

## **CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM AND LIST OF PUBLICATIONS**

9/2020

**FARIAN SABAHI**

email: [farian.sabahi@gmail.com](mailto:farian.sabahi@gmail.com)

skype: [farian.sabahi](https://www.skype.com/people/farian.sabahi)

website: [www.fariansabahi.com](http://www.fariansabahi.com)

### **Degrees and qualifications**

2012 “Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale” (ASN) (Italian Ministry of Education) as “Associate Professor”; Disciplines: Contemporary History 11/A3 (valid until 4 December 2022); History of International Relations 14/B2 (valid until 25 March 2023).

15/1/1995 - 30/9/1999 PhD, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, University of London). Dissertation: *The Literacy Corps in Pahlavi Iran (1963-79)* supervised by David Morgan (History Dept.) and Richard Tapper (Anthropology Dept.), examined by Professor Emeritus Ann Lambton and Fred Halliday (LSE).

13/7/1995 “Laurea” in Oriental History, Bologna University (110/110 with distinction).

5/11/1991 “Laurea” in Economic History, Bocconi University, Milan (108/110).

### **Current academic positions**

Adjunct Professor, University of Insubria, Department of Human Sciences, Innovation and Territory, *States Economy and Global Markets* (2019-)

Adjunct Professor, University of Insubria, Department of Communication, *Journalism between rights and liberties* (2019-)

Adjunct Professor, University of Valle d’Aosta, Faculty of Political Sciences: *International Relations of the Middle East* (position held since 2010, previously teaching also *Politics and Economics of the Middle East*) (2013-).

Fellow (non-stipendiary) (“Cultore della Materia”), *History of Islamic Countries*, Department of Humanities, University of Turin (2006-)

## **Previous academic appointments**

2018-2019 Lecturer in Politics and Religion, John Cabot University, Rome: *History and Politics of Modern Iran and Introduction to Islam*

2013-2014 and 2002-2006 Lecturer, Bocconi University, Milan: *Middle East: History, Religion and Politics*

2013-2014 Invited professor, School of Public and International Affairs, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Baku: *Iranian Politics and History*.

2013-2014 Lecturer, University of Siena, Master in International Human Rights: *Islam and Human Rights*.

2002-2012 Chargée de cours, University of Geneva, Faculté des Lettres, Unité d'Arabe, *Yemen: Histoire, politique, société, L'Iran à travers son cinéma, L'évolution politique et sociale en Iran dès 1890, Histoire politique et sociale en Iran au XXème siècle*.

2005-2010 Lecturer, *Human Rights in Islamic Countries*, University of Siena, European Master in Human Rights and Genocide Studies directed by Prof. Marcello Flores.

2008-2009 Lecturer at Sapienza Rome, Faculty of Oriental Studies: *History of Iran*

2007-2008 Lecturer at the School of State Police, Alessandria (Italy): *Intercultural communication with a focus on the Muslim world*.

2007-2008 Lecturer, University of Campobasso, Master on the Enlargement of Europe to the South of the Mediterranean.

2003 Researcher (permanent position) at the Institute of Iranian Studies (Vienna) directed by Prof. Dr. Bert Fragner (declined).

## **Honors**

August 2020 Intensive course online on Yemen, Yemen Exchange (2 weeks).

April 2014 Intensive Persian Language Training Programme (one week), Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, Exeter (Programme sponsored by BIPS, the British Institute of Persian Studies).

2014 Grant (Sapienza University, Rome) for the publication of the monograph: *History of Yemen* (forthcoming 2021).

2012 Grant (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy) for the research "Gender Issues after the Yemeni Spring", published in the volume *After the Yemeni Spring. A Survey on the*

*Transition*, ed. by Anna Maria Medici, Urbino Research Team on International Relations and Human Development (Milan: Mimesis, 2012).

2001-2003 Research grant, Bocconi University, research on free trade zones in the Gulf and organize a series of lectures *Understanding Islam* – after 9/11.

2002 Funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) to organize the conference on Shi'ism (with Prof. Silvia Naef, Unité d'Arabe, Faculté des Lettres, Geneva University).

2001-2002 Fellow on Free Trade Zones in the Persian Gulf, Bocconi University and Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva.

April 2002 Visiting Fellow, University of North Carolina.

2000-2001 Visiting Fellow (invited by Prof. M.-R. Djalili), Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva.

2001 Funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) to organize the conference on the Caucasus and Central Asia at the Graduate Institute of International Studies (IUHEI).

1999-2001 Post-Doctoral Grant (on buy-back oil contracts in the Islamic Republic of Iran), funded by Bologna University, Dept. of Economics (Prof. Alberto Clò).

1999 CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome) - NATO Fellowship for Syracuse University, The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public, Department of Political Sciences (two months).

1999 Central Research Fund, additional field-work award to travel to Iran (one month).

1998 Central Research Fund, additional field-work award to travel to Washington D.C. and search the National Archives (one month).

1997 CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome), fellowship for research to be conducted at SOAS (3 months).

1997 Central Research Fund, additional field-work award to travel to Iran (one month).

1996/97 Scholarship from Bologna University for SOAS (one academic year).

1996 Scholarship from Columbus University, Ohio, to attend a course of Persian (3 months).

1995/96 Scholarship from Bari University for research at SOAS (one academic year).

## **Areas of specialisation**

- Pahlavi Iran
- Education in Iran 1963-79
- Gender issues in the Muslim world
- History of Yemen in the XX century

## **Areas of competence**

- Iran in the XX century
- Yemen in the XX century
- Current political and economic issues in Iran, Yemen, Uzbekistan
- Introduction to Islam
- Shi'i Islam

## **Research interests**

- The so-called Teheran Children (Polish refugees in Iran during WW2)
- Travels in Iran and Yemen in the late XIX and early XX century
- Tribes and nomads in Iran
- Religious and ethnic minorities in the Middle East

## **Work in progress and current work**

### **Books**

1. Storia dello Yemen (monograph on Yemen in the twentieth and twenty-first century) with a specific focus on the Yemeni Spring, the current war between Saudi Arabia and the Huthi rebels (belonging to the Shia community of the Zaydi school), and gender issues (women have been deeply involved in the Arab Spring and on this occasion advanced their demands for human and civil rights). To be published by Istituto per l'Oriente C.A. Nallino.
2. Publication of the travel report *Mon voyage en Perse en 1926 à l'occasion du couronnement du Shah Reza Chan* written by the Polish diplomat Thaddée de Skowronski.
3. Publication of a collection of essays by Ettore Rossi (1894-1955) on Yemen, Accademia dei Lincei, Rome.

