

Senior Lecturer in European Politics

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About

I am Research and Postgraduate lead for Italian studies and Programme lead for the Culture, Society and Communication (CSC) programmes. Main research interests and areas of PG supervision: Italian politics, political communication, populism and neo-nationalism.

Qualifications

- MA
- PhD
- PCLT(HE)

Biography

Having graduated from the University of Bologna, I completed my doctoral research in political communication at London Metropolitan University and my Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching (Higher Education) at Canterbury Christ Church University. I taught at both these universities before moving to Birmingham in 2004.

Teaching

I am Research and Postgraduate lead for Italian studies and Programme lead for the Culture, Society and Communication (CSC) programmes. At Undergraduate level, I contribute to the teaching of Italian and European Studies in the following areas: Italian and European politics, European media, research methods and the history of Fascism. I also contribute to the teaching of several MA modules within the school, focusing on populism and nationalism in Europe.

Postgraduate supervision

I am interested in supervising PhD theses on Italian politics, political communication, populism and neo-nationalism.

Research

One strand of my work has been about the communication strategies, styles of propaganda and mass media use of political parties in contemporary Europe. I also focus on Italian politics, Swiss politics and populism in Western Europe. I have recently co-edited (with Clodagh Brook, Charlotte Ross and Nina Rothenberg) ***Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition in the Berlusconi Years*** (<http://www.continuumbooks.com/Books/detail.aspx?ReturnURL=/Search/default.aspx&CountryID=1&ImprintID=2&BookID=125748>) (Continuum, 2009) and (with Paul Cobley) ***The Media, An Introduction - Third edition*** (<http://www.pearsoned.co.uk/Bookshop/detail.asp?item=100000000105730>) (Pearson, 2009). In recent years I have been researching a new project that will result in the publication of a monograph for Routledge on *Populists in Power: Actions and Reactions* (with Duncan McDonnell).

- 19 March 2007. Large grant (£84,891). Awarding body: British Academy (submitted with Charlotte Ross and Clodagh Brook). Title: 'Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition During the Berlusconi Years'.
- 18 July 2007. Extension of research leave (£29,063). Awarding body: AHRC. Title: 'Populists in Power: Rhetoric and Communication Strategies'.
- 26 June 2008. Research grant (£62,478). Awarding body: The Leverhulme Trust (submitted with Duncan McDonnell). Title: 'Regionalist vs. Nationalist Populists in Power: Actions and Reactions'.

Other activities

I am member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Peer Review College, a reviewer for The National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR) of the Italian *Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca* and I assess funding applications for a variety of institutions (such as The Leverhulme Trust, the Dutch Research Council, NWO, and the OeNB Anniversary Fund of the Austrian Central Bank). I am also the convenor of the Italian Politics Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association.

Publications

Monographs (Forthcoming)

Populists in Power (with D. McDonnell). Routledge, 2014. Funded by The Leverhulme Trust.

Edited Books

- *The Media: an Introduction* (with P. Cobley). Pearson, 2009.
- *Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition Under Berlusconi (2001-06)* (co-edited with C. Brook, C. Ross and N. Rothenberg). Continuum, 2009.
- *Twenty-first Century Populism-The Spectre of Western European Democracy* (co-edited with D. McDonnell), Palgrave, 2008.

Edited special issues of Journals

- 'Italy under Berlusconi' (with D. McDonnell), special issue of *Modern Italy*, (10) 1, 2005.

Articles (Peer Reviewed)

- 'Populism and Liberal Democracy: Populists in Government in Austria, Italy, Poland and Switzerland' (with Sean Müller), *Government and Opposition*, special issue in memory of G. Ionescu edited by Ingrid van Biezen and Helen Wallace, (48) 3, 2013. In press.
- 'Amici fragili: the alliance between the Lega Nord and the Popolo della Libertà as seen by their representatives and members', *Modern Italy*, (18) 1, 2013, pp. 1-18.
- 'La sfida del populismo alla democrazia liberale', *La Rivista delle Politiche Sociali (Italian Journal of Social Policy)*, no. 1, 2012, pp. 191-212.
- 'Di lotta e di governo: the Lega Nord and Rifondazione Comunista in Office' (with J. Newell and D. McDonnell), *Party Politics*, (17) 4, July 2011, pp. 471-487.
- 'The Lega Nord Back in Government' (with D. McDonnell), *West European Politics*, (33) 6, November 2010, pp. 1318-1350.
- 'Reconciling "Voice" and "Exit": Swiss and Italian Populists in Power', *Politics*, (29) 1, February 2009, pp. 1-10.
- 'Addressing "the People" – A Comparative Study of the Lega Nord's and Lega dei Ticinesi's Political Rhetoric and Styles of Propaganda', *Modern Italy*, (12) 3, November 2007, pp. 327-347.
- 'The Lega dei Ticinesi: The Embodiment of Populism', *Politics*, (26) 2, May 2006, pp. 133-139.
- "'Back to Our Roots" or Self-Confessed Manipulation? The Uses of the Past in the Lega Nord's Positing of *Padania*', *National Identities*, (8) 1, March 2006, pp. 21-39.
- 'The Lega Nord in the Second Berlusconi Government: in a League of its Own' (with D. McDonnell), *West European Politics*, (28) 5, November 2005, pp. 952-972.
- 'Enough Vaccine? The Berlusconi Years' (with D. McDonnell), *Modern Italy*, (10) 1, May 2005, pp. 3-8.
- 'Discursive Strategies around "Community" in Political Propaganda - the case of the Lega Nord' (with I. Fremeaux), *National Identities*, (4) 2, 2 July 2002, pp. 145-160.

