
Pietro MASSAINI

Contacts

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Languages

Italian – Mother tongue
English – Professional
French – Professional

Profile

Ph.D. Candidate in Political Studies at Sapienza University of Rome, in joint supervision with the Doctoral School of Legal Sciences at the University of Strasbourg. Research experience in contemporary history, local and regional democracy, human rights, multilateralism, and democratic security.

Competences

Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) analysis.
Data analysis.
Linux and SQL.
Automate cybersecurity tasks with Python.
Python for web scraping
Public speaking.
Scientific and journalistic writing.
Reporting.
Educational communication.

Education

Nov 2024 - Current

Université de Strasbourg • École doctorale des sciences juridiques (ED 101) • Ph.D.

UR Centre d'études internationales et européennes (CEIE)

Supervisor : B. Wassenberg

During this experience I had the possibility to attend a Meeting of the Group of Independent Experts on the European Charter of Local Self-Government (September 2025); the plenary session of the European Parliament, specifically the session of 21 October 2025; the 49th session of Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of from 28 to 30 October 2025 in Strasbourg. I also had the opportunity to attend various conferences held both by academic institutions and by the Council of Europe.

The doctoral project, articulated in English, is titled: "**Relations Between the Council of Europe and the United Nations (1949-1971)**".

Nov 2023 - Current

University of Rome La Sapienza • Political Studies • Ph.D.

History of Institutions

Supervisor: S. Guerrieri

Multidisciplinary education, from a historical and philosophical perspective as well as a legal and political one.

The doctoral project, articulated in English, is titled: "Relations Between the Council of Europe and the United Nations (1949-1971)".

24 Feb 2026

The OSINT Handbook: Mastering Open-Source Intelligence – Coursera. ID RNGR7XETCH7V.

Completed "The OSINT Handbook" – comprehensive training in Open-Source Intelligence techniques covering web scraping, social media analysis (SOCMINT), geospatial imagery, network mapping, metadata extraction, and advanced search methodologies. Gained hands-on expertise with Kali Linux tools including theHarvester, Sherlock, Nmap, Wireshark, Metagoofil, Maltego for ethical reconnaissance across cybersecurity, investigations, market research, and disaster response scenarios. Mastered anonymity practices, ethical sock puppets, threat intelligence workflows, and data visualization.

Jan 2026 – 18 Apr 2026

Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate – Coursera

Gained entry-level cybersecurity analyst skills in identifying risks, threats, and vulnerabilities; network security; applying mitigation techniques; using SIEM and IDS tools for detection and incident response; using tcpdump, Wireshark; and working hands-on with Python, Linux, and SQL. The program included practice-based assessments and labs simulating real-world security scenarios. Skills: threats, risks and vulnerabilities; incident response; security frameworks and controls; security hardening; Linux command line; SQL; SIEM tools; Python.

Jun 2024

University of Strasbourg • Summer School

"The European Identity: Past, Present and Future". There I had the opportunity to attend high-level classes in a global environment. I had the chance to get in touch with prof. Birte Wassenberg, expert on the history of the Council of Europe. In addition, I was able to see important European institutions up close. In particular, I took part at the Summer Session 2024 of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Dec 2021 – Jul 2023

University of Pisa • History • Master's Degree • Thesis in International Relations

110 L/110

Thesis: *A Constitution for Europe. Which role does "christian roots" have on european identity?*

Supervisor: A. Polsi

Co-supervisor: M. Di Donato

Historical studies of various kinds, ranging from the study of European integration to the Maghreb, the post-Soviet space, and international relations.

Oct 2021

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna • Merit Award • CESM – Circular Economy and Sustainability

Management: Managing the Transition Towards a Circular Economy.

During this course, I had the opportunity to gain more in-depth training on the circular economy, working on a specific case study as part of the conclusion of the course on green transition management within a company.

Nov 2018 – Oct 2021

University of Florence • Modern Literature • Bachelor's Degree

110 L/110

Thesis: *La famosa invasione degli orsi in Sicilia da Buzzati a Mattotti. Un percorso tra scrittura, pittura e animazione.*

Supervisor: Irene Gambacorti

Studies mainly of a literary nature, but with a strong historical orientation. During this period, I further developed my writing skills and collaborated with a news platform.

Sep 2013 – Jul 2018

Scientific high school diploma, final grade: 95/100.

