

Elena Caruso: *Curriculum Vitae*

Postdoctoral Fellow in Law at the University of Waterloo, Canada

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ACADEMIC POSITION

2023– current, AMTD Waterloo Global Talent Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Waterloo, Canada.

2022–2023, Assistant Lecturer in Law, University of Kent, United Kingdom.

EDUCATION

2019 –2023, PhD in Law (passed on 11th July 2023 ‘without corrections’), University of Kent, United Kingdom

- Thesis: *The Feminist Movement and the ‘Becoming Legal’ of Abortion in Italy (1971-1981): A Socio-legal and Historical Study*
- Supervisors: Professor Sally Sheldon FAcSS (main supervisor), Professor Maria Drakopoulou, Dr Julie McCandless

2018 – 2019, LLM in International Law, University of Kent, United Kingdom, with distinction (final average 81.2%)

- Thesis: *Feminism and the ‘Siren Call’ of International Law: The Case of Abortion: Between Limits and Possibilities*

2009 – 2015, Combined BA/MA degree in Law, University of Catania, Italy, 110/110 *e lode* (highest grade)

- Thesis in Constitutional and European Law (in Italian): *Il ‘dialogo’ tra le Corti Costituzionali e la Corte di Giustizia dell’Unione Europea: lo strumento del rinvio pregiudiziale* (‘The “dialogue” between the Constitutional Courts and the Court of Justice of the European Union through the preliminary ruling’).

MAIN HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 2023 - 2025, AMTD Waterloo Global Talent Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.
- PhD viva examination passed ‘*without corrections*’, Kent Law School, 11th July 2023.
- Selected participant of the Global Scholars Academy of the Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) at the Harvard Law School, which was held at the Stellenbosch University, in South Africa, 16-20 January 2023 (full grant).
- Selected participant of the Socio-legal Masterclass on Methodology at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, 5-6 September 2022 (organiser: Professor Linda Mulcahy, Department of Law, University of Oxford) (full grant).
- Kent Law School Head of School Prize for Academic Excellence as ‘the highest performing LLM student for 2018/2019’.
- 2018 – 2023, Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) - Southeast Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) 1+3 Scholarship (Project Reference: 2111776, [link](#)).

- 2015, on the list of the 'excellent' law students of the Academic Year 2014/2015 at the University of Catania (*Anagrafe dei laureati eccellenti*).

VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

- *Upcoming* Visiting Fellow at European University Institute, Law Department, Florence, Italy, 1 May 2024 – 30 June 2024 (sponsor: Professor Gráinne de Búrca).
- Visiting Fellow at the University of Technology Sydney, Law School, Australia, 15 – 31 March 2024 (sponsor: Professor Michael Thomson).
- Visiting Scholar at the Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 1 – 15 March 2024 (sponsor: Professor Ann Genovese).
- Visiting Fellow Institute for Feminist Legal Studies, Osgoode Law School, University of York, Ontario, Canada, 1 March – 1 April 2022 (sponsor: Professor Roxanne Mykitiuk).
- (Virtual) Visiting Scholar at the Centre of Law and Society, Cardiff School of Law and Politics, United Kingdom, 1 December 2021 – 28 February 2022 (sponsor: Professor Russell Sandberg).
- Visiting Student at the The School of Law, University of Bonn, Germany, 1 March – 1 August 2014 (sponsor: Professor Christian Hillgruber).

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles in Peer-reviewed Academic Journals

- Caruso, E. (forthcoming). 'How Did You Get In There And Make The Law Work?' A Socio-Legal Analysis Of The Feminist Occupation Of Umberto I Hospital In 1978 Italy', submitted in ***Social & Legal Studies*** in December 2023 (accepted with minor revision, 2 April 2024).
- Caruso, E. (2023). 'The Hyper-regulation of Abortion Care in Italy'. ***International Journal of Gynaecology & Obstetrics***, online first 16 September 2023, available in open access at this [link](#).
- Caruso E. (2022). 'Sull'aborto farmacologico in telemedicina: spunti di riflessione per un dibattito in Italia' (Telemedical Early Medical Abortion: Notes for a Debate in Italy). *Annali dell'Istituto storico italo-germanico in Trento* [Special Issue: 'Maternità negata, maternità rifiutata. Aborto tra Otto e Novecento', edited by Marina Garbellotti and Cecilia Nubola, in print, in Issue 2/2022]. Publication in a 'Fascia A' first class academic journal according to the ANVUR, the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research Systems.
- Caruso, E. (2021). "'Much Ado About Nothing?'" The New Policy on Early Medical Abortion (EMA) in Italy'. *The Italian Law Journal*, 7(2), pp. 647-658 (available in open access at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. and Fisicaro, M. (2021). 'Aborto e declino democratico in Polonia: una riflessione a margine della sentenza del Tribunale costituzionale del 22 ottobre 2020' ('Abortion and democratic decline in Poland: a reflection on the Constitutional Tribunal's ruling of 22 October 2020'). *Rivista di studi giuridici sull'orientamento sessuale e identità di genere Genlus*, pp. 1- 27, published online first (invited submission, available in open access at this [link](#)). Publication in a 'Fascia A' first class academic journal according to the ANVUR, the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research Systems.
- Caruso, E. (2020). 'The Ambivalence of Law: Some Observations on the Denied Access to Abortion

Services in Italy'. *Feminist Review* [Special Issue on 'Abortion in Ireland', edited by Sydney Calkin, Fiona de Londras, Gina Heathcote, invited submission], 124, pp. 183-191 (available at this [link](#)).