## Art

Exhibition *Safar: 2003 Punto di svolta* (Travel: 2003 Turning Point) opening on 20 March 2019 at MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale, Torino. Showing photos shot in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Azerbaijan, UAE, Yemen, Uzbekistan before 2003 (2003 is a turning point in the contemporary history of the Middle East because on 20 March 2003 the US-led coalition invaded Iraq). Besides photos, articles published on the Italian daily *Il Sole 24 Ore* and audios broadcast by Swiss Radio will be made available.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books (authored)

1. *Storia dell'Iran 1890-2020*, Il Saggiatore, Milan 2020. 532 pages. ISBN 9788842827689
2. *Il bazar e la moschea. Storia dell'Iran 1890-2018*, Bruno Mondadori, Milan 2019.

This book explores the deep economic and political links between the merchants and the mullahs, as to explain the most important events in the history of Iran since the “tobacco revolution” of 1890-92. 350 pages, ISBN 9788867742073.

3. *Storia dello Yemen*, Bruno Mondadori, Milan 2010

This book is a detailed monograph exploring the history of Yemen from the end of the 19th century up to Abdallah Salah's presidency. 192 pages, ISBN 9788861594081.

4. *Storia dell'Iran 1890-2008*, Bruno Mondadori, Milan 2009

This book is a detailed monograph exploring the history of Iran from the end of the Qajar dynasty up to the presidential elections of 2009. First edition 2003, second edition 2006, 266 pages, ISBN 8861592392. See number 1 above for the most recent, amply revised edition.

5. *Islam: l'identità inquieta dell'Europa. Viaggio tra i musulmani d'Occidente*, Il Saggiatore, Milan 2006

This book is the result of field-work in the mosques of seven European countries, where the author discussed with the imams and members of the Muslim communities. The main issues are the construction and funding of new mosques, the use of specific cemeteries, *halal* food, religious education, family law, the veil. Though listed amongst “journalistic books”, this essay is based on original research, that is on interviews with Muslim leaders in France, Switzerland, England, Sweden, Belgium, Germany and Spain. 326 pages, ISBN 8842812838.

6. *The Literacy Corps in Pahlavi Iran (1963-1979): Political, Social and Literary Implications*, Sapiens, Lugano 2007

This monograph is based on diaries, autobiographies and novels written in Iran by the literacy corpsmen involved in teaching in rural areas (within the so-called White Revolution) during the 1960s and 1970s, on the Iranian and foreign literature read in those two decades by the corpsmen, on documents collected in archives – Public Record Office in London, the National Archives at College Park Maryland, the Foundation of Iranian Studies at Bethesda Maryland, UNESCO archives in Paris, the International Bureau of Education in Geneva – between 1996 and 1999; and on interview held in the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Iran, Italy and Pakistan in the same period. The information found in the written sources have been supported by oral history sources. 340 pages, ISBN 883800021.

7. *La pecora e il tappeto: economia tribale in Azerbaijan. Il caso dei nomadi Shahsevan*, Ariele, Milan 2000

This monograph is the result of a research, completed under the supervision of anthropologist Richard Tapper, on the Shahsevan nomads in the Iranian region of Azerbaijan. The book also analyses the case of the White Tent Programme under Muhammad Reza Shah, that is an educational programme brought by the Pahlavi authorities amongst the nomads. The author had done original research in the UNESCO archives in Paris, finding historical material of the 1950s and 1960s. 160 pages, ISBN 8886480741.

### **Books (edited)**

1. *The Other Shiites: From the Mediterranean to Central Asia*, edited by F. Sabahi, S. Naef and A. Monsutti, Peter Lang, Berna 2007.

This book offers a survey of the other Shiite outside Iran, with a focus on their diversity and multiplicity in the last two centuries, the public affirmation of their identities through specific rituals and social attitudes. 266 pages, ISBN 9783039112890.

2. *The OSCE and the Multiple Challenges of Transition in the Caucasus and Central Asia (1991-2001)*, edited by F. Sabahi and D. Warner, Ashgate, Aldershot 2004.

In the wake of 9/11 and the U.S. intervention in Afghanistan, Central Asia and the Caucasus have moved to the forefront of the international political agenda. At the same time, the events since 9/11 have had a major impact on Central Asia and the Caucasus and external actors' engagement in the region; 204 pages, ISBN 0754636062.

