

Valentina Volpe

Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law
Im Neuenheimer Feld 535
D-69120 Heidelberg
+49.174.420.4039 + 39.392.22.89.976
volpe@mpil.de

Personal information

Born on 2nd March 1983, Trieste, Italy. Italian citizenship, unmarried.

Main fields of research

Global and international public law, comparative constitutional law, democracy promotion, human rights, international organizations (with a particular focus on CoE and EU), European human rights law.

Work experiences

- 2014 - present *Senior Research Fellow*, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (MPIL), Heidelberg, Germany (Professor Anne Peters' Team).
- 2016 - present *Associate Lecturer*, United Nations-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE), San José, Costa Rica.
- 2016 - present *Associate Lecturer*, LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy.
- 2015 - present *Associate Lecturer*, Lille Catholic University, campus of Paris, France.
- 2014 - 2016 *Associate Lecturer*, University of Mannheim, Germany.
- 2013 - 2014 *Project Manager*, human rights area, @uxilia NGO, Udine, Italy.
- 2008 - 2012 *Ph.D. Candidate in Law and Legal Theory*, Italian Institute of Human Sciences (SUM), Naples (today Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa), Italy.
- 2008 - 2010 *Assistant Lecturer of Comparative Constitutional Law*, Department of Political Science, University of Trieste, Italy.
- 2007 *Project Officer*, intern, Italian Embassy of Beijing, China (September – December).
- 2006 *Parliamentary Assistant*, intern, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium (January – June).

Education

- 2008 - 2012 Ph.D. *summa cum laude* in *Law and Legal Theory* at the Italian Institute of Human Sciences (SUM) - today Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa - with a doctoral dissertation on Global Administrative Law and International Law: *Global Dimensions of Democracy* (supervisor Professor Sabino Cassese).
Defense: 14th February 2013.
- 2005 - 2007 LL.M. (Laurea Specialistica) 110/110 *summa cum laude* in *European, International and Comparative Legal Studies* at the University of Trieste with a dissertation on Comparative Constitutional Law: *The Role of the Venice Commission in the Eastern Europe's Constitutional Transition* (supervisor Professor Sergio Bartole).
- 2002 - 2005 J.D. (Laurea di Primo Livello) 110/110 *summa cum laude* in *Legal Science* at the University of Trieste, with a dissertation on Comparative Private Law: *The European Models of Civil Unions* (supervisor Professor Mauro Bussani).
- 2005 *Erasmus exchange student*, Faculté de Droit, de Sciences Politiques et de Gestion, Robert Schuman, University of Strasbourg, France (Spring term).

Visiting positions and research stays

- 2010 - 2011 Visiting researcher at the *Yale Law School*, New Haven, CT, USA.
Courses: Constitution. Philosophy, History, Law (Professor Bruce Ackerman); *Human Rights & Difference* (Professor Ratna Kapur); *Law and Globalization* (Professors Seyla Benhabib & Alec Stone Sweet); *International Dimensions of Democratization* (Professor Nikolay Marinov) (August – June).
- 2010 Study Visitor at the *European University Institute (EUI) Library*, San Domenico di Fiesole, Florence, Italy (February – July).
- 2009 Study Visitor at the *Italian Constitutional Court Library*, Rome, Italy (July).
- 2007 Visiting researcher at the *European Commission for Democracy through Law - Venice Commission*, (supervisor Ms. Simona Granata–Menghini), Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France (August-September).

Teaching experiences

University courses

- *European Comparative Law*, European LL.B., Law School, Lille Catholic University, campus of Paris, France, 2016/2017, 2015/2016 and 2014/2015 (Spring term), 24h.
- *Law and Global Governance*, Master in Management e Politiche delle Pubbliche Amministrazioni (M.A.M.A.), LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy, 2016/2017 and 2015/2016 (Spring term), 10h.
- *Global Law and Human Rights*, United Nations-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE), San José, Costa Rica, 2017/2018 and 2016/2017 (Fall term), 15h.
- *EU Fundamental Rights*, Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.), University of Mannheim, Germany, 2015/2016 and 2014/2015 (Fall term), 28h.