- Caruso, E. (2020). 'Abortion in Italy: 40 years on'. *Feminist Legal Studies*, 28, pp. 87-96 (available in open access at this [link](#)); the most downloaded paper of the journal in 2020, with 2255 accesses, cited in *The New York Times* (15 December 2021).
- Caruso, E. (2019). 'Il crocevia mancato tra Roma e Strasburgo in materia di interruzione volontaria di gravidanza' ('The Missed Crossroads between Rome and Strasbourg on Abortion Services'). *La Comunità Internazionale*, 3, pp. 447-474 (available at this [link](#)). Publication in a 'Fascia A' first class academic journal according to the ANVUR, the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research Systems.

Book chapter

- Caruso, E. (2013). «Itivinni a fari 'a cuasetta!» ovvero una *femenista* alle pendici dell' Etna ('«Make a stocking!»: feminism from the Etna Vulcano'), in Emma Baeri, *Dividua. Femminismo e Cittadinanza*, Padua: Il Poligrafo, pp. 265-279.

Book reviews in peer-reviewed academic journal articles

- Caruso, E. (2021). Pickles, C. and Herring, J., eds. (2020). *Women's Birthing Bodies and the Law. Unauthorised Intimate Examinations, Power and Vulnerability*. Oxford: Hart Publishing. *Feminist Legal Studies*, published online first, pp.1-4 (invited submission, available at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2018). Cattaneo, C. and D'Amico, M. eds., *I diritti annegati. I morti senza nome del Mediterraneo*, Milano, FrancoAngeli, 2016, pp. 128. *Diritto Immigrazione Cittadinanza*, 3, pp.1-4 (available at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2017). De Vido, S., *Donne, Violenza e Diritto Internazionale. La Convenzione di Istanbul del Consiglio d'Europa del 2011*, Mimesis, Milano, 2016, pp. 286. *About Gender- Rivista internazionale degli studi di genere*, 6(11), pp. 422-427 (available at this [link](#)).

Blog posts, magazine and newspapers' articles (selection)

- Caruso, E. (2021). 'Aborto farmacologico "autogestito" in telemedicina: una realtà anche in Italia ma il nostro Ssn lo ignora', *La27esima Ora, Corriere della Sera*, 4 November (available online at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2021). 'ITALY – Eight years later, the right to health and non-discrimination in abortion services still not secured', *International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion*, 14 April (available online at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2020). 'Il diritto di aborto e l'attivismo internazionale della dottoressa Gomperts', *La 27esima Ora, Corriere della Sera*, 22 October (available online at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. and Zanini, G. (2020). 'Access to medical abortion in Italy is characterised by "unnecessary burdens" and "unjustified barriers" – this has stayed the same during the pandemic', *International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion*, 16 June (available online at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. and Toschi, M. (2020). 'In tempo di Covid-19 è necessario l'aborto telemedico. L'ospedalizzazione è un pericolo per la salute pubblica', *La 27esima Ora, Corriere della Sera*, 26 March (available online at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2018). 'Le donne utero di The Handmaid's Tale', *Europe Youth Utopia*, 2 (Winter), pp. 94-97.
- Caruso, E. (2018). 'Questioni ancora aperte', *Legendaria*, 129, pp. 44-46 (full issue available at this [link](#)).
- Caruso, E. (2013). 'Agata santa ribelle', *il manifesto*, 06 February, p. 16 (available at this [link](#)).

Exhibition Catalogues

- Badalato, O., Baeri, E., Brancati, E., Caruso, E., Chiavaro, M., Cosentino, A., Fichera, R., Guarrera, K., Mollica, A., Palidda, R., Pecora, C. (2021). *Anche la cancellazione è violenza*, II ed. (I ed. 2016; Bologna: Assemblée Legislativa Emilia Romagna; available at this [link](#)), pp. 1-72.
- Badalato, O., Baeri, E., Brancati, E., Caruso, E., Chiavaro, M., Cosentino, A., Fichera, R., Guarrera, K., Mollica, A., Palidda, R., Pecora, C. (2018). *Anche la cancellazione è violenza. Le Scienziate* (Bologna: Assemblée Legislativa Emilia Romagna; available at this [link](#)), pp. 1-50.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND GUEST LECTURES