## Book chapters

1. "Iran, Iranian Media and Sunnite Islam", in Brigitte Maréchal and Sami Zemni (eds.), *The Dynamics of Sunni-Shia Relationship. Doctrine, Transnationalism, Intellectuals and the Media*, Hurst, London, pp. 163-177 (2013).
2. "Gender issues after the Yemeni spring", in Anna Maria Medici (ed.), *After the Yemeni Spring. A Survey on the Transition*, Urbino Research Team on International Relations and Human Development, Mimesis Milan, pp. 90-99 (2012).
3. "Le sfide dello Yemen dopo le primavera arabe, tra differenze religiose e questione femminile", in Giampaolo Calchi Novati (ed.), *Verso un nuovo orientalismo. Primavera arabe e Grande Medio Oriente*, Centro Studi per i Popoli Extra-europei C. Bonacossa – Pavia University, Carocci, Rome, pp. 174-188 (2012).
4. "La rivoluzione iraniana del 1979 e la prima fase della Repubblica islamica" in G. Bertolo and G. Romeo (eds.), *Alleanze e conflitti nel cono sud dell'Europa. Il ruolo strategico dell'Italia*, Rubbettino, Soveria Mannelli, pp. 113-140 (2006).
5. "La rivoluzione iraniana del 1979 e la prima fase della Repubblica islamica" in Valentino Baldacci (ed.), *Identità, cultura, civiltà. Europa, America, Islam*, Consiglio Regionale della Toscana, Florence, pp. 223-242 (2006).
6. "Iranian Youth and Cartoons in the Islamic Republic under President Khatami" in Jørgen Bæk Simonsen (ed.), *Youth and Youth Culture in the Contemporary Middle East*, Proceedings of the Danish Institute in Damascus III – 2005, Aarhus University Press, pp. 140-154 (2005).
7. "Oil diplomacy in the Caspian. The rift between Iran and Azerbaijan in summer 2001" in Farian Sabahi and Daniel Warner (eds.), *The OSCE and the Multiple Challenges of Transition in the Caucasus and Central Asia (1991-2001)*, Ashgate, Aldershot, pp. 131-148 (2004).
8. "The White Tent programme: Tribal Education Under Muhammad Reza Shah", in Faleh A. Jabar and Hosham Dawod (eds.) *Tribes and Power. Nationalism and Ethnicity in the Middle East*, Saqi Books, London, pp. 234-253 (2003).
9. "L'Islam laico degli albanesi. Un enigma balcanico", in Laura Lepri (ed.) *Albania questa sconosciuta*, Editori Riuniti, Rome, pp. 33-38 (2002).
10. "Gender and the Army of Knowledge in Pahlavi Iran", in Vanessa Martin and Sarah Ansari (eds.), *Women, Religion and Culture in Iran*, Curzon, Richmond, pp. 99-126 (2002).

## Entries in Encyclopaedia

1. "Nasrin Sotoudeh" in *Il libro dell'anno 2019*, Treccani, Roma, pp. 434-435 (2019).
2. "Iran" in *Atlante geopolitico Treccani*, Istituto della Enciclopedia italiana, Rome (2002).
3. "Il Grande Medio Oriente", in *Atlante dei diritti umani*, UTET, Turin. "Dichiarazione islamica universale dei diritti umani", "Islam e diritti umani", "Islam e azione umanitaria" in *Dizionario enciclopedico dei diritti umani*, UTET, Turin (2006).
4. "Sepāh-e dāneš", in *Encyclopaedia Iranica* (ed. by Ehsan Yarshater, 2004).

## Articles in journals and reviews

1. Review of: *In the Lion's Shadow. The Iranian Schindler and his Homeland in the Second World War* by Fariborz Mokhtari, The History Press (2012) in the Italian journal *Historia Magistra* directed by Angelo d'Orsi, n. 8 (2012), pp. 147.
2. "Il ruolo dell'Iran e la componente sciita", in *Il Ponte* (Rivista di politica e cultura fondata da Pietro Calamandrei), n. 11 (11/2007), pp. 52-61.
3. "Les échanges économiques entre l'Italie et l'Iran. La coopération dans le secteur automobile", in *Géostratégique* (published by IIES, Institut International d'Études Stratégiques de Paris) n. 8 (La politique des Etats de l'Europe et de la Russie au Moyen-Orient), pp. 167-180 (8/2005), <http://www.academiegeopolitiquedeparis.com/images/Geo08/8article13.pdf>
4. "The Literacy Corps in Pahlavi Iran (1963-79)", in *ISIM Newsletter*, n.10, p.19 (2002).
5. "The Literacy Corps in Pahlavi Iran (1963-1979): political, social and literary implications", in *Cemoti*, n. 31 (July 2001), pp. 191-200, <http://cemoti.revues.org/712>
6. "Interview with Kazempour Ardebili, Ministry of Oil, Iran", *Arab Oil and Gas* (16 July 2001).
7. "Le pétrole définit la lutte pour le pouvoir en Iran: le rôle de l'Italie dans le secteur de l'énergie iranienne", in *Géostratégique* (published by IIES, Institut International d'Études Stratégiques de Paris), n. 5 (April 2001), pp. 57-69. <http://www.academiegeopolitiquedeparis.com/images/Geo05/6sabahi.pdf>
8. "La pecora e il tappeto: economia tribale in Azerbaigian. I nomadi Shâhsevan nel XX secolo. Un modello di input/output", in *Rivista di Sociologia Urbana e Rurale* (1996, fasc. 49), pp. 85-116.



## Prefaces

1. Raif Badawi, *Mille frustate per la libertà*, Chiarelettere, Milan (September 2015).
2. Raffaele Pettazzoni, *La religione di Zarathustra*, La vita felice, Milan (July 2015).
3. Lorenzo Bagnoli and Richard Nava (eds.), *Come fare business in Iran. 100 domande, 100 risposte*, Diacron Press, London (2012), pp. 13-17.
4. Valentina Vantaggio, *La seduzione del pavone. Le origini dell'alleanza tra Stati Uniti e Iran (1941-1949)*, Ornitorinco Ed., Milan (2012), pp. 11-18.
5. Bassam Tibi, *Con il velo in Europa*, Salerno Ed., Roma, pp. VII-XV (2008).
6. Vali Nasr, *La rivincita sciita Iran, Iraq, Libano. La nuova mezzaluna* (Italian edition of *The Shia Revival: How Conflicts within Islam Will Shape the Future*), Egea-Università Bocconi Editore, Milan, pp. IX- XV (2007).

## Selection of other articles

1. "Il potere e l'Islam" in *Il fascino del potere*, Il Margine, Trento, 2016, pp. 23-38.
2. "Islam" in Ritanna Armeni (ed.), *Parola di donna*, Ponte alle Grazie, Milano, pp. 150-152 (2011).
3. "Zoroastrian elements in Dante's *Divina Commedia*", in *Dante and Islam*, Biblioteca di via Senato, Milan, pp. 31-35 (2010).
4. "Donne in Iran fra emancipazione e diritti negati", in *Cattedra del Mediterraneo. Un percorso attraverso i nodi cruciali dell'area*, ed. by V. Trevisan, Centro Pace in Medio Oriente, Milano, pp. 42-49 (2008).
5. "Donne e Corano: storia di un rapporto ambiguo", in *Kos* (rivista del San Raffaele) n.6 (2007), pp. 59-67.
6. "Iran in difficoltà dopo il voto del Consiglio di Sicurezza", in *Giano (rivista quadrimestrale interdisciplinare)*, n. 55 (3/2007), pp. 130-135.
7. "Interview with the Iranian lawyer and activist Mehrangiz Kar on Iranian women and human rights" in *East (Europe and Asia Strategies)*, n. 10 (5/2006), pp. 112-117.
8. "La lettera di Ahmadinejad e un mancato carteggio con Bush", in *Giano (rivista quadrimestrale interdisciplinare)*, n. 53 (7/2006), pp. 9-16.

