

Davide Grasso
Curriculum Vitae

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Areas of Competence / Specialization

Political Philosophy, Theory of Institutions, Philosophy of Cultural Heritage, Middle Eastern Studies, Kurdish Studies

Academic Affiliation

Adjunct Professor
Collegio Carlo Alberto, International University College
Partner institution, University of Turin

Research Associations

Società Italiana di Filosofia Politica (SIFP)
Italian Society of Political Philosophy

Società Italiana di Filosofia Analitica (SIFA)
Italian Society of Analytic Philosophy

Società Italiana di Studi sul Medio Oriente (SeSaMO)
Italian Society of Middle Eastern Studies

Rete Italiana di Studi Curdi (RISC)
Italian Network of Kurdish Studies

Teaching

2022, International University College, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Università di Torino

Ll.m. in Comparative Law, Economics and Finance
Second Term
Course: Political Philosophy and the Deconstruction of Law
Module I: *Authority and power in relation to violence*
Module II: *Criteria of normative legitimation and deconstruction*

Ll.m. in Comparative Law, Economics and Finance
First Term
Course: Institutions and Politics in Time of Conflict
Module I: *Syria: A Multi-faceted Civil War*
Module II: *Diversity of de facto legal systems*

2021, International University College (Collegio Carlo Alberto, Università di Torino)

Ll.m. in Comparative Law, Economics and Finance
First Term
Course: Institutions and Politics in Time of Conflict
Title: *Contexts, Violence and Power: the Syrian Civil War*

Current Research Activity

Year: 2022

Institution: Dipartimento di Culture, Politica e Società (Università di Torino)

Description: Theoretical consulting, Theories of social change for climate and environmental policy analysis (Horizon PATTERN Research Project)

Field Research

Years: 2015-2017

Locations: Turkey, Israel, Palestinian Territories, Iraq, Syria

Scientific Fields: Theory of Institutions, Political Philosophy, Middle Eastern Studies, Philosophy of Cultural Heritage

Case-Studies: Syrian War, Turkish-Kurdish Conflict, Daesh Insurgency, Israel-Palestine Conflict

Years: 2006-2011

Locations: France, United Kingdom, Germany, United States of America

Scientific Fields: Philosophy of Architecture, Ontology of Cultural Heritage, Urban Studies

Case-Studies: Les Halles (Paris), The Cloysters (New York), the Berlin Wall (Berlin), the Park Royal Brewery (London)

Research Assistance

Year: 2013

Institution: Centre national de la recherche scientifique (Parigi)

Description: Technical assistance in urban surveys (Paris Region; Porte de Bagnolet, Porte d'Auteuil)

Archive Research

Years: 2008-2009

Institutions: Bundesarchiv Berlin-Lichterfelde (Berlin), Archiv und Bibliothek Papiertiger (Berlin), English Heritage Archives (London), Archives de Paris-Porte des Lilas (Paris)

Description: research of historical legal documents, documents of urban history

Year: 2004

Institution: Centro studi Luigi Pareyson (Torino)

Description: research of unpublished philosophical writings

Publications

Under peer-review:

Humanitarian Solidarity, Universalism and Imagination, Submitted article, High Rank International Philosophical Journal, Under peer-review

International Repression through Joint and Competitive Militarization: the Case of North and East Syria, Submitted article, Top Rank International Journal of Legal studies, Under peer-review

Forthcoming:

Nuances of Authority: Murray Bookchin, Abdullah Öcalan and the Rojava Militants, book chapter in a volume promoted by the Transnational Institute for Social Ecology, ed. by Tarinski, Yavor, and Venturini, Federico, 2022

Heritage, Community and Future Generations. The Transgenerational Quest for Justice, *Rivista di Estetica*, 2023

What is a Commune, and how does it work? A troubled institution in the Kurdish-Arab regions of the Syrian north, *Études Kurdes*, 15, 2022