- *Comparative Law in Global Perspective*, International Law Summer School, China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), Beijing, China (July - August 2015), 36h.

University lectures

- *Becoming or Remaining Italians? The Paradoxes of the Italian Citizenship*, lecture, Comparative Constitutional Law, (Dr. Antonio Merlino), Law School, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg, Austria (December 2016).
- *Human Rights and the External Dimension of the EU*, lecture, EU Fundamental Rights, (Dr. Davide Paris), Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.), University of Mannheim, Germany (December 2016).
- *European Illiberal Democracies? How to Face Rule of Law and Human Rights Backlashes in the EU*, lecture, European Economic Law, (Dr. Emmanuel Gardounis), Sciences Po, Paris, France (November 2016).
- *Global Dimensions of Democracy*, lecture, International and European Human Rights Law (Professor Iris Canor), Summer course, School of Law, College of Management - Israel, Heidelberg (September 2015).
- *Democracy as a Universal Value? The evolutionary meaning of democracy within the UN framework*, Colloquium. Current Developments in International Law, University of Heidelberg, Faculty of Law - MPIL (January 2015).
- *Socialist Legal Systems and the Problem of Democratic Transition*, lecture, Comparative Legal Traditions (Professor Mauro Bussani), Law School, University of Trieste (April 2013).
- *Raising Standards of Freedom of Expression: the Role of the Council of Europe*, lecture, Freedom of New Ideas (FONI), European Public Law Organization (EPLO), Moldova State University, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (October 2011).
- *The Dawn of the Italian Republic: From Liberation to Constitution*, seminar, Comparative Constitutional Law (Professor Roberto Scarciglia), Department of Political Science, University of Trieste (May 2009).

Publications

- V. Volpe, *From Human Rights to the Rule of Law. The ECtHR and the Independence of the Judiciary*, in “Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law”, forthcoming 2017.
- V. Volpe – G. Ruge, *The Court Through the Looking-Glass - A Dialogue between Constitutional Justices. An Interview with Sabino Cassese and Daria de Pretis*, in “Heidelberg Journal of International Law”, forthcoming 2017.
- V. Volpe, *Realizing European Identity. The Role of the Enlargement Process*, in “Why Europe? German-Italian Reflections on a Common Topic”, I. Amodeo – C. Liermann - E. Pichler – M. Scotto (eds.), Impulse - Villa Vigoni im Gespräch, Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart, Vol. 11, 2017, pp. 73 – 81.
- V. Volpe, *Drafting Counter-majoritarian Democracy. The Venice Commission’s Constitutional Assistance*, in “Heidelberg Journal of International Law”, Vol. 76, No. 4, 2016, pp. 811 – 843.
- V. Volpe – S. Ragone, *An Emerging Right to a “Gay” Family Life? The Case Oliari v. Italy in a Comparative*

Perspective, in “German Law Journal”, Vol. 17, No. 3, 2016, pp. 451 – 486.