9. "Sì la guerra era giusta, ma ora Bush", interview with Ayatollah Montazeri, in *Liberal Risk. Quaderni di cultura geopolitica*, n. 7 (2004), pp. 51-54.
10. "La donna musulmana tra Europa e paesi musulmani", in *Gnosis. Rivista italiana di intelligence*, n. 8 (2005), pp. 62-70.
11. "Clamoroso! Il direttore di al Jazeera passa alla BBC", "Stampa imbavagliata nello Zimbabwe", "Nuova tv Usa in lingua araba per il Medio Oriente", "La libertà di stampa in Iraq", "Il boom dei media in Iraq", "Come cambia il panorama mediatico nei paesi arabi, in particolare in Iraq", "Gli estremisti islamici bloccano una soap opera ambientata in Afghanistan", in Luigi Lonati (ed.), *Mediateca 2004. Un anno di critica dei media*, Radio Svizzera, Lugano, pp. 125-139.
12. "L'istruzione tra religiosi e militari al tempo dello Scià", Italian and Persian version, in *A Oriente. Numero speciale multilingue. Il tempo in Oriente*, III, n.7 (2002), pp. 116-119.
13. Up-date of Henry Laoust, *Gli scismi nell'Islam*, Ecig, Genova (5/2002), pp. 400-420.
14. "Il sistema bancario islamico", in *Etica ed Economia*, vol. 2 (2001), n. 2.
15. "L'inquietante identità degli sciiti iracheni", *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 1 (2001), pp. 52-54.
16. "Rapporti tra comunità musulmana e Occidente in una prospettiva multiculturale: problemi sanitari ad Asti e Parma", in *Kéiron*, n. 6 (3/2001), pp. 142-149.
17. "L'immigrazione afghana in Iran", in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 3-4 (2000), pp. 147-149.
18. "Siria: le prospettive del dopo-Assad", in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 2 (2000), pp. 36-39.
19. "Il Libano tra il ritiro israeliano e la successione di Assad" in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 2 (2000), pp. 40-42.
20. "Elezioni legislative in Iran: un laico scavalca i turbanti degli ayatollah", in *Afriche e Orienti*, anno 2, n. 1 (2000), pp. 44-46.
21. "Intervista a Mohamed Talbi", in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 4 (1999), pp. 104-105.
22. "Opposizione, vita rurale e cinema pre-rivoluzionario", in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 3 (1999), pp. 54-56.
23. "Iran, i libri dell'anniversario", in *Afriche e Orienti*, n. 3 (1999), pp. 66.

## Papers available on Internet

1. Research on the state of the media in Iran for the project Media Landscapes ([www.medialandscapes.org](http://www.medialandscapes.org)) for the European Journalism Centre (EJC) based in Maastricht. Published in January 2019.
2. “Se la montagna non va a Maometto. L'opinione di Farian Sabahi”, SACE (the Italian export credit agency), Rome (2014):  
<http://www.sace.it/media/mag-online/mag-online-dettaglio/se-la-montagna-non-va-a-maometto>
3. “The economy of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the eve of the parliamentary elections of 2012”, ISPI (Istituto per gli studi di politica internazionale) Analysis, Milan (2012):  
[http://www.ispionline.it/it/documents/Analysis\\_99\\_2012.pdf](http://www.ispionline.it/it/documents/Analysis_99_2012.pdf)
4. “Iran at the Crossroad. The role of the clergy, ISPI Publication, Milan (2010):  
[http://www.ispionline.it/it/documents/Commentary\\_Sabahi.pdf](http://www.ispionline.it/it/documents/Commentary_Sabahi.pdf)

## Non-academic books

1. *Non legare il cuore. La mia storia persiana tra due paesi e tre religioni*, Solferino 2018, 188 pages, ISBN 9788828200109.  
Autobiography.
2. *Il mio esilio. Shirin Ebadi with Farian Sabahi*, e-book for Feltrinelli Zoom 2014  
<http://www.feltrinellieditore.it/opera/opera/il-mio-esilio/>  
Paperback Jouvence. This is a long interview with Shirin Ebadi, a former judge and lawyer. On 10 October 2003, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her significant and pioneering efforts for democracy and human rights, especially women and children. 52 pages, ISBN 9788878014756.
3. *Noi donne di Teheran*, first published as e-book with the Italian daily *Il Corriere della Sera* 2013 <http://www.corriere.it/cultura/i-corsivi/farian.shtml>  
Paperback in Italian: Jouvence 2014 (58 pages, ISBN 9789978014213).  
Paperback in French: *Nous femmes de Téhéran*, Editions Mimésis Narrations, 2017 (ISBN 9788869760730 <http://www.editionsmimesis.fr/catalogue/nous-femmes-de-teheran/>).  
This is a text written for the theater, partly autobiographic, outlining the history and contradictions of the capital city Tehran, the stories and courage of its women.  
English translation available on demand
4. *Un'estate a Teheran*, Laterza, Rome 2006  
This book is made of 22 chapters with interviews with the Iranian clergy and civil society, i.e. members of NGOs in Teheran, hojatolleslam Mohsen Kadivar, hojatolleslam Youssefi Eshkefari and Ayatollah Montazeri. This essay is based on original research with Muslim leaders and Iranian intellectuals based in Tehran and Qum. 144 pages, ISBN 9788842081883.