Chapters in Edited Books

- 'Introduction' (with P. Cobley), in Albertazzi, D. and Cobley, P. (eds.) *The Media: an Introduction*. London: Pearson, 2009, pp. 1-11.
- 'The Parties of the Centre Right: Many Oppositions, One Leader' (with D. McDonnell), in Newell, J. (ed.) *The Italian General Election of 2008 – Berlusconi Strikes Back*. London: Palgrave, 2009, pp. 102-117.
- 'Introduction: This Tide is not for Turning' (with N. Rothenberg), in *Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition Under Berlusconi (2001-06)*, pp. 1-16.
- 'In Bed with the Enemy: Infighting Among Governing Parties and the Return of the Centre' in *Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition Under Berlusconi (2001-06)*, pp. 59-70.
- 'Introduction: The Sceptre and the Spectre' (with D. McDonnell), in *Twenty-first Century Populism-The Spectre of Western European Democracy*, pp. 1-11.
- 'Switzerland: Yet Another Populist Paradise', in *Twenty-first Century Populism-The Spectre of Western European Democracy*, pp.100-118.
- 'Conclusions: Populism and Twenty-first Century Western European Democracy' (with D. McDonnell), in *Twenty-first Century Populism-The Spectre of Western European Democracy*, pp. 217-223.

Research-related interviews/consultations with the international press (from 2009)

- 25 September 2009: Consultation for article by Daniel Flynn, Thomson Reuters Correspondent from Italy. Title 'Berlusconi's TV tactics stir unease in Italy'.
- 29 October 2009: Consultation on contemporary Italian politics for Nick Squires, correspondent for The Daily Telegraph, Rome.
- 29 November 2009: Article by Renata Miranda, Internacional, Title: 'Berlusconi cria lei para fugir da Justica'.
- Issue of Winter 2009-2010. Interviewed by Door Sanne Rooseboom, *Maarten!*, Title: '... Groot-Britannië – Bonnetjes en blatcherisme'.
- 13 February 2010. Consultation for article by Francesca Paci, La Stampa, Title: 'Londra sferza il Pd "Opposizione, svegliati!"'.
- 8 March 2010. Interviewed by Francesca Paci, La Stampa, Title: 'Nella Riserva degli Operai Bianchi. Londra con la destra xenofoba a far campagna tra i resti della classe lavoratrice'.
- 28 March 2010. Interviewed by Renata Miranda, Internacional, Title: 'Desorganização ameaça partido de premiê'.
- 28 April 2010. Interviewed by Francesca Marretta, Liberazione, Title: 'Si è rotto il bipolarismo perfetto ma i partiti guardano al centro'.
- 17 June 2010. Interviewed by Rutger van der Hoeven and Margreet Fogteloo, *De Groene Amsterdammer*, Title: 'De opkomst der populisten'.
- 16 September 2010. Interviewed by Rutger van der Hoeven, *De Groene Amsterdammer*, Title: 'Eigenaren van de immigratie'.
- 20 November 2010. Interviewed by Lisha Yu, Sanlian Life Weekly Magazine, n. 48, Title: " 贝卢斯科尼的总理保卫战 " [Berlusconi's Battle to Defend His Position].
- 14 March 2011. Interviewed by Yulia Netesova, Vremya Zavishennih Trebovaniy. Title: "The Times of Steep Expectations". Published in Russian and English.
- 10 November 2011. Consulted on populism in Europe by Juha-Pekka Raeste, *Helsingin Sanomat*, Helsinki.
- 17 November 2011. Consulted on Italian politics and the Monti government by Lisha Yu, *Sanlian Life Weekly Magazine*, Beijing.
- 22 November 2011. Interviewed live by Loredana Lipperini on 'the populist right in Europe'. Programme: Fahrenheit, broadcast on RAI Radio 3 (Italian public service broadcaster).
- 26 November 2011. Recorded interview on 'Populism in Europe and the USA'. Programme: GR2 (radio news), broadcast on RAI Radio 2 (Italian public service broadcaster)
- 11 December 2012. Interviewed by James Bone, Title: 'Will Monti step up to save Italy from 'Bunga Bunga' Berlusconi?', *The Times*.
- 24 February 2013. Interviewed by Keri Phillips on the forthcoming Italian general election. Programme: Rear Vision, broadcast on ABC Radio National (Australian public service broadcaster).
- 25 and 26 February 2013. Interviewed live on the outcome of the 2013 Italian general election by Channel NewsAsia.
- 26 February 2013. Interviewed live on the outcome of the 2013 Italian general election by BBC Hereford and Worcester.
- 21 March 2013. Interviewed by Weronika Przecherska for the Civic Institute, a think-tank which works for the Polish political party the Civic Platform (<http://www.instytutobywatelski.pl/>). Title: 'Populizm ery tabletów' [Populism of the tablet era].
- 31 March 2013. Quoted in the Editorial, *The Observer*. Title: 'Political rhetoric ignores immigration facts'.

- 2 August 2013. Recorded interview on Silvio Berlusconi's conviction for tax fraud and Italian politics. Programme: News Bulletins, broadcast on Radio France Internationale (English Service).

Expertise

Italian politics, Populism and Nationalism in Western Europe, and The Extreme Right in Western Europe.

Alternative contact number available for this expert: **[contact the press office \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/contacts/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/contacts/index.aspx)**

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