

Honorary Research Fellow

[Department of Modern Languages: Italian Studies \(/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/index.aspx)

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About

I am a Marie Curie Fellow at the Department of Political and Social Sciences at the European University Institute in Florence and Honorary Research Fellow in Italian Studies at the University of Birmingham. My research focuses on populism in Western Europe (particularly Italy), political parties and local democracy.

Biography

After graduating from Trinity College Dublin, I completed a Masters Degree at the Department of International Politics, University of Wales, Aberystwyth and gained a PhD in Political Science at the Department of Political Studies in the University of Turin. I have worked as a Politics lecturer and researcher at the University of Turin and have collaborated with Daniele Albertazzi in Birmingham on a series of publications and research projects over the past decade. In 2011, I was Swiss National Science Foundation Fellow at the Institute of Political and International Studies, University of Lausanne. I moved from Turin to the European University Institute in September 2011, initially as a Jean Monnet Fellow and, from September 2012, as a Marie Curie Intra-European Fellow. Since January 2011, I have been Honorary Research Fellow in Italian Studies at Birmingham.

Research

My research has focused on populism in Italy and Western Europe, political parties and local democracy.

In 2008, Daniele Albertazzi and I co-edited the volume *Twenty-First Century Populism* which looked at the structural opportunities for populism in a series of countries and how populist parties had exploited these. Since 2008, Albertazzi and I have conducted extensive research, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, on populist parties in Italy and Switzerland. This has included over 100 interviews with representatives and ordinary party members in the two countries, along with analysis of party organization, policies, electoral performances and communications. A book entitled 'Populists in Power', based on the project, will be published by Routledge.

Thanks to a Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship, I am currently working at the European University Institute on comparative populist party organization and representation in Italy and a series of other European countries. In addition to the above book projects, my work on political parties, local democracy and populism has been published over the past 4 years in international journals such as *European Journal of Political Research*, *Political Studies*, *Government and Opposition*, *West European Politics*, and *Party Politics*.

Publications

Books

- *Populists in Power* (with Daniele Albertazzi). Routledge, forthcoming.

Edited Books

- 2013: *From Berlusconi to Monti* (<http://www.berghahnbooks.com/title.php?rowtag=BoscoFrom>), with A. Bosco, New York: Berghahn.
- 2012: *Politica in Italia. Edizione 2012* (http://www.mulino.it/edizioni/volumi/scheda_volume.php?vista=scheda&ISBNART=24014), with A. Bosco. Bologna: Il Mulino.
- 2008: *Twenty-First Century Populism: The Spectre of Western European Democracy* (<http://us.macmillan.com/twentyfirstcenturypopulism/DanieleAlbertazzi>), with D. Albertazzi, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

International Journal Articles

- 2014: **'Defining and classifying technocrat-led and technocratic governments'** (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1475-6765.12054/abstract>), with M. Valbruzzi, *European Journal of Political Research*, early view, 10 April 2014
- 2014: **'Directly-elected Mayors and Their Parties: The Cases of Genoa and Lausanne'** (http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0017257X13000250), with O. Mazzoleni, *Government and Opposition*, Vol. 49, No. 1, 92-119
- 2013: **'Silvio Berlusconi's Personal Parties: From Forza Italia to the Popolo della Libertà'** (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9248.2012.01007.x/pdf>), *Political Studies*, Vol. 61, No. S1, 217-233
- 2011: **'Outsider Parties in Government in Western Europe'** (<http://ppq.sagepub.com/content/17/4/443.full.pdf+html>), with J. Newell, *Party Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 4, pp. 443-452.
- 2011: **'Di lotta e di governo: The Lega Nord and Rifondazione Comunista in Office'** (<http://ppq.sagepub.com/content/17/4/471.full.pdf+html>), with D. Albertazzi and J. Newell, *Party Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 4, pp. 471-487.
- 2010: **'The Lega Nord Back in Government'** (<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01402382.2010.508911>), with D. Albertazzi, *West European Politics*, Vol. 33, No. 6, pp.1318-1340.
- 2006: **'A weekend in Padania: Regionalist Populism and the Lega Nord'** (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9256.2006.00259.x/pdf>), *Politics*, Vol. 26, No. 2, pp.126-132.
- 2005: **'The Lega Nord in the second Berlusconi Government: In a League of its Own'** (<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01402380500310600>), with D. Albertazzi, *West European Politics*, Vol. 28, No. 5, pp. 952-972.