Since 2014, I have contributed to the school newspaper, *Il Savoiaro*, which I directed from 2016. I contributed to the creation of the blog *Arbor*, dedicated to articles on green culture and therapeutic gardens. In 2017, I worked as a local tour guide as part of the “Chiese Aperte” (Open Churches) initiative, and in the same year, I received the *9th Jorio Vivarelli Scholarship Award* for my poem *Spirito leggero*.

Working experiences

June 2026 - Present Geneva, Switzerland

Council of Europe’s Permanent Delegation to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva • Study visit

1) Research carried out as part of my doctoral research. 2) Participation in high-level meetings and drafting of reports, such as for the visit by the GR-EXT delegation or for the high-level event on the protection of human rights in the age of AI. Represented the Council of Europe at the 16th session (second part) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Complementary Standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). Assisted in graphics design and reporting tasks, drafting political speeches. I also had the opportunity to take part in the 62nd session of the Human Rights Council, covering both interactive dialogues and side events organised by various delegations, which explored the human rights agenda through a range of sub-themes, including, for example, gender issues, peace, security, artificial intelligence, migration, the use of AI for the analysis of large datasets, and Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI). I have also attended the AI for Good Global Summit and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS Forum 2026).

March-April 2026 Strasbourg, France

Council of Europe, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities • Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Promoting Local Democracy – Institutional Partnerships and Cooperation with Non-Member States • Study visit

The work in this unit encompasses two main areas. 1) Independent research conducted as part of the doctoral thesis on the Relations between the Council of Europe and the United Nations, and its potential future developments. The second centres on strategic information analysis to support institutional decision-making and partnership building. 2) Research on international contexts, budgets, reliability assessments, and shared priorities for cooperation. Responsibilities also include drafting political speeches, preparing meeting summaries, writing concept notes and press release, and contributing to the initial stages of project management for a joint programme with the European Union. The main areas of interest were the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and EU enlargement.

16-17 Oct 2025 Strasbourg, France

I took part as discussant at the **5th Annual Conference of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe (OHTE)** of the Council of Europe. In particular, the discussion theme is “History and Politics- the Unbreakable Bond”, focusing on the motion “history should not be used as a political tool”, debated with academics, politicians and students. After a mentoring with prof. R. Carsocia, it was prepared an Oxford style debate.

Aug 2023 Italy

External Collaborator - G. Giappichelli Editore srl

Colaboration for the realization of Groppi, T., Simoncini, A. *Foundations of Italian Public Law* (2023)
Creation of historical insights, proofreading, editing.

Jan 2021 – Jan 2022 Pistoia, Italy

Journalist - Report Pistoia

Jan 2019 Italy

Author of the poetry collection *Petali di Rosa*, published by Robin Edizioni, Torino.

April-May 2017 Pistoia, Italy

Journalist- CarnageNews

I collaborated with the online cultural magazine *Carnagenews*, publishing articles about the initiative "Dialoghi sull'Uomo" (now "Dialoghi di Pistoia"), a cultural festival dedicated to contemporary anthropology.

Conferences

July 2026, Geneve, Switzerland

Attendee on behalf of the Council of Europe to the AI for Good Global Summit and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS Forum 2026). Panels: "Beyond State vs. Corporate: Community Data Governance Models from the Global Majority", "Artificial Intelligence and Digital Government Ecosystem", "From Fragmentation to coherence: the role of the International Law Association in AI governance", "Promoting and enhancing cybersecurity among small and medium-sized enterprises for the sustainable development: trends and best practices", "Science in the Age of AI: Knowledge, Data, and Trust", "Post-Quantum: Preparing the DNS for Post-Quantum Cryptography".

May 27-29 2026, Freiburg-im-Brisgau, Germany

Atelier Doctoral, Histoire des Relations Internationales.

Presentation: *Methodology and Architecture of the Doctoral Research on "The relations between the Council of Europe and the United Nations (1949-1971)"*.

I also had the opportunity to act as secretary for a World Café panel discussing the topic of "Artificial Intelligence and Contemporary Challenges in Research".

May 06 2026, Rome, Italy

Attendee. Cyber Crime Conference 2026.

April 09 2026, Strasbourg, France

Séminaires de recherche du CEIE.

Project : Coopération juridique entre le Conseil de l'Europe et les Nations Unies (1949-1971).