## Lectures (selection)

Contribution on “The Forgotten Children of Yemen” at the conference on Human Rights organised by Camera dei Deputati, Rome (6 November 2019)

Human rights in Muslim countries, Arezzo (7-8 May 2019)

The Special Vehicle Instex and its importance in doing business with Iran, Camera Commercio Estero, Turin (22 March 2019)

Contribution do the "Exchange of views on the current human rights situation in Yemen" organised by the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI), Brussels (24 January 2019)

Organisation of the conference and video contribution, *Chi vuol distruggere lo Yemen*, Circolo della Stampa, Torino (22 January 2019)

*L'Iran a quarant'anni dalla Rivoluzione*, Circolo della Stampa, Torino (14 January 2019)

*Le voci scomode dell'Iran a 40 anni dalla Rivoluzione*, Il Caffè dei Giornalisti, Circolo della Stampa, Torino, with Rasour Asghari and Mariam Mana living in exile in Paris (28 November 2018)

*Il Novecento a Oriente. Le bombe cadono, gli uccelli cantano. Concerto e serata sull'Iran*, festival Est-Ovest and Fondazione Istituto piemontese Antonio Gramsci, Polo del '900, Torino (23 November 2018)

*Yemen: le mille e una sposa*, Book City, Milan, with Laura Silvia Battaglia (17 November 2018)

*The Children of Teheran*, Jewish Community, Casale Monferrato, with Gabriel Levy and Daniel Reichel (11 November 2018)

n. 5 *Lezioni potenziamento di cittadinanza globale*, Convitto Umberto I, Torino (November-December 2018)

*The Foreign Fighters coming from Europe*, Associazione Salam, Taranto (21 June 2018)

*Naser-e Din Shah's trip to Europe in late XIX Century*, Ivrea, with the Iranian-Dutch writer Kader Adbolah (1 June 2018)

*Revolutionary Iran*, festival èStoria Gorizia, with Prof. Michael Axworthy (19 May 2018)

*Veli di cristallo. Donne e Islam nell'Italia della ricerca scientifica*, SISSA University, Trieste (9 May 2018)

*Bahrein: il fuoco tra due mari e due mondi*, University of Turin, organised by Amnesty Italia (9 April 2018)

*Noi donne di Teheran*, Fontanafredda (30 March)

*Che cosa sta succedendo in Iran?* University of Geneva (19 February 2018)

*I Bambini di Teheran*, MUDEC Museo delle Culture Milano (13 February 2018)

*I Bambini di Teheran*, MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale Torino (26 January 2018)

*Letteratura e società in Medio Oriente*, presentazione of the volumes of Persian literature of the publisher Francesco Brioschi Editore with Carlo Cereti, Anna Vanzan and Akbar Gholi, Rome (8 December 2017)

Conference on *Yemen*, Taranto (1 December 2017)

*Destinazione Golfo persico: negoziazione interculturale e business etiquette*, Centro Estero per l'Internazionalizzazione, Turin (28 November 2017)

Conference on Iran, Rotary Club Canelli (27 November 2017)

*Capire il Corano* with Farid Adly (author of the book), Turin (16 November 2017)

Conference on *Yemen*, Université Populaire de Bienne (10 November 2017)

*Diversity and inclusion*, inaugural lecture of the academic year, Università Normale di Pisa (19 October 2017)

*Nei bambini il futuro dell'Islam liberale* with Ani Zonneveld (imamah), Torino Spiritualità (22 September 2017)

*The Islamic Factor and its Founding Elements*, Scuola di applicazione (to the armed forces) Turin (6 September 2017)

*Seminar on Foreign Fighters*, Scuola di applicazione (to the armed forces) Turin (30-31 August 2017)

Two events on Iran and Islam in Europe, Festival Versiliana in Marina di Pietrasanta (11 July and 24 August 2017)

Course on *How to do business in Iran*, Studio Padovan, Milan (14 June 2017)

Conference *Costruire identità* with Somali writer and blogger Igiaba Scego, Festival èStoria, Gorizia (28 May 2017)

Course on the Middle East (4 hours), Campobasso (30 March 2017)

*Conference on Iran*, SDA Bocconi (31 January 2017).

*TedxSalon on Yemen*, Turin (19 April 2016).

*L'empire perse et ses femmes*, Festival Rendez-vous de l'Histoire, Blois, France (11 October 2015).

*Le famiglie in un contesto multiculturale e multireligioso. Cambiamenti, diritti, violenza*, Inaugural lecture of the academic year 2015-2016, Istituto Superiore Pontificio (ISE), Venice (8 October 2015).

*TedxBari, Noi donne di Teheran*, (Ted Talk on resilience), Bari, Puglia (3 October 2015)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHjZME3DQV8&t=7s>

*Il fascino del potere*, with Alberto Maggi (Bible specialist), programme Cattedra del confronto organised by the Arcidiocesi, Trento (23 March 2015).

*TedxMilano, Letter to Pope Francis*, Milan (18 April 2015)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjY6MZUGiHQ>

*Il potere delle donne arabe*, Salone del Libro, Turin (14 May 2015).

Lecture on Education in Pahlavi Iran within the panel *Civiltà ed educazione*, with Colin Heywood (Nottingham University) and Hsiung Ping-Chen (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Festival èStoria, Gorizia (23 May 2015).

*Conference on Iran* with Shirin Ebadi, Castellana Grotte, Bari (19 June 2015).

### **Conference papers, public conferences (select)**

*Islam and the West: Perceptions of the Other*, Common Security and Defence Policy seminar, POST CONFLICT OPERATIONS STUDY CENTRE (Scuola Applicazione), Turin (24 May 2013).

*The Islam factor and its founding elements* and *The Islam factor and Western perceptions*, course "Stabilization & Reconstruction Senior Management Course (former Senior Course in PCRM)", POST CONFLICT OPERATIONS STUDY CENTRE (Scuola Applicazione), Turin (10 and 12 June 2013). This lecture has been repeated twice a year in 2014 and 2015.

*Beyond Western Imagination: The Representation of the Holocaust in Iran under Ahmadinejad's Presidency*, IAGC Conference (International Association of Genocide Scholars), Siena (20 June 2013).

*Religione ed emozione. Vie dell'ansia e vie del cuore verso il divino*, Festival letteratura Mantova (7 September 2013).