- V. Volpe – G. Ruge, *La Corte oltre lo Specchio: un Dialogo tra Giudici Costituzionali, con Sabino Cassese e Daria de Pretis*, in Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law & International Law (MPIL) Research Paper, No. 6, 2016.
- V. Volpe, *La Corte Europea dei Diritti dell’Uomo e l’Indipendenza del Potere Giudiziario*, in “Giornale di Diritto Amministrativo”, No. 1, 2015, pp. 43–51.
- V. Volpe, *Italia*, in M. Savino (ed.), *Oltre lo Ius Soli: la Cittadinanza Italiana in Prospettiva Comparata*, IRPA, Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, 2014, pp. 35-65.
- V. Volpe, *The EU’s Enlargement Policy and the Promotion of Democracy. The Case of Turkey*, in *Global Administrative Law: The Casebook*, S. Cassese - B. Carotti - L. Casini - E. Cavalieri - E. MacDonald, with the collaboration of M. Macchia - M. Savino (eds.), Institute for Research on Public Administration (IRPA) - Institute for International Law and Justice (IILJ), Rome - New York, 2012, pp. 22-32.
- V. Volpe, *Guaranteeing Electoral Democratic Standards. The Venice Commission and the “Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters”*, in *Global Administrative Law: The Casebook*, S. Cassese - B. Carotti - L. Casini - E. Cavalieri - E. MacDonald, with the collaboration of M. Macchia - M. Savino (eds.). Institute for Research on Public Administration (IRPA) - Institute for International Law and Justice (IILJ), Rome - New York, 2012, pp. 57-67.
- V. Volpe, *Does Civil Society Promote Democracy? The Arab Spring and the EU’s “New Response to a Changing Neighborhood”*, in *Global Administrative Law: The Casebook*, S. Cassese - B. Carotti - L. Casini - E. Cavalieri - E. MacDonald, with the collaboration of M. Macchia - M. Savino (eds.). Institute for Research on Public Administration (IRPA) - Institute for International Law and Justice (IILJ), Rome - New York, 2012, pp. 149-157.
- V. Volpe, *Stanchi di Essere Vento: la Comunità Sinta a Trieste*, in R. Scarciglia (ed.), *Trieste multiculturale. Comunità e linguaggi di integrazione*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2011, pp. 109-124.
- V. Volpe, Editorial coordination, *Manuale di Diritto Costituzionale e Pubblico*, Authors: L. Pegoraro - A. Reposito - A. Rinella - R. Scarciglia - M. Volpi, Third edition, G. Giappichelli, 2009, pp. XXIV – 496.

Conferences organization

- 2017 *Remedies against Immunity? Reconciling international and domestic law after the Italian Constitutional Court’s Sentenza 238/2014*, co-organizer with Anne Peters (MPIL) and Stefano Battini (IRPA). Villa Vigoni, Lake Como (May).
Website: <http://www.mpil.de/en/pub/news/conferences-workshops/remedies-against-immunity.cfm>
- 2014 *Europe 2014 - 1914: The Legacy of the Great Empires*, with Lucio Caracciolo and Mauro Bussani, Trieste (May).
- 2013 *Lanymers, Professors and Judges: The US experience*, with Guido Calabresi, Sterling Professor Emeritus of Law - Yale Law School, Trieste (March).
- 2012 *Antonio Cassese: The Dream of Human Rights*, memorial conference honoring Antonio Cassese with Sabino Cassese, Paola Gaeta and Mauro Bussani, Trieste (March).

Conferences and presentations

- 2017 *European Illiberal Democracies? Facing Political Risk within the EU*, Law School, Lille Catholic University, Paris (February).
- 2016 *From Ends to Means. How to Protect the Rule of Law in the European Union*, Global Legal Network (GLN) Annual Meeting *Impacts of Legal Risks on Effectiveness of EU Law*, Tallinn, Estonia (October).
- 2016 *From Human Rights to the Rule of Law: The ECtHR Grand Chamber Judgment Baka v. Hungary*, Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (September).
- 2016 *International Actors in Constitution Building Processes: The Venice Commission in Africa*, Summer course on Constitution Building in Africa, Central European University, Budapest (July).
- 2016 *A Second Silent Brexit? Britain, Strasbourg, and Human Rights*, Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (July).
- 2016 *The Right to a “Gay” Family Life: The Role of Supranational and Constitutional Courts in Endorsing Social Change in Europe* (with Sabrina Ragone), Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Conference, 2–5 June, New Orleans, U.S. (June).
- 2016 *Yes, we can! The Role of Global Actors in Human Rights Promotion*, Law School, LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome (May).
- 2016 *Legal (Trans)gender Recognition. The Italian Constitutional Court Facing Transsexual Rights: A Comment to Sentenza 221/2015*, Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (April).
- 2016 *Non-State Actors and Democracy Promotion*, Law School, Lille Catholic University, Paris (March).
- 2016 *Democracy and Human Rights: A European Identity?*, Workshop, *From Ideas on Europe to the European Citizen: Why Europe?*, Villa Vigoni, Lake Como (January).
- 2015 Chair and interviewer of the Italian Justices Professors Sabino Cassese and Daria de Pretis (with Giacomo Ruggie) in *La Corte oltre lo specchio: un dialogo tra giudici costituzionali*, Dialoghi Italiani, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (November).
- 2015 *Global Dimensions of Democracy. Global Actors Raising Domestic Legal Standards*, poster presentation, project selected for the MPIL Academic Advisory Board (*Fachbeirat*) and Board of Trustees (*Kuratorium*) presentations, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (October - November).
- 2015 *If Mayors Ruled the World. An Alternative Path for Global Governance*, book presentation [Benjamin R. Barber, *If Mayors Ruled the World: Dysfunctional Nations, Rising Cities*, Yale University Press, New Haven, 2013], Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (November).