Women's transformation of family law in war scenarios: the case of juristic action of women's movements in north-eastern Syria, Volume of the Proceedings of the International Conference, The Role of Women's Civil Society Organizations in Peace Processes, University of Siena, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa and University of Milan, 2022

Erased, Emerging, Engraved. Nazi architecture, heritage and public memory, with Liza Candidi, in *The Afterlife of Fascist-Era Architecture, Monuments and Works of Art in Italy*, ed. by C. Belmonte, Milano, Silvana Editoriale, 2022

Published:

Zahrat Al-Sahra'. Thawrat Al-Nisa' wal-Kumiwnat min Al-Eiraq wa-Shamal Suria, Shiler Publishing, Al-Qamishli, Syria, 2022 (Book; *Il fiore del deserto. La rivoluzione delle donne e delle comuni tra l'Iraq e la Siria del nord*, translated by Amani Fawzi Habshi, Ahmed Ismail, Ronak Haji and Ismail Ismail)

Autorité/avant-garde/autogestion: une tension incomprise dans la révolution confederale, in Crétois, Pierre, Jourdain, Édouard, "La démocratie sous les bombes. Syrie-Le Rojava entre idéalisation et répression", Bordeaux, Le Bord de l'Eau, 2022

Gender Equality or Legal Pluralism? An Ostensible Puzzle in Syrian Rojava's Legal System, *Syrian Studies Association Bulletin*, 2, 2021

Agamben, o coronavírus e o estado de exceção (*Agamben, the Coronavirus and the state of exception*), in *Vozes do Fronte. Considerações sobre lo irromper do Covid-19 na Itália (Voices from the Frontline. Considerations on the Outbreak of Covid-19 in Italy)*, with Donatella Di Cesare, Giorgio Agamben, Jonnefer Barbosa, Massimo Cacciari, Raffaele Alberto Ventura, Vinícius Nicastro Honesko, Venezia, Editora Âyiné, 2020

La rivoluzione come scienza-donna: una fragile eccezione nel deserto delle alternative (*Revolution as Woman-Science: a Fragile Exception in a Desert of Alternatives*), Spazio filosofico, 4, 2019

La città e il fantasma. Dal muro di Berlino ai nuovi muri (*The City and the Ghost. From the Berlin Wall to the New Walls*), Book, Rome, Castelvechi, 2019

Omaggio al Rojava. Il fronte siriano, la rivoluzione confederale e la lotta contro il jihadismo (*Homage to Rojava. The Syrian Front, the Confederal Revolution and the Fight Against Jihadism*), Edited volume, Rome, Redstarpress, 2019

Artefatti, ostensione e realtà istituzionale. Le Unità Anti-Terrore nella guerra siriana (*Artifacts, Ostension and Institutional reality. The Anti-Terror Units in the Syrian War*), *Giornale critico di storia delle idee*, 2, 2018

Il fiore del deserto. La rivoluzione delle donne e delle comuni tra l'Iraq e la Siria del nord (*The Flower of the Desert. The Revolution of Women and Communes Between Northern Iraq and Syria*), Book, Milan, AgenziaX, 2018

Nuovi colori del Medio oriente (*New Colors of the Middle East*), in E. Battaglia, I nuovi volti del Mediterraneo. Dalle guerre altrui in terra di nessuno alla resistenza del popolo curdo (*New faces of the Mediterranean. From the 'War of Others' in a No Man's Land to the Kurdish Resistance*), Edizioni erranti, Cosenza, 2016

Intervenire nel contesto urbano. Travestimenti e traduzioni della Venustas (*Intervening in the Urban Context. Translations and Disguises of Venustas*), with Margot Pellegrino, EURAU Symposium, Conference Proceedings, 2013

Incarnazioni dell'intangibile. Idealità e scrittura tra memoria e progettazione (*Incarnations of the Intangible. Ideality and Writing between Memory and Project*), Rivista di estetica, 2, 2012