*Iran between sanction and regional upheaval*, School of International Relations, Ca' Foscari University, Venice, invited by Prof. Matteo Legrenzi (17 April 2012).

Discussant of Elisabetta Galeotti's paper *Gli altri e noi: i valori alla prova dei fatti* at the conference *Le donne nella crisi italiana* organised by Fondazione Nilde Iotti, Rome (27 April 2012).

*El papel de las mujeres en la revolución árabe* at the Italian Institute of Culture, Madrid, with Prof. Gema Martín Muñoz (19 April 2012) and at Casa Arabe, Cordoba (20 April 2012).

*The Prophet Muhammad and Apocalyptic Islam and Iranian Shiism* at festival *èStoria*, Gorizia (theme of the festival: *Prophets* 20 May 2012).

*Il ruolo delle donne all'indomani delle primavere arabe e del Nobel per la pace all'attivista yemenita Tawakkul Karman*, Polo didattico e culturale di Gorizia, corso di laurea in Scienze internazionali e diplomatiche, corso di Storia e istituzioni dei paesi afroasiatici, Gorizia (21 May 2012).

*Le primavere nella penisola araba e nel Golfo persico*, Settimane della politica, Turin, chaired by Prof. Umberto Morelli (23 May 2012).

Seminar on Yemen (historical and social issues), Locarno Hospital, organised by Centro di Ricerche e Studi in Management Sanitario (Ce.Ri.S.Ma.S.), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan (21-22 June 2012).

ISIS (International Society for Iranian Studies) 2012 conference, Istanbul, chair discussant, panel 94: *The Politics of Iran's Domestic Economy and Global Economic Relations*, discussants: Peyman Jafari, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, *The Political Economy of Privatization in Iran: State, Power and Class in Transition*; Hadi Esfahani, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Iran and the Global Economy*; Esfandyar Batmanghelidj, Columbia University, *Sanctions, Smuggling and the Cigarette: The Granting of Iran OFAC Licenses to Big Tobacco* (4 August 2012).

*Islam, women and Muslim immigrants*, Summer School, Reggio Emilia (27 September 2012).

*The Islam factor and its founding elements* and *The Islam factor and Western perceptions*, course "Stabilization & Reconstruction Senior Management Course (former Senior Course

in PCRM)", POST CONFLICT OPERATIONS STUDY CENTRE (Scuola Applicazione), Turin (12 November 2012).

*Democrazia e mutamenti di regime nei Paesi arabi, africani e asiatici*, ISPI, Milan (16 November 2012).

*Los derechos de las mujeres en Irán, y cómo les ha condicionado el fracaso del "movimiento verde"*, Casa Arabe, Cordoba (20 November 2012) and Casa Arabe, Madrid (21 November 2012).

*Stagioni arabe: una rivoluzione fa primavera?* Mendrisio (22 November 2012).

*Il fallimento del movimento verde iraniano e le conseguenze per le donne*, Associazione culturale CircolarMente, Avigliana (28 November 2012).

*La faillite du mouvement vert iranien: quelles conséquences pour les droits des femmes?*, programme «Monde arabo-musulman: langue, culture et société», Université de Genève (4 December 2012).

Round table *Tunisia, Egitto, e dopo?* with Massimo Campanini, Paolo Magri and Armando Sanguini, ISPI, Milan (9 February 2011).

*Il ruolo del clero riformista nel dibattito interno alla società civile iraniana* in the conference *Il ruolo delle società civili asiatiche nella ricostruzione e nella pacificazione* organised by Elisa Giunchi, Milan State University (21 February 2011).

*Il Medio Oriente: un mondo che cambia*, St. Johns American University, Vinovo, Turin (19 May 2011).

*Iran at the Crossroads*, organised by the Italian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv and the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, at the Auditorium Mivtach Shamir in IDC Herzliya Campus, Israel (2 February 2010).

Round table *Iran: cambiamento o illusione?* with Nina Baheli and Elisa Giunchi, ISPI, Milan (11 February 2010).

Round table *Women as agents for change in Muslim-majority countries and in the world*, organised by Ethnobarometer, hosted by the Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio (13-14 March 2010).

*L'Iran al bivio*, University of Valle d'Aosta (22 March 2010).

Conference on Iran, èStoria Festival, Gorizia (22 May 2010).



*Diplomatic relations between Iran and Yemen. The economic and religious issues at stake presented at the international conference Iran Confronting XXI Century Challenges / L'Iran face aux défis du XXI siècle* in honour of Prof. Djalili, IUHEI, Geneva (18-19 June 2010).

*Satire in Iran: A Long Lasting Challenge Against Censorship*, WOCMES (World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies), Barcelona (within Paolo Branca's panel on Arab and Islamic Humor (21 July 2010).

*Society and Politics in Today's Iran* at the international conference *Iran. Thirty Years on from the Revolution*, chaired by Prof. Fred Halliday at Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (12 March 2010).

Lecture at Biennale Democrazia, Turin (24-26 April 2010).

Round table *Iran: elezioni a trent'anni dalla rivoluzione khomeinista*, with Elisa Giunchi, Riccardo Redaelli and Anna Vanzan, ISPI, Milan (28 April 2010).

*The Revolution of 1979 and the Iranian Jewish Community in Israel. A case study*, international conference *Thirty Years On: The Social and Cultural Impacts of the Iranian Revolution* convened at SOAS, London, by Massoumeh Torfeh and Annabelle Sreberny (5-6 June 2010).

Conference with the Iranian artist and intellectual Shirin Neshat, *Torino Spiritualità* (26 September 2010).

Conference with the Iranian politician and intellectual Jamileh Kadivar, *Torino Spiritualità* (27 September 2010).

*Iran, Iranian media and Sunni Islam*, international conference on Sunni-Shia Contemporary Relations organised in Bruxelles by Brigitte Maréchal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium) and Sami Zemni, Ghent University, Belgium (30 September - 2 October 2010).

Lecture on Iran, Monte Verità, Switzerland (10 December 2010).