- 2015 *'The Hard Impact of Soft Law'. How international organizations may promote democracy and human rights globally*, University for Peace (UPEACE), San José, Costa Rica (September).
- 2015 *The European Union's Political Conditionality in the EU Enlargement Process as an Instrument of Democracy and Human Rights Promotion*, Diplomado Internacional Derechos Humanos, *El nuevo Derecho Público del Siglo XXI y la protección multinivel de los derechos humanos*, University for Peace, Heidelberg University, and Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Colegio de Abogados, San José, Costa Rica (September).
- 2015 *The European Court of Human Rights and Same-Sex Unions. Supporting the "European Consensus" or the right to a "Gay" Family Life? A Comment on the Case Oliari and Others v. Italy*, (with Sabrina Ragone), Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (September).
- 2015 *The Venice Commission Constitutional Assistance. Strengths and Limits of an Instrument for Democracy through Law*, Workshop *Parliaments, Constitutional Transitions and the Venice Commission*, Summer School - Jean Monnet Module on 'Parliamentary Democracy in Europe', *Parliaments of Europe: foreign policy and democracy promotion*, School of Government LUISS Guido Carli University, 14-24 July, Rome (July).
- 2015 *Rewarding, Drafting and Funding Democracy. The Role of International Organizations in Raising National Democratic and Human Rights Standards*, International Society of Public Law (ICON-S), Annual Conference *Public Law in an Uncertain World*, New York University School of Law, 1–3 July, N.Y.C., U.S. (July).
- 2015 *Lessons Learned. The Arab Spring and the Eastern European Democratic Transitions*, Invited commentator, 4th Annual Conference on *Comparative Arab Constitutional Law*, Panel *Comparative Survey of Constitutional Reform in the Arab Region since 2011*, 16–17 May, Cairo, Egypt (May).
- 2015 Chair and discussant, 4th Max Planck Masterclass in International Law with Emmanuelle Tourme-Jouannet on *Apprendre à repenser le droit international*, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (May).
- 2015 *Drafting Democracy: il Ruolo della Commissione di Venezia nella Promozione della Democrazia attraverso il Diritto*, Law School, LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome (March).
- 2015 *Costruire la Democrazia: la Commissione di Venezia e il Mondo Nuovo del Diritto*, Law School, Università di Salerno, Fisciano, Italy (March).
- 2015 *The European Court of Human Rights and the Independence of the Judiciary. Ensuring Individual Rights or a Systemic Rule of Law? A Comment on the Case Baka v. Hungary*, Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (February).
- 2014 *No taxation without representation? La disciplina italiana in tema di acquisto della cittadinanza e i suoi paradossi*, Dialoghi Italiani, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (December).
- 2014 *Unveiling the Truth: the ECHR Judgment S.A.S. v. France*, seminar *ECHR case SAS v France on Banning of Burkas and Niqab*, Centro de Estudios Políticos and Constitucionales, Madrid (November).

