Race, Reproduction, Resources: Kang Youwei's *Datongshu* as a 20th-century Global Prophecy".

Lecture at the Seminar on Neo-Confucian Studies, **Columbia** University, 1 April 2022 [online].

"Self-government (*zizhi*) in China from the late Qing to the Republic: a contested concept in the search for political modernity".

Lecture in the Series "New Perspectives on Modernity in China", CEMEAS, University of **Göttingen**, 28 January 2022.

"A Man Beyond the Race: Kang Youwei's (1858-1927) Prophecy of Ethnic Assimilation, Between Stereotypes and Universal Aspirations".

International Workshop "The Other in Chinese History and Thought: Territory, Race, Culture, Philosophy, Religion", **Ghent** University, 15-16 November 2021 [online].

"Centralization, Secrecy and Technique: The Pre-imperial Legalist School of Thought and its Authoritarian Legacy in China".

Workshop "Authoritarian Moments", MANCEPT Conference on Political Theory, University of **Manchester**, 7 September 2021 [online].

"Revolutionary Change vs Harmonious Transformation: Ai Siqi, Mao Zedong, Tang Yijie: Chinese Interpretations of Marxist Dialectics".

NACS Biennial Conference, University of **Helsinki**, 10 June 2021 [online].

"Why did Chinese Federalism fail? Conceptual Analysis and Global Perspectives".

Invited Speaker, Lecture Series in Global History, Vrije Universiteit **Amsterdam**, 25 March 2021 [online].

"A Great Concord Beyond the Nations: the Chinese Global Utopia of Kang Youwei (1858-1927)".

International Thought Network Conference, "States, Empires, Global Spaces. Visions of order beyond liberal internationalism", University of **Manchester**, 8 November 2019.

"The Imperial Algorithm: Han Fei's "techniques" (*shu* 術) and the Politics of Artificial Intelligence".

European Association for Chinese Philosophy, Third Biennial Conference, University of **Ghent**, 5-7 September 2019.

"From Modern to Feudal: The Conceptual Rejection of Federalism in Republican China" (panel organizer: "Across Imperial Boundaries: Reshaping Chinese Concepts between Tradition and Modernity").

22nd International Conference on the History of Concepts - Beyond Borders: Conceptualizing Boundaries, Crossings and Disruptions, El Colegio de **México**, 25-27 July 2019.

"The Will and the Centre: Understanding *Yao* 要 in the Han Feizi". (Panel co-organizer with Lisa Indraccolo, University of Zürich).

ISCP 21st International Conference on Chinese Philosophy, University of **Bern**, 2-5 July 2019.

“Globalizing Confucianism, Confucianizing Marxism. Philology and Politics in the Philosophy of Tang Yijie 汤一介 (1927-2014)”.

ULB-EASt Conference – 20th century East Asian Philosophies. Intercultural Entanglements & Original Contributions, Université Libre de **Bruxelles**, 6-7 May 2019.

“The Church of Confucius. Kang Youwei (1858-1927) and the Conceptual Debate on Religion”. KHK Monday Meeting – Invited Speaker, Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Ruhr-Universität **Bochum**, 8 April 2019.

“Swiss Enchantment: 19th and 20th Century Chinese Intellectuals and the Helvetic model. Democracy, Federalism and Utopia”.

22nd Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Studies, University of **Glasgow**, 29 August – 1 September 2018.

“One Will, One Power. Determinism and Centralism in the *Han Feizi*: Historical significance and Comparative Perspectives”.

50th Annual Conference of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, University of **Krakow**, 8-11 June 2018.

“The Tsar’s Mirror. The ‘Account of the Reforms of Peter the Great’ by Kang Youwei (1858-1927). A Russian Model to Save the Chinese Empire”.

Seminar: “The Tsarist/Soviet empires and the history of modernity in Asia”, LMU **Munich**, 12-13 September 2017.

“Chen Jiongming’s *Zhongguo tongyi chuyi* (1927) and the Failure of Federalism in Modern China”.

European Association for Chinese Philosophy, Second Biennial Conference, University of **Basel**, 7-9 September 2017.

“La ‘Cina forte’ di Xi Jinping: Radici storiche e implicazioni geopolitiche del ritorno di una grande potenza”.

Special Lecture, Postgrad. Specialization in Economic Security, Geopolitics and Intelligence, SIOI - The Italian Society for International Organization in **Rome**, 8 April 2017.

“La religione di Confucio: Nazionalismo, tradizione e modernità in Cina dalla fine dell’Impero all’inizio del ventunesimo secolo”.

Special Lecture, Confucius Institute, University of **Naples** “L’Orientale”, 15 November 2016.

“Time, History and Modernity in Kang Youwei’s *Datongshu* : An example of Chinese Studies in a Global Intellectual History framework”.

ICSSISU Conference “Methodology and System: An International Dialogue of China Studies”, **Shanghai** International Studies University, 05 November 2016.

“A Tale of Two Utopias: Unwitting Socialism and Unconscious Classicism in the Agendas of Kang Youwei and Mao Zedong”.

European Association for Chinese Philosophy, Inaugural Biennial Conference, University of **Vilnius**, 09-11 June 2016.

“Cosmopolitanism, Nationalism and Religion in Late Imperial China”, with Chiara Ghidini.

SISR - Società Italiana di Storia delle Religioni, National Conference, Sapienza University of **Rome**, 08 April 2016.

“Catholicism and the Political Role of Religion in Kang Youwei’s *Italian Journal* (1904)”. International Conference “Italy and China, Europe and East Asia: Centuries of Dialogue”, University of **Toronto**, 07 April 2016.

Organized Events:

“Conceptualizing Self-determination in the Chinese Context”, International Workshop, University of **Naples** “L’Orientale”, 13 October 2023.

“Chinese Frontier Zones before and after Empire: Contacts, Conflicts, Conceptualizations”, International Workshop, University of **Naples** “L’Orientale” (with Prof. Donatella Guida), 12-13 December 2022.

“The Breakup of Yugoslavia as a Global Event”, Online Roundtable, 17 May 2022 (organized with Dr. Or Rosenboim, City University London).

“Chinese Political Thought. A Global Dialogue beyond Orientalism”, Online International Workshop, 20-21 January 2022 (organized with Prof. Lisa Indraccolo, Tallinn University).

“Federalism in a Global Perspective”, Online Seminars, (with Dr. Or Rosenboim, City University of London), October-November 2021.

“China in the 17th century: Trauma, Transition and Global Transformations”, International Hybrid Workshop, University of **Naples** “L’Orientale” (with Prof. Donatella Guida), 20-22 October 2021.

“Conversations on Chinese Philosophy”, Series of Online Conferences (with Prof. Chiara Ghidini, L’Orientale, and Prof. Lisa Indraccolo, Tallinn University), Spring Semester 2021.

“Making Conceptual History in/on China: Challenges and Opportunities” – Webinar (with Joseph Ciaudo, University of Ghent), 11 December 2020.