- Academic Year 2022/2023, Teacher of 'Introduction to the English Legal System' (LAWS3270), University of Kent.
- Academic Year 2022/2023, Teacher of 'Public Law 1' (LAWS5880), University of Kent.
- Academic Year 2022/2023, Teacher of 'Public Law 2' (LAWS5920), University of Kent.
- Invited Guest Lecturer on Feminist Legal Theory, Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City (virtual), 2 August 2022 (host: Dr Hien Trinh).
- Invited Guest Lecturer of 'Reproductive Justice: A Conversation' with Dr Nayla Luz Vacarezza and Mariana Ardila Trujillo. Gender and Public Policy Specialisation Program (director: Professor Yasmine Ergas), Columbia University, New York, United States of America, 11 March 2022.
- Invited Guest Lecturer of the 'The Make-Up: Representations of Gender in Italy' module, University of Kent, 26 November 2021 (convenor: Dr Alvise Sforza Tarabochia, Head of School of Cultures and Languages).
- Invited Guest Lecturer of the 'Transnational Law' module, University of Catania, 26 and 27 April 2018 (convenor: A/Prof. Adriana Di Stefano).
- Invited Guest Lecturer on 'Xenofobia ovvero la paura dello straniero, una storia antica: da Giasone di Tessaglia ai Giasoni d'Europa', University of Catania, 18 December 2014, (convenor: Dr Katerina Papatheu), news available at this [link](#).

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2023 – ongoing, Anti-Abortion Mobilisation and Constitutional Law with Dr Gauri Pillai and Karolina Kocemba (European University Institute, Italy).

This project aims at exploring the nuances of anti-abortion mobilisation through the use of constitutional law. We aim to propose a panel at the upcoming ICON conference in Madrid in July 2024 and a Special Issue for the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*.

- 2021 – ongoing, 'Feminist Judgments in Continental Europe' with Dr Elena Ghidoni (Deusto University, Spain)

The project aims at revisiting key judgments in civil law jurisdictions in Europe from a feminist perspective. So far, and I co-organised a two-day workshop to be held at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain, in May 2023 (application accepted in a competitive process). Previously, I also co-organised a stream 'Feminist Judgments as Frankenlaw Experiments: Challenging the Liberal Paradigm in Civil Law Countries', at the Critical Legal Conference, University of Dundee, United Kingdom, 2-4 September 2021.

- 2022 – ongoing, 'Italian feminist jurisprudence' with Professor Ann Genovese (Melbourne Law School, Victoria, Australia)

The project aims at 'translating' into English, writings on feminism and the law produced within the Italian feminism. In particular, our current focus is on the work of Emma Baeri (i.e., *The feminist preamble to the Italian Constitution*, 1998).

- 2022– ongoing, the 'Sticking Out' method with Dr Julie McCandless (University of Kent, UK)

The project aims at developing an innovative pedagogical method, to be implemented in our work as law teachers and researchers. The 'Sticking Out' refers to a collective method of reflection on and engagement with a written text, starting explicitly 'from ourselves', from those 'sticking out words' that attract our attention when we read a text.

MAIN RESEARCH GRANTS (SELECTION)

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship** (Principal Applicant, University of Waterloo, Canada, September 2023-September 2025, \$165,000 Canadian dollars)

I am the recipient of one of the very few and highly competitive AMTD Waterloo Global Talent Postdoctoral Fellowship awarded by the University of Waterloo, to conduct a two-year project entitled "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: Self-Managed Abortion in Contemporary Italy" (supervisor: Dr Alana Cattapan).

- **Conference Grant** (University of Deusto, Spain, December 2022, Euro 6,873)

'Agenda Equality 2030-University of Deusto' grant to fund the fees, travel and accommodation costs for 11 people and one social dinner for 25 people at the workshop on 'Feminist Engagements with the Law in Contemporary Europe: Perspectives from Activism, Legal Professions and Academia', International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain, 25-26 May 2023 (Principal Applicant: Dr Elena Ghidoni).

- **Research Project Grant** (Co-investigator, Kent Law School, July 2022, £1,246)

Kent Law School funds my position as a Research Associate of the Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (SeRGJ) to develop a pedagogical initiative on the 'Sticking Out' method, which brings feminist consciousness raising to academic practice (Principal Applicant: Dr Julie McCandless).

- **Study Abroad Scholarship** (Principal Applicant, ESRC-SeNSS, March 2022, £2,700)

Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) - Southeast Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) Overseas Institutional Visit to fund my travel to and stay in Toronto during my visiting fellowship at Osgoode Law School, University of York, Ontario, Canada.

- **Overseas Fieldwork Grant** (Principal Applicant, ESRC-SeNSS, October 2021, £1,810)

Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) - Southeast Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) Overseas Fieldwork to fund my travel and stay in Rome and Milan, Italy, during my fieldwork.

- **PhD Scholarship** (Principal Applicant, ESRC-SeNSS, September 2018- March 2023, £24,000 approx.)

Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) - Southeast Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) 1+3 Scholarship to fund the fees of my LL.M and my PhD in Law at Kent Law School, United Kingdom.