Tutela, stile, autografia. Ontologia dei beni culturali e architettura (*Style, Autography, Preservation. Ontology of the Cultural Heritage and Architecture*), in Rivista di estetica, 1, 2012

Ontologia dei beni culturali (*Ontology of Cultural Heritage*), Aphex – Rivista on line di filosofia, 4, 2011

Filosofi in archivio. Appunti di lavoro (*Philosophers in the Archive. Work Notes*), Historia Magistra. Rivista di Storia Critica, 6, 2011

Quale verità per la storia? Conoscenza, prassi linguistica e contesti sociali (*What Truth for History? Knowledge, Linguistic Praxis and Social Contexts*), Historia Magistra. Rivista di Storia Critica, 1, 2009

Memoria e conservazione. La Rückfrage delle istituzioni (*Memory and Preservation. The Rückfrage of Institutions*), Rivista di Estetica, 3, 2007

Scientific Talks

Forthcoming:

Guerre del clima: acqua, energia, cibo e materie prime nelle dinamiche politico-militari del geo-capitalismo (*Climate Wars: Water, Energy, Food and Primary Sector Resources in the Geo-Capitalistic Politico-Military Dynamics*), with Dario Padovan, Alessandro Scullo, Cristiana Peano, “Pensare la discontinuità. Le scienze umanistiche e sociali di fronte al riscaldamento globale e alla crisi ecologica” (*Thinking Discontinuity. Humanities and Social Sciences Facing Global Warming and the Ecological Crises*), Dipartimento di discipline umanistiche, sociali e delle imprese culturali, Università degli Studi di Parma, October 17th-18th, 2022

Panel Discussant:

Kurdish Rojava, Autonomous Administration of North East Syria: propaganda or successful institutional experiment?, Panel Discussant; Panel Organizer; 15th International Conference of the Italian Society of Middle Eastern Studies; co-organized with the Italian Network for Kurdish Studies; with A. Novellis (Panel chair), A. Bilgen, T. McGee, K. Salih, C. Cemgil, S. Rostampour; Napoli, Università “L’Orientale”, June 22nd-24th, 2022

National and International Conferences (selection):

The pandemic lefts between technocracy and imagination: Foucault, Agamben and the challenge to the notion of government, Italian Society of Political Science (Sisp) Annual Conference, Rome, Sept. 8th-10th, 2022, with Federica Frazzetta, Gianni Piazza, Giuliana Sorci, “Social movements and collective action in pandemic time”

Identity and demographic engineering in the Syrian Turkish-occupied lands. The transnational Kurdish question between ethnic and political cleansing, Italian Society of Political Science (Sisp) Annual Conference, Rome, Sept. 8th-10th, 2022, with Rosita Di Peri, Chiara Maritato, “A matter of Identity? States’ (in)security between border control and diasporas’ manipulation”

Current transformations of family law in Rojava and northeastern Syria: legislative action and implementation process in conflict areas, at the Kurdish Family Law Conference, organized by the Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht in Hamburg, hosted by the

Harnack-Haus, Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, with Shéhérazade Elyazidi and Sebastian Maisel, June 2nd-4th, 2022

Resistance and Scholarship. The Case of Academic Boycotts, Webinar promoted by the Italian Association for Middle Eastern Studies (SeSaMO), with Paola Rivetti, Francesca Biancani, Gennaro Gervasio, Samia Al-Botmeh, Nicola Perugini, May 26th, 2022

Women's transformation of family law in war scenarios: the case of juristic action of women's movements in north-eastern Syria, International Conference, The Role of Women's Civil Society Organizations in Peace Processes, University of Siena, in cooperation with Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa and University of Milan, 5th-6th April 2022

Riflessività ed etica della ricerca in aree di conflitto. Esperienze di campo dal Kurdistan (*Research Ethics and Reflexivity in Conflict Areas. Experience from the Field in Kurdistan*), Webinar promoted by the Italian Association for Middle Eastern Studies (SeSaMO), with Daniela Pioppi, Rosita Di Peri, Andrea Novellis, Alessandro Tinti, Federico Venturini, December 14th, 2021