Paper on Naser al-Din Shah's *Safarnameh* (diary of his trip to Europe in 1873) and his period in Turin with Vittorio Emanuele II, within the international conference *Cosmopolitismo di Cavour: la politica, la diplomazia, il territorio*, in the section *Cavour e la Persia: un modello italiano di politica internazionale* (with Luigi Guidobono Cavalchini, Nerio Nesi, Erminia Ortona, Angelo Michele Piemontese, Lucio Villari and Valerio Zanone) at the Italian Institute of Culture, Paris (12-13 March 2008).

Conference with the Iranian intellectual Ramin Jahanbegloo, Turin (7 November 2008).

Conference on Iran organised by the European Parliament, Bruxelles (9-10 May 2007).

Participation to the Arab region Meeting of the Evian Group on Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation. Generating Regional Dynamics & Setting an Agenda, organised in Cairo (19-20 March 2006).

*Iran e Asia Centrale: rapporti economici, politici e culturali* in the panel *Iran, Pakistan e Afghanistan*, conference *L'Asia Centrale nelle relazioni internazionali*, with Elisa Giunchi (Università degli Studi di Milano) and chaired by Prof. Massimiliano Guderzo, Firenze University, Faculty of Political Sciences (19 May 2006).

*Quali diritti delle donne nella Repubblica islamica dell'Iran*, Cassino University (29 September 2006).

Participation to the conference *Identità, cultura, civiltà: Europa, America, Islam*, Polo Universitario delle Scienze Sociali, Florence University. The paper "La rivoluzione iraniana del 1979 e la prima fase della Repubblica islamica" has been published in the volume *Identità, cultura, civiltà: Europa, America, Islam* edited by Valentino Baldacci, Florence, 2006 (28-29 November 2005).

Participation to the international seminar *Iranian Challenges in the lights of the presidential elections of 17 June 2005*, organised by Walter Posch at ISS (Institute for Security Studies) in Paris (20 May 2005).

Discussant at the international conference *Donna, agente segreto della postmodernità. Ha nelle mani più destini. Di persone, di opera*, chaired by Derrick De Kerckhove, Gemona del Friuli (30 July 2005).

Round table *Iran's role in the Greater Middle East. Options for a transatlantic approach*, organised by EPC (European Policy Centre), Bruxelles (3-4 November 2005).

Series of lectures in Turin (Fondazione Sandretto), Milan (Bocconi University), Alessandria (Scuola Allievi di Polizia) with the Iranian Nobel Peace Prize Shirin Ebadi (12-19 June 2004).

*Libertà di espressione e satira in Medio Oriente. Vignette e politica nella Siria di Bashar e nell'Iran di Khatami*, Lugano University (9 January 2003).

Lectures on the Middle East at IUHEI, Geneva (29-31 January 2002).

Four lectures on the Middle East given at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA (30 March – 3 April 2002).

*Jihad*, San Marino University (4 June 2002).

Participation to the *First Young Evian Plenary Meeting. Young Evian Facing Global Challenges: Perspectives to 2014*, organised by Jean-Pierre Lehmann, Director, Evian Group and Professor of International Political Economy, IMD (20-22 September 2002).

Organisation with Prof. Silvia Naef of the international conference on *Images, representations et perceptions dans les mondes chiites*, University of Geneva, editing and publication of the volume *The Other Shiites: From the Mediterranean to Central Asia*, Peter Lang, Berne (17-19 October 2002).

Chair of the international conference *Islam in Switzerland. A Dialogue Between Cultures* organised by the Swiss Institute of Culture at the Goethe-Institute in London. Speakers: Francis Piccand (EDA, Political Planning Centre) and Amira Hafner, University of Berne (8 November 2002).

*The Iranian Youth and Cartoons in the Islamic Republic under President Khatami*, international conference Youth and Youth Cultures in the Contemporary Middle East organised by the Danish Institute in Damascus. The paper has been published in the volume *Youth and Youth Culture in the Contemporary Middle East*, ed. by Jørgen Bæk Simonsen, Aarhus University Press, 2005, pp. 140-154 (13-15 December 2002).

*The failure of Iran's liberalisation policy: Free trade zones as a non-viable solution to the heavy dependence on oil* for the international conference organised by MEEA (Middle East Economic Association) at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London (20-22 July 2001).

Organisation of the international conference on the Caucasus and Central Asia, IUHEI, Geneva, and presentation of the paper *Oil diplomacy in the Caspian. The rift between Iran and Azerbaijan in Summer 2001* later published in the volume *The OSCE and the Multiple Challenges of Transition in the Caucasus and Central Asia (1991-2001)*, edited by F. Sabahi and D. Warner, Ashgate, Aldershot, 2004 (7-9 December 2001).

*The Role of archives and oral history in the research of education in Pahlavi Iran*, School of Oriental and African Studies, London (26 January 1998).

Lectures on the Middle East at Bologna University, with Prof. Piercesare Bori and Prof. Alberto Tarozzi (3-6 November 1998).

*Gender and the Army of Knowledge in Pahlavi Iran* at BRISMES conference on *Rethinking Islam*, St Catherine's College, University of Oxford, later published in the volume by V. Martin and S. Ansari (eds.), *Women, Religion and Culture in Iran*, Curzon, Richmond, 2002 (6-9 July 1997).

International conference on *Dante e l'Islam*, on the occasion of the publication of Asin Palasios's volume *Dante e l'Islam*, with Maria Corti, Carlo Ossola, Armando Torno, Parma. A revised version of the paper "Zoroastrian elements in Dante's *Divina Commedia*", presented on this occasion has been published in the volume *Dante e l'Islam*, Biblioteca di via Senato, Milan, 2010, pp. 31-35 (1994).

## **Countries in the MENA region visited for research purposes**

Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Pakistan, Yemen, Morocco, Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Uzbekistan, UAE, Kosovo, Turkey, Egypt, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman.

## **Affiliations**

- Society for Iranian Studies, New York.
- Nilde Iotti Foundation, Rome, aiming at promoting women's rights.
- Biennale della Democrazia, Turin (member of the scientific committee).