- **PhD Scholarship** (Principal Applicant, Kent Law School, September 2018- March 2023, £68,000 approx.)

Kent Law School Scholarship to fund the stipend of my LL.M in International Law and my PhD in Law at Kent Law School, United Kingdom.

- **Study Abroad Scholarship** (Principal Applicant, EU, March 2014- July 2014, €2000)

EU Erasmus Scholarship to fund my research and stay at the Law School, University of Bonn, Germany.

- **Study Abroad Scholarship** (Principal Applicant, Optima Italia s.p.a. - March 2014 – July 2014, €3000)

Optima Erasmus Scholarship is an additional scholarship to fund for my research and stay at the School of Law, University of Bonn, Germany.

Decline of a grant offer/ Withdrawal of applications at the interview stage

- **Invitation to an Interview.** Leverhulme Trust, Study Abroad Studentship, for a two-year residence at the Melbourne Law School (sponsor: Professor Ann Genovese), £ 53,000 approx., official invitation to interview with a letter of 7/03/2023. Withdrawal of application for the incompatibility with the position at the University of Waterloo.
- **Offer of a Research Grant.** Queen Mary University of London, Research Studentship, 36 months award to cover course fees and stipend at the standard research council rate (prospected supervisors: Dr Ruth Fletcher and Professor Rosemary Hunter), £ 65,000 approx., official grant offer with a letter of 16/03/2018. Decline of the offer for the incompatibility with the ESRC-SeNSS scholarship and Kent Law School Scholarship at the University of Kent.

INVITATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS IN PUBLIC EVENTS (SELECTION)

Invitations to academic events

- *Upcoming* solo seminar presentation 'The Becoming Legal: Feminism, Abortion, and the Law in 1970s Italy', Law Health Justice Seminar, 19 March 2024 ([link](#)).
- Invited speaker at the event 'Reproducing abortion: a feminist conversation on bodily autonomy in the shadow of Dobbs', Institute for International Law and the Humanities at the Melbourne Law School, 8 March 2024 ([link](#)).
- Invited speaker at the Symposium on Reproductive Rights in Europe, **Sciences Po**, Paris, France on 1 December 2023 ([link](#)) (participation fully funded by Sciences Po).
- Invited speaker at the Roundtable on Reproductive Rights in Italy and in the USA at the American Association for Italian Studies (AAIS), Texas, 18-20 May 2023 (declined invitation).
- Invited speaker at the seminar 'Aborto: tra diritto ed etica', University of Rome Tre, 12 December 2022 ([link](#)).
- Solo seminar presentation 'The "Social Decriminalisation" of Abortion and the Rise of the Feminist Movement in 1970s Italy', Osgoode Society Legal History Workshop 2022-2023 (Fall term), Canada (virtual), 23 November 2022 ([link](#)).

- Invited speaker of the seminar ‘Right-wing legal mobilisation and reproductive rights in the EU’, European University Institute, Badia Fiesolana, Italy, 9 November 2022 ([link](#)) (participation fully funded by the European University Institute).
- Invited speaker as legal expert of Italian abortion law at the final dissemination conference of the ERC (European Research Council) project – Women travelling to seek abortion care in Europe, University of Barcelona, 22-23 June 2022 (full program available [here](#)) (participation fully funded by the European Research Council).
- Solo seminar presentation ‘«It’s not that we had the recipe in our pocket»: the Feminist Movement and the Run-Up to the Parliamentary Reform on Abortion (1971-1978)’, Centre of Law and Society’s ‘Work in Progress’ series, Cardiff School of Law and Politics, United Kingdom, 4 May 2022.
- Solo seminar presentation ‘«It Was Like a Knockout Blow» The Implementation of the Italian Abortion Law 194 and the Collapse of the Feminist Movement (1978-1981)’, Institute for Feminist Legal Studies, Osgoode Law School, University of York, Ontario, Canada, 6 April 2022 ([link](#)).

Invitations to other public events

- Guest speaker of the MedusaFest 2023 (with Women Help Women), Catania, 13 October 2023.
- Guest speaker of the Summer School on Epidemiology ‘Giornate di Epidemiologia “Carlo Corchia”’, Florence, 8-10 June 2023 (presentation funded by the organisers).
- Guest speaker of the International Festival of Journalism (panel on abortion with activist Alice Merlo and journalist Giulia Siviero), Perugia, 23 April 2023 (declined invitation).
- Guest speaker in ‘Il grido globale femminista/ El Grito global transfeminista’, organised by Non Una Di Meno Transterritoriale Marche, Piacenza and Cagliari, webinar, 2 May 2021, full video available at this [link](#).
- Guest speaker in ‘TeleAborto: una sfida necessaria’, organised by the Coordinamento delle Assemblee delle Donne dei Consultori, webinar, 1 March 2021, program available at this [link](#).
- Guest speaker in ‘Conversazioni fra generazioni sulla cittadinanza femminile’, organised by the Mantua’s Istituto mantovano di Storia contemporanea, Italy, 13 March 2018, program available at this [link](#) (participation fully funded by the Istituto mantovano di Storia contemporanea).
- Guest speaker in ‘Preservati Vivo: come le i tabù producono diseguaglianze’, organised by the student society ‘Link’, University of Catania, Italy, 28 March 2018.
- Guest speaker in ‘L’altra parte di me’, Catania’s Palace of Culture, Italy, 13 November 2014.