Autorité/avant-garde/autogestion: une tension incomprise dans la révolution confederale, Centre Emile Durkheim (Université de Bordeaux), SPH (Université Bordeaux Montaigne), L'expérience du Rojava entre idéalisation démocratique et diabolisation répressive, November 22nd, 2021

The Concept of Authority in Bookchin's Works and Rojava's Communalism, Transnational Institute of Social Ecology, International Online Conference, October 30th - November 1st, 2021

International Repression through Joint and Competitive Militarization: the Case of North and East Syria, presented in the panel "Authoritarianisms in Search of Consolidation and Challenges to the Liberal Order: Remilitarisations, Dynamics of Adaptations and Political Phobias", 27th International Congress of the Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient, University of Osnabrück, September 16th-18th, 2021

Governance pandemica, resilienza autoritaria e prospettive della ricerca. Il caso delle regioni siriane nord-orientali soggette ad autogoverno (*Pandemic Governance, Authoritarian Resilience and Research Perspectives. The Case of North-Eastern Self-Governed Syrian Regions*), Società italiana di Scienza politica, Convegno nazionale, September 9th-11th, 2021

Reshaping the Opposition Space. The Perception of the Kurdish Strategy among Militants and Communities, International Workshop "Unpacking 'the Opposition' in undemocratic regimes: The Role, Transformation and Challenges of the Oppositional Actors in Turkey and beyond", University of Turin, Dipartimento di Culture, Politica e Società, November 27th-28th, 2020

Estetica come Aisthesis. In occasione della nuova edizione di Estetica razionale di Maurizio Ferraris (*Aesthetics as Aisthesis. For the New Edition of 'Rational Aesthetics' by Maurizio Ferraris*), University of Turin, with M. Ferraris, F. Vercellone, P. Kobau, T. Andina, C. Barbero, E. Casetta, A. Jacomuzzi, D. Tagliafico, Università di Torino, April 28th, 2011

Intervenire nel contesto urbano. Travestimenti e traduzioni della Venustas (*Intervening in the Urban Context. Translations and Disguises of Venustas*), with Margot Pellegrino, University of Naples, Convegno eura'u'10: venustas/architettura/mercato/democrazia, June 10th, 2010

Guest Lectures (selection):

Gender and generational justice in the Syrian War. The attempts at reforming family law in the Confederate Autonomous Regions of the North-East, with Rosita Di Peri, Course on Mashrek Politics and Institutions, Department of Cultures, Politics and Society, University of Turin, May 18th, 2022

One, Two, Many Revolutions. Factions and Ideologies in the Syrian Civil War, Guest Lecture, Area and Global Studies for International Cooperation, con la prof.ssa Rosita Di Peri, Dipartimento di politica, cultura e società, University of Turin, May 19th, 2021

Sradicamento o assimilazione: la falsa alternativa dei curdi e la memoria armeno-assira (*Uprooting or Assimilation: The Kurds' False Dilemma and the Armenian-Assyrian Memory*), Guest Lecture, Seminario di Antropologia della violenza, con R. Beneduce, University of Turin (online), May 12th, 2020

L'impianto giuridico-istituzionale del confederalismo democratico (*The Juristic-Institutional Structure of Democratic Confederalism*), Guest Lecture, Corso di Dottorato in Diritti e Istituzioni "Le nuove forme di democrazia: democrazia partecipativa, democrazia dal basso, confederalismo democratico" (*New Forms of Democracy: Participatory Democracy, Democracy from Below, Democratic Confederalism*), A. Algostino, Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza, University of Turin, January 29th, 2020

Nuove istituzioni nella guerra siriana. Profili di legittimazione e uso della forza (*New Institutions and the Syrian War. Profiles of Legitimization and the Use of Force*), Guest Lecture, Course of Sociology of Politics, prof. G. Piazza, University of Catania, December 7th, 2019

