

CURRICULUM VITAE

CHIARA LOVOTTI

PROFILE

Russia expert with focus on matters of foreign policy, security, conflicts and human rights. Full working proficiency in Russian language. Good knowledge of the Caucasus region, Central Asia, and the Arab Middle East (beginner level of Arabic). Extensive fieldwork experience and study abroad in Russia, Ukraine, and various Middle Eastern countries. Research and analysis skills complemented by project management and administrative experience. Excellent organisation and communication skills. Excellent academic and professional record across international relations, area studies, and foreign languages.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tutor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna, Italy 2021-present

Guest Lecturer, School of Asian Studies, Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow 2020

- Course of “Russia and Countries of the East” (featuring both Bachelor and Master students).

Associate Research Fellow, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI), Milan 2015-present

- Research focus: Russian foreign policy in the Mediterranean, Middle East and North Africa (drafted briefs and notes for internal use, and published extensively). Research output targeted at policymakers, industry partners and academia;
- Scientific Coordinator of the “[Rome MED-Mediterranean Dialogues](#)” conference, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ annual flagship event convening Heads of State, Ministers and dignitaries. Designed and implemented the conference’s programme, as well as the related “MED Regional Meetings” held at host partner institutions (Atlantic Council, Carnegie, Brookings, Chatham House, EU, HSE Moscow, International Crisis Group, RIAC, UN, OECD, and others);
- Created the “Youth Forum Contest”, a platform for young fellows from the Mediterranean region to present their entrepreneurial projects and compete for a monetary award (granted by the Italian MoFA);
- Assisted staff with various administrative tasks (logistics, travel arrangements, budget monitoring, and others).

Coordinator, EuroMeSCo Joint Policy Study ISPI-IEMed Institute-EU Commission 2017-19

- Designed, implemented and coordinated the [Joint Policy Study](#) on “Russia in the MENA Region. Strategy or Opportunism?” (including allocating budget and resources, liaising with EU donors);
- Co-edited the Joint Policy Study’s [final publication](#);
- Presided the launching conference at the European Commission (Nov. 2017); organised the mid-term research meeting with the Study’s authors in Milan (Oct. 2018) and the final conference in Tunis at the Columbia Global Centre (May 2019).

Research Assistant, Département d’Études du Développement, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium 2014

- Media monitoring: researched on questions of conflict management/resolution;
- Organised seminars and workshops, and provided general administrative assistance to the Department.

Research Assistant, European Friends of Armenia (EuFoA), Brussels, Belgium 2012

- Media monitoring: researched and drafted briefs for internal use on the evolution of the conflict in Nagorno Karabakh, peacekeeping strategies, and relations between Armenia and the European Union;
- Administrative tasks: assisting with contact database management, supporting the website update, drafting correspondence.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Recognised Student, Russian and Eastern European Studies (REES), University of Oxford 2021-2022

- Visiting Fellowship awarded by the University of Oxford to carry out existent doctoral studies at the REES, Oxford School of Global and Area Studies (Academic Advisor: Professor Roy Allison).

Fellow, Europaeum Scholars Programme, The Europaeum, University of Oxford 2020-2021

- [The Europaeum](#) is a research cluster of the University of Oxford working with a network of 18 leading European universities. The Europaeum Scholars Programme is a 2-year Fellowship for doctoral researchers awarded through a competitive selection process. Professional policy trainings, seminars, workshops and group projects are taken at Oxford and the Europaeum member Universities and are focused on contemporary international and European politics;

PhD Candidate, Department of History, Cultures and Politics, University of Bologna 2018-2022

- Dissertation title: “Beyond weaponry and socialist internationalism. Soviet engagement with postcolonial state-building in the Arab Middle East, 1954-1966”;
- Organised seminars, workshops and conferences for the departments of History and Political Sciences;
- Lead author of the Routledge edited book “Russia in the Middle East and North Africa: Continuity and Change” (2020).

MSc in Middle Eastern Studies, Post-Graduate School of Economics and International Relations, Milan **2014-15**

- Main courses: International relations of the Middle East; Global Security and Jihadism; Area Studies (Arab Levant, Caucasus, Central Asia, Gulf States, Iran, Iraq, Maghreb, Sub-Saharan Africa, Turkey); Basic Modern Standard Arabic.

MSc in Sciences de la Population et du Développement, Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve **2012-14**

- Main courses : Théories du Développement; Analyse Socio-Politique du Développement; Démographie, Methodes de la Recherche; Analyse Quantitative; Analyse Qualitative; Langue Russe «advanced»; Modern Standard Arabic.

BA Foreign Languages and International Relations, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano **2008-12**

with Study Abroad at the Russian Language Centre, Lomonosov Moscow State University **2011**

- Main courses: Russian language, English language, International relations theories, Geopolitics, History of cultures and European civilizations, European institutions, International law.