- 2014 *Guido Calabresi: Un dialogo tra l'uomo e il diritto*, book presentation [Guido Calabresi, "Il mestiere di giudice", Il Mulino, Bologna, 2013], Istituto di Ricerche sulla Pubblica Amministrazione (IRPA), Annual Conference 24-25 October, Sutri, Rome (October).
- 2014 *Is Islam an ECtHR (and European) taboo? The Case of S.A.S. v. France*, Referentenbesprechung, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (July).
- 2014 Chair and discussant, *3rd Masterclass in International Law with Martti Koskenniemi on Critical Studies of International Law*, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (April-May).
- 2014 *'Half He Pulled and Half She Sank'. The Transformative Power of International Organizations in Raising National Democratic Standards*, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg (February).
- 2010 *Exporting Democracy. How the Global Legal Order Promotes Democracy*, IRPA Lunch, Istituto di Ricerche sulla Pubblica Amministrazione (IRPA), Rome (April).
- 2010 *La Promozione della Democrazia e il Nuovo Ordine Globale*, Doctoral School in Comparative Public Law and EU Law of the University of Udine, Trieste (May).

Grants and awards

- 2016 *Fritz Thyssen Foundation Grant*, Promotion of science and research events, *State, Economy and Society*, for the conference *Remedies against Immunity? Reconciling international and domestic law after the Italian Constitutional Court's Sentenza 238/2014*, (co-organized with Anne Peters and Stefano Battini) at Villa Vigoni, Lake Como, May 2017. Grant 25.000 euro.
- 2008 - 2011 *Doctoral fellowship grant*, Italian Institute of Human Sciences (SUM), Naples.
- Since 2008 *Culture della Materia* (honorary title) in Italian and Comparative Constitutional Law, Political Science Department, University of Trieste.
- 2005 *Erasmus exchange grant*, Faculté de Droit, de Sciences Politiques et de Gestion, Robert Schuman, University of Strasbourg, France (Spring term).

Participation in conferences at home and abroad (selection)

- 2013 Antonio Cassese Summer School *Post-Conflict Justice and State Building*, Antonio Cassese Initiative – Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland (July).
- 2010 *In the Name of the People or in the Name of the Constitution?* Seminar held by Professor Sabino Cassese, Istituto di Ricerche sulla Pubblica Amministrazione (IRPA), Rome (March – May).
- 2009 - 2008 - 2004 *International Summer Schools of Philosophy and Politics*, ItalianiEuropei Foundation, Rome (July).

2005 Training course *Women, Politics, and Institutions* (ranked 2nd out of more than 150 participants), Ministry of Equal Opportunity, Superior School of Public Administration, University of Trieste (September - December).

Other professional activities

2015 - present Promoter and coordinator of the *MPIL Internship Programme*, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg.

2014 - present Promoter (with Giacomo Ruge) and co-organizer (with Sabrina Ragone) of the MPIL monthly discussion forum *Dialoghi Italiani*, about the Italian legal and political world (in Italian). Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg.

2008 - 2010 Participation in the two-year research project *The “difficult” communities: multiculturalism and immigration in the territory of Trieste. Criticalities and legal models circulation in the Euro-regional area*, director Professor Roberto Scarciglia, Political Science Department, University of Trieste.

Memberships

- Member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Review *Heidelberg Journal of International Law/Zeitschrift für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht* (ZaöRV), MPIL, (since 2015).
- Member of the *International Society of Public Law* (ICON-S), (since 2015).
- Member of the *Global Legal Network* (since 2015).
- Member of the *Istituto di Ricerche sulla Pubblica Amministrazione* (IRPA), (since 2014).
- Member of the executive team of the *Antonio Cassese Initiative for Justice, Peace and Humanity*, Geneva Academy of International and Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland (since 2013).
- Member of the local editorial board of the Review *Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo* (DPCE) office of Trieste, Association of Comparative and European Public Law, (since 2009).

International cooperation and voluntary work experiences

2013 Sri Lanka – Project officer, Project for the rehabilitation of former children soldiers and war widows of the Tamil minority, @uxilia NGO (March).

2008 - 2010 Italy – Educational support for children of the Roma and Sinti communities living in the “camps”, Trieste.

2004 India – Community building and preschool education in rural area, Kerala (September-October).

Language proficiency

Italian (mother tongue), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (working knowledge), German (fair).