Foreign Participation in the Syrian Conflict, Guest Lecture, Lorenzo De' Medici Institute, Florence, Course of International Law and Conflict Resolution, prof. Stefano Marinelli, November 18th, 2019

Sorveglianza e stato di diritto: dalla nozione di terrorismo alla pericolosità sociale (*Surveillance and Rule of Law: Notions of Terrorism and Social Danger*), Guest Lecture, Course of Philosophy of Law, prof. C. Sarzotti, University of Turin, November 6th, 2019

Teoria e prassi del progetto confederale in Siria (*Theory and Praxis of the Confederal Project in Syria*), Guest Lecture, University of Turin, with J. Bindi e M. E. Marcucci, prof. G. Ragona e prof.ssa M. Quirico, May 9th, 2019

Kobane-Italia: confini tra politico e criminale (*Kobane-Italy: Bordering Lines between Political and Criminal*), Guest Lecture, University of Genova, with G. Petti, L. Palmas, April 9th, 2019

Le istituzioni politiche della Federazione della Siria del nord (*The Political Institutions of the Democratic Federation of Northern Syria*), Guest Lecture, Course of Sociology of Politics, prof. G. Piazza, University of Catania, December 7th, 2018

Guerra globale e tecnologie del conflitto (*Global Wars and Conflict Technologies*), University of Cagliari, with Giovanni Melis, April 3rd, 2017

Literary Publications

Guerra a Daesh e baci nei film (*War to Daesh and Kisses in Movies*), in V.A., Omaggio al Rojava. Il fronte siriano, la rivoluzione confederale e la lotta contro il jihadismo, Roma, Redstarpress (2019)

Hevalen (*Friends*), Alegre Edizioni, 2017

New York Regina Underground. Racconti dalla Grande Mela (*New York Underground Queen. Tales from the Big Apple*), Bari, Stilo Editrice, 2013

Supervised Thesis

Title: *Various Models of Direct Democracy Through Historical Perspective: Comparing Constitutional Systems of Socialist Yugoslavia and Confederal Movement in Northern Syria*

Student: Pavle Antonijević

Nationality: Serbia

Institution: Master's Thesis for LL.M. in Comparative Law, Economics, and Finance at the International University College of Turin, Class of 2022

Title: *Adorno, Horkheimer, and the Revolution in Rojava: Overcoming the Enlightenment in Theory and Practice*

Student: Lauren Sweger-Hollingsworth

Nationality: United States of America

Institution: Master's Thesis for LL.M. in Comparative Law, Economics, and Finance at the International University College of Turin, Class of 2022

Title: *How Migrants Can Be Used by the State in Order to Implement Policies of Ethnic or Political Engineering: A Case Study from the Syrian-Turkish Border*

Student: Marian Pleasant Kgarbo

Nationality: Republic of Sierra Leone

Institution: Master's Thesis for LL.M. in Comparative Law, Economics, and Finance at the International University College of Turin, Class of 2022

Title: *Power, Violence and Race: A Comparative Analysis of Policing During the January 2021 Insurrection and the Black Lives Matter Movement in the United States of America*

Student: Tameka C. Franco

Nationality: United States of America

Institution: Master's Thesis for LL.M. in Comparative Law, Economics, and Finance at the International University College of Turin, Class of 2021

Title: *Repercussions of the International Intervention in Libya in the Sub-Saharan countries. Case study: the Republic of Mali*

Student: Diakite El hadji Den

Nationality: Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Institution: Master's Thesis for LL.M. in Comparative Law, Economics, and Finance at the International University College of Turin, Class of 2021

Other Teaching

2020, Formont Scarl

European Projects (Peveragno, Italy)

Course: Political Geography

Title: Dalle guerre mondiali ad oggi: Berlino e Praga, storia, movimenti sociali e trasformazioni urbanistiche

(From World Wars to the Present Day: History, Urban Transformations and Social Movements in Berlin and Prague)