Presentations in Academic Events

(Where not differently stated, the participation in the events listed in this CV between 2018-2023 has to be considered funded by the research allowance I had as PhD student at Kent Law School or as a recipient of a doctoral ESRC-SeNSS award)

- *Upcoming* Presentation of the paper ‘Why Abortion History Matters. The Case of Self-Managed Abortion (SMA) in 1970s Italy’ at the Abortion & Reproductive Justice Conference 2024, Bangkok, Thailand, 16-18 February 2024.

- Presentation of the paper 'Rewriting the Law: A perspective from the 1970s Italian Feminism' at the workshop on 'Feminist Engagements with the Law in Contemporary Europe: Perspectives from Activism, Legal Professions and Academia', International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain, 25-26 May 2023 ([link](#), presentation funded by the University of Deusto).
- Presentation of the paper 'Sewing Fragments of Memories for Making Feminist Legal History', at the Global Meeting on Law and Society, Law and Society Association (LSA), ISCTE University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal, 13-16 July 2022.
- Introduction to the stream (with Dr Elena Ghidoni, Deusto University) 'Feminist Judgments as Frankenlaw Experiments: Challenging the Liberal Paradigm in Civil Law Countries', Critical Legal Conference, University of Dundee, United Kingdom, 2 September 2021.
- Presentation of the paper 'Challenge and Perspective on Abortion Between Activism and Research in Italy and Beyond', Society for the Study of Social Problems' Annual Virtual Conference, virtually held in Chicago, United States of America, 6 August 2021.
- Presentation of the paper 'Abortion and the Rule of Law: An historical and social-legal study on Italian Feminism and abortion in the long 1970s', 2nd Year PhD Projects' Presentation, Kent Law School, United Kingdom, 15 June 2021.
- Host and interviewer of the author, Dr John Christopoulos (UBC), at the book launch 'Abortion in Early Modern Italy', Intensive Doctoral Week, Sciences Po Law Department, virtually held in Paris, France, 15 June 2021.
- Presentation of the paper 'Now and Then: researching on abortion in 1970s Italy from the perspective of a today's activist', 'Antropologia dell'aborto: complessità e sfide di una ricerca impegnata', virtually hosted at the Unione Femminile and Bicocca-University in Milan, Italy, 19 February 2021 (program available at this [link](#)).
- Presentation of the paper 'Feminist Engagements with International Law: the Case of Abortion', Intensive Doctoral Week, Sciences Po Law Department, Paris, France, 20 June 2019.
- Presentation of the paper 'Feminism and the "siren call" of International Law' at the Postgraduate Student Conference, Kent Law School, United Kingdom, 4 June 2019.
- Presentation of the paper 'Missing Migrants and Unidentified Bodies: A Clinical Glance on the Right to Know in the European Context' at the Conference on Contemporary Issues of International and EU Human Rights Law, Ljubljana Law School, Slovenia, 9 July 2018 (participation fully funded by the 'Coesione e Diritto' Legal Clinic and Italian Red Cross).
- Presentation of the paper 'Abortion in Italy: 40 years on' at the conference 'A quarant'anni dalla Legge 22 maggio 1978, n 194', Catania Law School, Italy, 19 May 2018 (program available at this [link](#)).
- Presentation of the paper 'The Loss of the Mother: New Challenges for Italian Child Law' at the Conference on Feminist Reflections on Law, Society and Care, the School of Law, Manchester Metropolitan University and the Sylvia Pankhurst Centre for Gender Research, United Kingdom, 21 July 2017.
- Presentation of the paper 'Obscene Bodies, Obscene Laws. A Reflection on Some Effects of the Public/private dichotomy' at the Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers Conference, Durham Law School, United Kingdom, 11 May 2017.
- Presentation of the paper 'The Ambivalence of Law: Instrument of Oppression or of Liberation for Women? A Feminist experience of Law in Italy: Abortion Law', Conference on Feminist Experiences of Law. Provocations III, Melbourne Law School, Victoria, Australia, 27-28 October 2016.