Nov 13-14 2025, Rome, Italy

Organization of the doctoral workshop "Thinking Europe: Critical Paths on European Integration", a joint initiative between Sapienza University of Rome and the National PhD Program in European Studies of the University of Genoa. In addition to the organizational work, I actively participated with a presentation on *Multilateral Responses to the Refugee Crisis in the Post-War Period: Cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations*.

June 5-7 2025, Padua, Italy

Convegno nazionale SISl, XII edizione,

Participation as relator, together with A. Bonafini and M. Selis.

President: prof. A. Polsi; Discussant: prof. E. Tizzoni.

Project: *L'Europa alla fine della Guerra Fredda. Una discussione sul carattere integrativo e sulla sicurezza dopo il 1989*.

June 4-5 2025, Rome, Italy

Workshop dottorale. *Marginalità, Potere e terzietà*, University of Rome La Sapienza.

Project: *The Political Role of the European Commission of Human rights as Third Party.*

May 26-27 2025, Nantes, France

Histoire des relations internationales contemporaines, Séminaire doctoral, with the Centre d'excellence Jean Monnet – Unipaix.

Project: *Relations between the Council of Europe and the United Nations. A global outreach under universal shared values*

May 20 2025, Rome, Italy

Organisation and participation as chair at the *Seminario metodologico e condivisione di prospettive di ricerca di Storia Internazionale*, with A. Bonifacio and G. Lella.

February 27-28 2025, Madrid, Spain

Junior Researchers in Contemporary European History International Conference

International conference held by the Complutense University of Madrid, Faculty of Geography and History.

Project: *Relations between the Council of Europe and the United Nations during the Secretariat of Catherine Lalumière (1989-1994). An ambivalent behaviour?*

May 16-17 2024, Ravenna, Italy

1974-2024 Fifty Years of Integration. Making a European "history of the present"

International workshop organised by the Department of Cultural Heritage of the University of Bologna in cooperation with the Fondazione Casa di Oriani in the framework of the Jean Monnet modules "EU&ME: EU across the Mediterranean" (2022-2025).

Project: *Euroscepticism and enlargement. The shadows of the plombier polonais in the 2005 debate in France and Italy.*

Research abroad

Nov 2023-current

I have conducted research and attended seminars for an extended period in Strasbourg, for a medium-term period in Geneva, and for short periods in other cities in Spain, France and Germany.

Didactics

16 December 2025 Siena, Italy • University of Siena

This lecture was delivered as part of the Public Law course at the University of Siena and was led by Prof. Tania Groppi and Valentina Carlino. The lesson provided an introduction to the **foundations of international public law**, incorporating historical, political and philosophical insights.

The title: "Anatomy of a Dream: Studying the International Order in Times of Crisis. Sovereignty and its developments: States, the Council of Europe, the European Union and the International Legal System".

Publications

P. Massaini, *The Political Role of the European Commission of Human Rights as "Third Party"*, in V. Laino, M. Panfili, J. Scudero, *Marginalità, potere e terzietà*, accepted for publication for Sapienza Università Editrice (2026).

P. Massaini, *Giovanni Lella*, Mitterrand, l'Italia e la costruzione europea. Un appuntamento mancato (1981-1986), *Carocci, Roma 2025*, pp. 304, "Mimesis Edizioni", II (2025), 2025, pp. 183-185.

P. Massaini, *Revue critique sur l'historiographie du Conseil de l'Europe. Une organisation en marge*, "Instituta", II (2025), pp. 127-134.

P. Massaini, *La Convenzione europea di fronte alla questione delle radici cristiane (2002-2003)*, "Instituta", II (2024), pp. 37-59.

P. Massaini, *Sante Lesti*, Il Mito delle radici cristiane dell'Europa. Dalla Rivoluzione francese ai giorni nostri, "Mimesis Edizioni", II (2024), 2024, pp. 202-205.

Grants and Prizes

Bando VINCI 2025, provided by *Université Franco-Italienne*, covered an important part of the expenses needed to do the research period abroad.

9th Jorio Vivarelli Scholarship Award (2017) for the writing of my poem *Spirito leggero*.

Activism

Oct 2024 – current
Friend of UNICEF.

Oct 2021- August 2022

Co-funder and president of Associazione Arrhenius.

Co-organiser of Climax Festival.

The purpose of the association and the festival was, at first, to promote scientific outreach on climate change at the local level.

Personal projects

I've developed a web scraping app for macOS, a Telegram bot to provide me with a press round-up from my favourite publications, and a PDF editing app for macOS.