STUDY ABROAD

- **Lomonosov Moscow State University**, Russian language Summer 2017; January-June 2011; Summer 2010
- **Ahlan World, Amman Jordan Arabic School**, Modern Standard Arabic Dec. 2016-Feb. 2017; Summer 2016
- **CLL Centre des Langues, Louvain-la-Neuve**, Modern Standard Arabic October–December 2013
- **Russian Educational Centre of Moscow**, Russian language Summer 2009

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- GLOBSEC Young Global Leader 2022
- Contributor to the “International Politics Observatory” of the Italian Parliament 2016-present
- Contributor, *Limes*, Italian Review of Geopolitics 2020-present
- Consultant, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) 2020
- Member, 100Esperte (a project promoting women presence in the media) 2019-present

LANGUAGES

	Level
Italian	Mother tongue
Russian	Proficient
English	Fluent
French	Fluent
Arabic	Beginner

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

Edited volumes

(*Due in Spring 2023) Frassinetti, F. and Lee, S-J., and Lovotti, C. (eds.) “The Role of Public Diplomacy in Reconnecting Asia and the Middle East”. London: Routledge.

Lovotti, C., Tafuro Ambrosetti, E., Hartwell, C. and Chmielewska, A. (2020). (eds.) *Russia in the Middle East and North Africa: Continuity and Change*. London: Routledge.

Book Chapters and Peer-reviewed Articles

- (*Due in Spring 2023) Lovotti, C. (2022). *Education, Tourism and Media: Russia's Soft Power Strategy in the Middle East*. In Frassinetti, F. and Lee, S-J., and Lovotti, C. (eds.) "The Role of Public Diplomacy in Reconnecting Asia and the Middle East". London: Routledge.
- Lovotti, C. (2021). Russia in a Post-American Middle East: The Shaping of a New Regional Order. *Orient*. German-Orient Institute. Vol. IV, No. 62. (Special Issue: External actors' role in the MENA region: 2021).
- Lovotti, C. and Proserpio, L. (2021). The October 2019 Protest Movement in Iraq: An Analysis of the "Early Moments" of the Mobilisation. *Partecipazione e Conflitto*. Vol. 4, No. 12, pp. 644-662.
- Lovotti, C. (2020). *Prospects for International Cooperation in the MENA Crises: The cases of Lebanon and Syria*. In Kortunov, A., and Magri, P. (eds.) "After the Storm. Post-pandemic Trends in the Southern Mediterranean". ISPI and the Russian International Affairs Council Report. Milano: Ledizioni.
- Lovotti, C. (2020). *Russia in Syria: Between Past, Present and Future*. In Lovotti, C., Tafuro Ambrosetti, E., Hartwell, C., and Chmielewska, A. (2020). (eds.) "Russia in the Middle East and North Africa: Continuity and Change". London: Routledge.
- Lovotti, C. (2019). *Redistribution of Power in the Middle East: Moscow's Return to Syria*. In Mezran, K. and Varvelli, A. (eds.) "The MENA Region. A Great Powers Competition". ISPI and the Atlantic Council. Milano: Ledizioni.
- Lovotti, C. and Tafuro Ambrosetti, E. (2018). *How Does the European Union Perceive Russia's Role in the MENA Region?* In Talbot, V. and Lovotti, C. (eds.) "The Role of Russia in the MENA Region. Strategy or Opportunism?" Joint Policy Study, EuroMeSCo, Barcelona: European Institute of the Mediterranean.

Main Policy Analyses

- Lovotti, C. (2021). *La Guerra di Putin all'Ucraina: Conseguenze per la partita russa in Medio Oriente e Nord Africa*, Paper for "Focus Mediterraneo Allargato", International Politics Observatory of the Italian Parliament and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, No. 19.
- Lovotti, C. (2021). *Everything Has to Change so that Nothing Changes: Russian Policy in Syria*. ISPI Commentary In: Lovotti, Chiara and Valeria Talbot (eds.) Syria Ten Years On: How Far is Peace? ISPI Dossier.
- Renard, N., Lovotti, C., Vihma, P., et al. (2021). *Lost in Transition? Charting a Course for Europe's Automotive Industry Workers*. Europaeum Scholars Policy Proposal.
- Lovotti, C. (2021). *Difficile ma Necessario: Un Dialogo tra Unione Europea e Russia nelle Crisi del Mediterraneo (Siria e Libia)*. Paper for "Focus Mediterraneo Allargato", International Politics Observatory of the Italian Parliament and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, No. 15.
- Lovotti, C and Suchkov, M. (2020). Russia: in Medio Oriente per tornare a contare. *Limes, Italian Review of Geopolitics*.
- Talbot, V. and Lovotti, C. (2019). (eds.) *The Role of Russia in the MENA Region. Strategy or Opportunism?* Joint Policy Study, 12, EuroMeSCo. Barcelona: European Institute of the Mediterranean.
- Lovotti, C. (2019). *Syria in Russia's MENA Policy: Necessary but Not Enough*. ISPI Commentary.
- Lovotti, C. (2019). *Russia in the Middle East: The Biggest Challenge is Yet to Come*. ISPI Commentary.
- Lovotti, C. (2018). *Moscow's Syrian Challenge: Dream vs Reality*. ISPI Commentary.
- Lovotti, C. (2018). *La Russia in Medio Oriente. Una presenza destinata a durare?*. International Politics Observatory of the Italian Parliament and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Issue No. 79.
- Lovotti, C and Talbot, V. (2015). *Rilancio della Cooperazione Euro-Mediterranea*. International Politics Observatory of the Italian Parliament and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Issue n° 111.