## **Languages**

English: reading, speaking, writing (excellent)

French: reading, speaking, writing (excellent)

Italian: reading, speaking, writing (native)

Persian: reading, speaking (good), writing (basic)

German: reading, speaking, writing (basic; 7 years of study: 4 in high school + 3 at university)

Spanish: reading, speaking (basic)

## **Awards**

2019 "Premio Giuditta", Alessandria. This prize was awarded for the book "Non legare il cuore".

2016 "Con gli occhi di una donna", Lions Club Parma Maria Luigia.

2011 "Valdo Fusi – *Torino Libera* Award for Free Thought", Pannunzio Centre for Free Thought with the following motivation: "The prize serves to distinguish the most significant figures in the city of Turin. Those who receive the prize are non-conformist free-thinkers endowed with a critical spirit. According to the city's best tradition, such prominent people have looked beyond the Alps, following the example of Alfieri, Gobetti, Baretta, and Cavour, who were the expression of a cosmopolitan, international and European culture. Farian Sabahi finds her rightful place among the recipients of this award. Indeed, she contributed in a scientific and secular war, to the understanding of the Islamic world. Farian Sabahi is an example of culture, freedom, scientific rigor and intellectual honesty. Her international profile honours Turin and its university".

2010 Amalfi Coast Media Award (Mediterranean) for "her success in overcoming cultural diversity and her ability to make a difference"

(<http://www.premiobiagioagnes.it/edizioni-precedenti/2010/giuria-e-premiati>).

12 April 2010 Prize by Associazione Giardino dei Giusti di Milano. The prize is entitled to Neda Agha Soltan, killed in 2009 in Tehran and symbol of the moral resistance of the Iranian youth and their fight for freedom. The prize was awarded by the mayor of Milan Letizia Moratti and the President of the Committee Manfredi Palmieri.

2004 Premio Mustafà Souhir for the original approach in treating multicultural topics in the media (“per la multiculturalità nei media per la capacità di trattare un tema legato alla multiculturalità con un approccio originale e non stereotipato”).

## **Journalism**

Since September 2018 consultant, European Journalism Centre (EJC), Maastricht, on the state of the media in Iran for the project Media Landscapes ([www.medialandscapes.org](http://www.medialandscapes.org)) and publication of the report <http://medialandscapes.org/country/Iran>

Analysis on the Middle East (politics, culture, economic issues) on *Il Corriere della Sera* (since 2008), *IlSole24Ore* (since 1994), *il manifesto*, Rai Radio Televisione Italiana, LA7 Television, BBC Persian, Radio Popolare, Radio Svizzera (since 1997), the Swiss daily *Corriere del Ticino*, the Swiss weekly *Ticino7*.

## **Documentary movies (Direction)**

1. *The Children of Teheran* (2018, 33') - <https://vimeo.com/244229425/cf343eafde> - This is a unique event in the history of the Holocaust. They were Polish-Jewish children who were forced to leave Poland and reached the Soviet Union, where they were deported to labour camps and later moved to Uzbekistan (Samarkand, Tashkent, Bukhara). Here they spent time in orphanages and were later transferred to the shores of the Caspian Sea (Turkmenistan and then Iran), Tehran being their final destination. In the Iranian capital they spent the longest period before reaching Palestine. For this very reason, they were called the “Children of Teheran”. The video is part of an installation shown at MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale in Turin (26 January 2018 – 11 February), MUDEC Museo delle Culture Milan (13 February 2018), Letterando Festival Sciacca (15 June 2018).

2. *Out of Place* (2008, 23') - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNCwHFn7ezQ> - The story of an Iranian woman belonging to the Jewish community of Tehran who, during the Iran-Iraq war (1980-88), decided to leave Iran and move to Israel. Many years later, sitting in her home in Petat Tikva, near Tel Aviv, she regrets her choice. She misses the warmth of the Iranian people and expresses a desire to return to Iran, where her brother and sisters still live. Rachel's is the story of an immigrant mother with multiple identities. The story of a woman who suffers a deep loss. She thought she had found her ideal homeland, but it did not live up to her expectations and now, because of her son's death, she almost hates it. Rachel is a strong woman. She suffers and feels responsible for the choice she imposed on her husband and sons. Her spouse is a minor figure, less aggressive but nevertheless he has

his own dignity. In this story, the impulsive young woman contrasts with the thoughtful adult. The filmmaker deliberately leaves the difficult relationship between the Islamic Republic and the Jewish State in the background while her story, triggered by the Iranian revolution, develops. Broadcast on TV Channel SkyTg24 and presented in festivals in Turin (Biennale della Democrazia), Rome, Genoa, Verona, Milan, London, Tel Aviv, Messina (SabirFest 9 October 2015, the theme of the festival will be “Fuori luogo”).

3. *Che ne facciamo di Teheran?* (What shall we do with Teheran?, 2008, 20') realized in Israel and broadcast on 6 August 2008 at 11 pm on the satellite channel RaiNews24 ([www.rainews24.it](http://www.rainews24.it))

4. *Minareto mille punti. Un viaggio nell'Islam che c'è già* (2007, 64') on the controversial construction of a mosque in Colle Val D'Elsa, Siena, funded by the Foundation Monte dei Paschi. Featuring the journalist Edoardo Camurri, directed by Pietro Raschillà, produced by Stefano Pistolini. Presented in Milano (Spazio Oberdan, 10 September 2007) and on the Italian television Nessuno Tv.

## Referees

### 1. Marcello Flores

Full Professor of Contemporary History specialised on genocides (retired)

University of Siena, director of the European Master in “Human Rights and Genocide Studies”

Home address: Via Venini 74 – 20127 Milano

[floresmarcello@gmail.com](mailto:floresmarcello@gmail.com)

Mobile +39 334 8603314

### 2. Paolo Luca Bernardini

Chair, Full Professor

Department of Human Science and Innovation for the Territory

Università dell'Insubria, Como

[paololuca.bernardini@uninsubria.it](mailto:paololuca.bernardini@uninsubria.it)

Office +39 031 2384143

Mobile +39 345 3165824

### 3. Mohsen Kadivar

Research Professor

Department of Religious Studies

Duke University

[mohsen.kadivar@duke.edu](mailto:mohsen.kadivar@duke.edu)

Office +1 919 660-3521

22 September 2020