2019, Formont Scarl

European Projects (Peveragno, Italy)

Course: Political Geography

Title: Autonomia e scienza delle donne. Il protagonismo femminile tra Iraq e Siria del nord

(Autonomy and the Science of Women. Female Activism Between Northern Syria and Iraq)

Scientific Editing and Peer-reviewing

Years: 2007-2022

Institutions: Italian Publishers, National and International Academic Journals

Description: Peer-review of scientific articles in the realms of philosophical, historical, and legal studies. Compilation and/or editing of bibliographical references in volumes, references to pagination for English translations, editing, compilation of bibliographies for philosophical works.

Journalism and Blogging

Years: 2011-2022

Activity: Blogger, Political Analyst

Fields: Middle East, United States of America, Eastern Europe

Newspapers and Blogs: Micromega, Il fatto quotidiano, Minima&Moralia, Il lavoro culturale, Alphabeta2

Didactic Assistance

Year: 2007

Institution: Università di Torino

Description: Assistance to students with mental disabilities. Interaction and support in the field of Philosophical Logic.

Awards

National Prize “Giacomo Ferrari”

Institution: Fondazione Bocchi for the “Racconti del reale” Section (First Prize)

Work: Hevalen (*Friends*), Alegre, 2017

Year: 2019

National Prize “Emilio Bocca”

Institution: Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa (First Prize)

Work: Sulle tracce della realtà sociale. Uno studio ontologico del Muro di Berlino (*On the Tracks of Social Reality. An Ontological Study of the Berlin Wall*), Master Dissertation, 2007

Year: 2008

Optime Prize

Institution: Unione industriale di Torino

Work: Recenti interpretazioni filosofiche del pensiero di Giacomo Leopardi (*Recent Philosophical Interpretations of Giacomo Leopardi's Thought*), Undergraduate Dissertation, 2004

Year: 2005

Education

Ph.D. in Moral, Theoretical Philosophy and Hermeneutics

Academic Year: 2010-2011; *Final Grade:* Ottimo (*Excellent*)

Institution: Università degli studi di Torino

Dissertation: Eredità culturali. Tracce, significati, funzioni (*Cultural Heritages. Tracks, Meanings, and Functions*)

Supervisors: Maurizio Ferraris, Giovanna Borradori, Venanzio Raspa

Visiting Scholar in the United States

Academic Years: 2009-2010; 2010-2011

Institution: Columbia University in the City of New York (New York)

Supervisor: Achille Varzi

Visiting Scholar in France

Academic Year: 2008-2009

Institution: Institut Jean Nicod (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, École Normale Supérieure, Paris)

Supervisor: Roberto Casati

Master's Degree in Philosophy and History of Ideas

Academic Year: 2006-2007; *Final grade:* 110 cum laude

Institution: Università di Torino

Dissertation: Sulle tracce della realtà sociale. Uno studio ontologico del Muro di Berlino (*On the Tracks of Social Reality. An Ontological Study of the Berlin Wall*)

Supervisors: Maurizio Ferraris, Pietro Kobau

Erasmus Program in Germany

Academic Year: 2005-2006

Institution: Humboldt Universität zu Berlin (Berlin)

Supervisors: Karin Lohr, Pierpaolo Portinaro

Bachelor's Degree in History

Academic Year: 2003-2004

Institution: Università di Torino

Dissertation: Recenti interpretazioni filosofiche del pensiero di Giacomo Leopardi (*Recent Philosophical Interpretations of Giacomo Leopardi's Thought*)

Supervisors: Alessandro Klein, Giorgio Ficara, Arnaldo Di Benedetto

Final Grade: 110 cum laude

Linguistic Skills

Mother tongue: Italian

Fluent: spoken and written English, French

Fair: spoken and written German, Kurdish (Kurmançî)

Fair translation skills: Ancient Greek, Latin

Current learning: Arabic (Fuṣḥā)