Talks and presentations in other public events (selection)

- Introduction to the event 'Aborto telemedico, tra esperienze e nuove prospettive', webinar, 27 January 2021, full video available at this [link](#).
- Introduction and chair of the event 'La Democrazia del Grillo', CGIL (Italian biggest trade union), Catania, Italy, 12 April 2013, news available at this [link](#).
- Speaker of the event in 'Direzione diritti civili?' with Annapaola Concia **MP** (member of the Italian Parliament) and Professor Graziella Priulla (feminist and sociologist), Catania Law School, Italy, 2 April 2012, program available at this [link](#).
- Introduction and chair of the event 'L'Italia è un Paese per donne?' with Anna Finocchiaro **MP** (member of the Italian Parliament and **former Italian Minister for Gender Equality**), Catania's Palace of Culture, Italy 2 December 2011.
- Introduction and chair of the event 'Meglio fottete che farsi comandare da questi?' with Pierfrancesco Diliberto (actor), Giulia Innocenzi (journalist) and Giuseppe Berretta **MP** (member of the Italian Parliament), Tertulia bookshop in Catania, Italy, 26 June 2011.
- Introduction and chair of the event 'La Riforma Gelmini. Come cambia l'Università?' with Salvatore Vassallo **MP** (member of the Italian Parliament) and Professor Luciano Modica (academic and politician), Faculty of Modern Languages, University of Catania, Italy, 21 March 2011.
- Introduction and chair of the event 'Testamento biologico', with Mina Welby (Associazione Luca Coscioni), Catania Law School, Italy, 30 November 2010.
- Invited speaker of 'Il Sessantotto al futuro', with Mario Capanna (politicians and writer), Faculty of Modern Languages, University of Catania, Italy, 22 April 2008, news available at this [link](#).

ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS

Academic Events

- Co-organiser of the workshop on 'Feminist Engagements with the Law in Contemporary Europe: Perspectives from Activism, Legal Professions and Academia', International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain, 25-26 May 2023 ([link](#)).
- Co-organiser (with Dr Elena Ghidoni, Deusto University) of the call for paper and stream on 'Feminist Judgments as Frankenlaw Experiments: Challenging the Liberal Paradigm in Civil Law Countries', at the Critical Legal Conference, University of Dundee, United Kingdom, 2-4 September 2021.
- Organiser of the book launch 'Abortion in Early Modern Italy' with the author Dr John Christopoulos (UBC), Intensive Doctoral Week, Sciences Po Law Department, virtually held in Paris, France, 15 June 2021.
- Co-organiser of the conference 'Antropologia dell'aborto: complessità e sfide di una ricerca impegnata', virtually hosted at the Unione Femminile and Bicocca-University in Milan, Italy, 19 February 2021 (program available at this [link](#)).
- Co-organiser of the conference 'A quarant'anni dalla Legge 22 maggio 1978, n 194', Catania Law School, Italy, 19 May 2018 (program available at this [link](#)).

Other Public Events (selection)

- Co-organiser of the event 'Aborto telemedico, tra esperienze e nuove prospettive', webinar, 27 January 2021, full video available at this [link](#).

- Co-organiser of the event ‘Direzione diritti civili?’ with Annapaola Concia MP (member of the Italian Parliament) and Professor Graziella Priulla (feminist and sociologist), Catania Law School, Italy, 2 April 2012, program available at this [link](#).
- Organiser of the event ‘L’Italia è un Paese per donne?’ with Anna Finocchiaro MP (member of the Italian Parliament and former Italian Minister for Gender Equality), Catania’s Palace of Culture, Italy 2 December 2011.
- Co-organiser of the event ‘Meglio fottete che farsi comandare da questi?’ with Pierfrancesco Diliberto (actor), Giulia Innocenzi (journalist) and Giuseppe Berretta MP (member of the Italian Parliament), Tertulia bookshop in Catania, Italy, 26 June 2011.
- Co-organiser of the event ‘La Riforma Gelmini. Come cambia l’Università?’ with Salvatore Vassallo MP (member of the Italian Parliament) and Professor Luciano Modica (academic and politician), Faculty of Modern Languages, University of Catania, Italy, 21 March 2011.
- Co-organiser of the event ‘Testamento biologico’, with Mina Welby (Associazione Luca Coscioni), Catania Law School, Italy, 30 November 2010.

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC EVENTS (SELECTION)

- Participant of the international conference ‘Whose choice, whose rights? Global-historical and intersectional approaches to the emergence of reproductive rights after 1945’, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom, 9-10 June 2022 (participation fully funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)).
- Participant of the Annual European Society of International Law (ESIL) research forum, Catania, Italy, 15-16 April 2021.
- Participant of the Annual Critical Legal Conference, Perugia, Italy, 12-14 September 2019.
- Participant of the Annual Socio Legal Studies Association (SLSA) conference, Leeds, United Kingdom, 3-5- April 2019.
- Participant of the Annual European Society of International Law (ESIL) conference, Manchester, United Kingdom, 13-15 September 2018.
- Participant as representative of the Legal Clinic ‘Coesione e Diritto’ of the roundtable: ‘Kick-off Conference: skills transfers in academia: a renewed strategy enhancing legal clinics in the European Union’, 24 November 2017, Romanian-American University, Bucharest (participation fully funded by the ‘Coesione e Diritto’ Legal Clinic and Italian Red Cross).
- Selected participant of an on-site visit at the European Court of Human Rights: attendance of a hearing (case *Bărbulescu c. Roumanie*) at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and meeting with Judge Pinto de Albuquerque and the President of the Court, Judge Guido Raimondi, 30 November 2016 (coordinator A/Professor Adriana Di Stefano).
- Selected participant of an on-site visit at the European Union Institutions: attendance of a hearing at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg and visit of European Parliament in Bruxelles, May 2012 (coordinator Professor Nicoletta Parisi).

LEGAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

07.2022- 09.2022, Research Associate for the Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (SeRGJ),

University of Kent (40 hours)

- academic advisor: Dr Julie McCandless
- developing an innovative pedagogical tool: the 'Sticking Out' method.

06.2021- 07.2021, Research Assistant for the Centre for Critical Thought (CCT), University of Kent (25 hours)

- academic advisor: Professor Maria Drakopoulou
- main duties and responsibilities: updating the list of the CCT members; updating the mailing list and website of the CCT; attendance at the board members' meetings; contribution at the organisation/planification of CCT events.

07.2019–09.2019, Research Assistant in International Law, Melbourne Law School, Victoria, Australia (54 hours)

- Australian Research Council (ARC) - Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) project 'International Law and the Legacies of Fascist Internationalism'
- academic advisor: Dr Rose Parfitt
- main duties and responsibilities: doctrinal legal research on International Law; writing a summary and providing a translation of International Law documents from the Italian Minister of External Affairs' archive and library.

03.2017 – 09.2018 Senior Research Staff Member of the Legal Clinic 'Coesione e Diritto', Catania Law School, Italy

- academic advisors: A/Professor Adriana Di Stefano and Professor Rosario Sapienza
- main duties and responsibilities: recruitment and mentoring of the new cohort of clinical students; writing legal opinions; conducting legal research
- member of the 'missing migrants' project (with the Italian Red Cross – Catania)
- board member of CRIO (Centre of Research on International Organizations), an initiative promoted by the International Law Chair at the University of Catania Law School
- member of the *Crio Papers* journal editorial team
- qualification of 'operator of International Humanitarian Law' (*operatore di diritto internazionale umanitario*) by the Italian Red Cross' National Committee of International Humanitarian Law.

06.2015–12.2016, Assistant of a Judge, Catania Juvenile Court, Italy

- advisor: judge Emma Seminara
- main duties and responsibilities: I dealt with legal cases of juvenile crime, adoption, family and immigration law. I attended judicial hearings and council chambers, wrote decrees drafts, and researched on children rights' law; I focused on the increasing phenomenon of the immigration of unaccompanied minors from Africa to Sicily. I worked alongside the minors, mainly Nigerian young women, and facilitated

communication in English and Nigerian Pidgin English.

05.2015–11.2015, Legal Trainee, Francesco Gentile Law Firm, Naples, Italy

- advisor: Francesco Gentile (lawyer)
- main duties and responsibilities: I conducted legal research on workers' issues in the industrial district of Naples, which is one of the biggest in Italy; I dealt with legal cases on illegal work conditions such as exposure to health-threatening levels of asbestos in the workplace, in several factories in Naples.

02.2013–12.2013, Branch Manager, Non-profit organisation *Avvocato di Strada* ('Street lawyer'), Catania, Italy

- main duties and responsibilities: I did organisational and managerial work for this charity providing legal assistance to homeless people. I organised and promoted public events, including a training course for lawyers who volunteered in the charity.

JOURNAL REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- 1/2024, Reviewer, *Culture, Health and Sexuality* (1 review).
- 1/2023, Reviewer, *Studi sulla Questione Criminale* (1 review).
- 7/2021, Reviewer, *BioLaw Journal* (1 review).
- 3/2021, Reviewer, *Frontiers in Psychiatry* (1 review).

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS, RESEARCH NETWORKS, PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS (SELECTION)

- **Fellow** of the Legal Clinic 'Coessione e Diritto', University of Catania, Italy.
- **Fellow** of the Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Centre (GENUS), University of Catania, Italy.
- Member of the University of Kent's Centres: Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL); Centre for Critical Thought (CCT); Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (SeRGJ).
- Invited member of the Early Career Research Forum on AHRC project on 'Inventing Reproductive Rights: Sex, Bodies and Population 1945-1995' (invited member) – Principal Investigator: Professor Maud Bracke (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom).
- Member of the Law and Society Association (LSA) and of the LSA's International Research Collaborative on 'Self-managed abortion in law, politics and policy' (organisers: Professor Joanna Erdman, Dr Mariana Prandini Assis) and on 'Feminist Judgments' at the Law and Society Association (organisers: Kathryn Stanchi, Bridget Crawford, Sharon Cowan).
- Member of the Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health (CORTH), University of Sussex.
- Member of the Osgoode Society Legal History Network, led by Professor James Phillips (University of Toronto).

- Member of ‘Criticalians’, reading group on Italian critical theory with ERCs scholars mainly based in the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
- Member of the Socio Legal Studies Association (SLSA).
- Member of the European Society of International Law (ESIL).
- Member of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP).
- Member of the network of the Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) at the Harvard Law School.