Think-Tank Research Reports

- 2013: ***New Political Actors in Europe: Beppe Grillo and the Movimento 5 Stelle*** (http://www.demos.co.uk/files/Beppe_Grillo_and_the_M5S_-_Demos_web_version.pdf?1360766725), with J. Bartlett and C. Froio, Demos UK.
- 2012: ***Populism in Europe: Lega Nord*** (http://www.demos.co.uk/files/Lega_Nord_-_web.pdf?1349354875), with J. Bartlett and J. Birdwell, Demos UK.

Edited Special Issues of Journals

- 2011: **'Outsider Parties'** (<http://ppq.sagepub.com/content/17/4.toc>), with J. Newell, Special edition of *Party Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 4.
- 2005: 'Italy under Berlusconi', with D. Albertazzi, Special edition of *Modern Italy*, Vol. 10, No. 1.

Book Chapters

- 2013: 'The Monti Government and the Downgrade of Italian Parties', with A. Bosco, in A. Bosco and D. McDonnell (eds.) *From Berlusconi to Monti*, New York: Berghahn, pp. 37-56.
- 2009: 'The parties of the centre-right: Many oppositions, one leader', with D. Albertazzi, in J. Newell (ed), *The Italian General Election of 2008*, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 102-117.
- 2008: 'The Republic of Ireland: The Dog That Hasn't Barked in the Night?', in Albertazzi and McDonnell (eds.), *Twenty-First Century Populism: The Spectre of Western European Democracy*, pp. 198-216.
- 2008: **'Introduction: The Sceptre and the Spectre'** (<http://www.palgrave.com/PDFs/023001349X.pdf>), in Albertazzi and McDonnell (eds.), *Twenty-First Century Populism: The Spectre of Western European Democracy*.
- 2008: 'The 2007 Local Elections: Between Stability and Rhetoric' in Donovan, M. and P. Onofri (eds.), *Italian Politics: Frustrated Aspirations for Change*, New York: Berghahn, pp. 86-103 (also published in Italian by Il Mulino in *Politica in Italia. Edizione 2008*).
- 2007: 'Eviction Cancelled: The 2006 Local Elections', in Briquet, J.-L. and A. Mastropaolo (eds.), *Italian Politics: The Center-Left's Poisoned Victory*, New York: Berghahn, pp. 81-98 (also published in Italian by Il Mulino in *Politica in Italia. Edizione 2007*).
- 2007: 'The Genoa G8 and the Death of Carlo Giuliani', in. Gundle, S. and L. Rinaldi (eds.), *Assassinations and Murder in Modern Italy*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 73-85.

Blog Posts & Newspaper Comment Pieces (selection)