MEDIA OUTPUTS (SELECTION)

Text Interviews

- ‘Oltre Dobbs. E se parlassimo di aborto autogestito?’, *EuroNomade*, 2 September 2022, available at this [link](#).
- ‘In Italia le donne sono davvero libere di abortire? È tempo di rivedere la legge e questa volta andare fino in fondo’, *ValigiaBlu*, 3 December 2021, available at this [link](#).
- ‘Se sei una donna e non vuoi avere figli, non sta agli altri decidere se puoi’, *Vice Italia*, 20 May 2018, available at this [link](#).
- ‘Elena, costituzionalista da Catania a Bonn. Unica siciliana in corsa per Optima Erasmus’, *MeridioNews*, 5 February 2014, available at this [link](#).

Broadcast Interviews

- Comment on the leak draft opinion of the US Supreme Court on abortion, Radio Black Out, 12 May 2022.
- *Il Maratoneta* to comment the Polish Constitutional Court’s ruling of 22 October 2020 on abortion, Radio Radicale, 21 November 2021, available at this [link](#).
- *Aborto telemedico e pandemia* episode, Radiovirus, 8 April 2020, available at this [link](#).
- *Contro gli stupri non servono le chiacchiere* episode, Radio Onda Rossa, 2 April 2019, available at this [link](#).
- *On the basis of sex* episode, Gli ascoltabili, 5 April 2019, available at this [link](#).
- *La Notte di Radio Uno*, RAI Radio Uno Station, 22 November 2012.

Video Recordings

- ‘Unict per le pari opportunità’, University of Catania, 18 May 2021, available at this [link](#).
- Interview in the documentary on the Italian feminist movement *Il terribile inganno*, director Maria Arena, March 2021.
- Non-professional actress for the pilot of a TV Series on childfree women in Italy, directors Nicoletta Nesler and Marilisa Piga (Oberon Media International srl, August 2020, unreleased).
- ‘How do you turn your PhD dissertation into a book? KLS alumna Dr Serena Natile shares her experience,’ Kent Law School, 17 July 2020, available at this [link](#).
- ‘#OptimaErasmus Elena Caruso from Catania, Italy to Bonn, Germany,’ Optima Erasmus, 17 April 2014,

available at this [link](#).

- 'A Scuola Di Diritti – Per Uscire dalla Crisi', Equality Italia, 11 April 2012, available at this [link](#).
- Interview to Anna Finocchiaro MP (**former Minister for Gender Equality**) and myself, 4 December 2011, available at this [link](#).

REPRESENTATIVE ROLES, ACTIVISM AND CHARITY WORK (SELECTION)

- 2022 – present, Co-founder (with Alessandra Brigo, Dr Anastasia Martino and Dr Giulia Zanini) of 'Aborto in Pillole', the first newsletter entirely dedicated on abortion in Italian, news available at this [link](#).
- 2022 – present, Invited member of a Working Group on the legal reform of the Italian Abortion Law 194/1978, organised by the 'Luca Coscioni Association'.
- 2021 – present, Representative of the Postgraduate Research Students at Kent Law School, United Kingdom (previously also during the Academic Year 2019/2021).
- 2018 – present, Co-founder of the Italian Pro-choice Network *Rete Italiana Contraccezione Aborto*, a group which gathers together abortion providers, academics, lawyers, and activists committed on a better abortion and contraception access.
- 2018 – present, Activist of Lunàdigas (an Italian network of childfree women).
- 2014 – present, Co-organiser of the exhibition 'Anche la cancellazione è violenza' (deleting is a violence too). The exhibition is a collective project of the Catania-based feminist group 'Rivoltapagina', and it sheds a light on 58 'prestigious' women forgotten in history, by challenging the meaning of 'prestigious' and the mainstream representation of gender-based violence in Italian media. Between 2014 and today, the exhibition has been hosted in 34 different locations across the whole Italy. There are three catalogues of this exhibition, which were published with the support of the Regione Emilia Romagna.
- 2012 – present, Activist of the feminist movement (*Non Una Di Meno*; *Collettivo femminista Rivoltapagina*).
- 2009 – 2015, Board Member in Youth Democratic Organisations (*Associazione Nike*; *Giovani Democratici*; *Equality Italia*).
- 2007 – 2009, Elected Representative of the Students at the High School Council, Liceo Classico Statale 'Mario Cutelli', Catania, Italy (*Rappresentante del Comitato Studentesco*; *Rappresentante degli studenti al Consiglio di istituto*).
- 2005 – 2008, Member of the Scout Movement (*Corpo Nazionale Giovani Esploratori ed Esploratrici Italiani - CNGEI*).

COMPUTER LITERACY

Full professional proficiency.

LANGUAGES

Italian (native speaker); **English** (full professional proficiency); French (intermediate); German (basic); Ancient Greek (reading and translation); Latin (reading and translation).