- 2013: **'This is the end of Berlusconi, right? Probably, yes'** (<https://theconversation.com/this-is-the-end-of-berlusconi-right-probably-yes-16647>), *The Conversation*, 1 August (re-posted on *LSE Europ*)
- 2013: **'Geert Wilders is back'** (<https://theconversation.com/geert-wilders-is-back-and-he-has-european-domination-on-his-mind-15775>), *The Conversation*, 5 July.
- 2013: **'On Italy's streets, Five Star still twinkles'** (<https://theconversation.com/on-italys-streets-five-star-still-twinkles-14825>), *The Conversation*, 30 May (& *LSE Europ*)
- 2013: **'Turn of the technocrats tells us parties have failed'** (<https://theconversation.com/turn-of-the-technocrats-tells-us-parties-have-failed-14385>), *The Conversation*, 17 May (& *LSE Europ*)
- 2013: **'What's new about Beppe Grillo's Five-Star Movement?'** (<http://blogs.eui.eu/eudo-cafe/whats-new-about-beppe-grillos-five-star-movement.html>), *EUDO Cafe*, 17 April (& *LSE Europ*)
- 2013: **'Berlusconi, Katter and Assange: a very personal party'** (<https://theconversation.com/berlusconi-katter-and-assange-a-very-personal-party-13164>), *The Conversation*, 16 April.
- 2013: **'When it comes to outsider politics, Italy is not so very different'** (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/world-commentary/when-it-comes-to-outsider-politics-italy-is-not-so-very-different/story-e6frg6ux-1226612750254>), *The Australian*, 5 April.
- 2013: **'Too much too young for Italy's Five-Star Movement?'** (<https://theconversation.com/too-much-too-young-for-italys-five-star-movement-12491>), *The Conversation*, 13 March.
- 2013: **'Grillo is the only real winner in Italy'** (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/world-commentary/grillo-is-the-only-real-winner-in-italy/story-e6frg6ux-1226589448422>), *The Australian*, 4 March.
- 2013: **'Italy passes a no-confidence verdict in the centre-left'** (http://www.policy-network.net/pno_detail.aspx?ID=4349&title=Italy-passes-a-no-confidence-verdict-in-the-centre-left), *Policy Network*, 4 March (& *LSE Europ*)
- 2013: **'Italy parades the same old characters'** (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/world-commentary/italy-parades-the-same-old-characters/story-e6frg6ux-1226582977837>), *The Australian*, 22 February.
- 2013: **'No laughing matter: Comedian Beppe Grillo's Five-Star Movement'** (<http://www.newstatesman.com/staggers/2013/02/no-laughing-matter>), *New Statesman*, 15 February.
- 2013: **'The Italian centre-left: Stalling in the campaign, but (probably) not in the election'** (http://www.policy-network.net/pno_detail.aspx?ID=4337&title=The-Italian-centre-left-Stalling-in-the-campaign-but-probably-not-in-the-election), *Policy Network*, 13 February (& *LSE EUROPP*)
- 2013: **'Silvio Berlusconi needs wise old trainer to say it's all over'** (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/world-commentary/silvio-berlusconi-needs-wise-old-trainer-to-say-its-all-over/story-e6frg6ux-1226547289978>), *The Australian*, 4 January.
- 2012: **'Beppe Grillo's unexpected rise makes him the Italian (non)politician of the year'** (<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2012/12/13/beppe-grillo-2012/>), *LSE EUROPP*, 13 December.
- 2012: **'Monti mulls a run as nation eyes a comic'** (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/world-commentary/mario-monti-mulls-a-run-as-nation-eyes-a-comic/story-e6frg6ux-1226523746897>), *The Australian*, 26 November.
- 2012: **'Italy: the prospects for populism'** (http://www.policy-network.net/pno_detail.aspx?ID=4228&title=Italy-the-prospects-for-populism), *Policy Network*, 3 September.

Interviews in the Media (selection)

- 2013: **'L'Italia Giusta v Political Expediency'** (http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21583261-silvio-berlusconis-criminal-conviction-could-yet-bring-down-government-litalia-giusta-v?fsrc=scn/tw_ec/l_italia_giusta_v_political_expediency), *The Economist*, 10 August.
- 2013: **'Judges Reject Silvio Berlusconi's Appeal'** (<http://world.time.com/2013/08/01/judges-reject-silvio-berlusconis-appeal-but-his-political-appeal-endures/>), *Time*, 1 August.
- 2013: **'Italy's Five Stars Lose their Twinkle'** (<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jun/19/beppe-grillo-ms5-mp-ejection>), *The Guardian*, 19 June.
- 2013: **'Italy Sets Ambitious Agenda'** (http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324482504578452710277647782.html?mod=googlenews_wsj), *The Wall Street Journal*, 29 April.
- 2013: **'Italy Party Leader to Resign'** (<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324493704578432122937218466.html>), *The Wall Street Journal*, 22 March.
- 2013: **'Italy prepares to meet the Grillini'** (<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/feb/26/italy-grillini-young-female>), *The Guardian*, 26 February.
- 2013: **'Italy's Elections: Split vote yields no clear winner and an unholy mess'** (<http://world.time.com/2013/02/25/italys-elections-split-vote-yields-no-clear-winner-and-an-unholy-mess/>), *Time*, 25 February.

- 2013: **'Politics takes a funny turn in Italy with comedian Beppe Grillo'** (<http://www.theworld.org/2013/02/politics-takes-a-funny-turn-in-italy-with-comedian-beppe-grillo/>), *BBC World Service*, 22 February.
- 2013: **'Will Monte Paschi banking scandal throw open Italy's election race?'** (http://edition.cnn.com/2013/02/12/business/italy-elections-monte-paschi/index.html?hpt=ibu_c1), *CNN*, 12 February.

Among other international media I have commented for since September 2012: *The New York Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* (UK), *RAI* (Italy), *ABC National Radio* (Australia), *De Trouw* (Netherlands), *Deutsch Welle* (Germany), *El Punt Avui* (Spain), *BBC Brasil*.

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