



MARCO PALMA

Researcher

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SUMMARY

With over ten years of experience in local governance and international projects focused on sustainability and inclusion, he brings a wealth of knowledge from his work in local administrations and universities. His primary research interests revolve around the social impact of the climate crisis, with a particular emphasis on exploring the role of institutional actors, corporations and social movements in shaping the political agenda in the era of global warming.

KEYWORDS

- Sociology
- Urban Studies
- Climate Crisis
- Digitalisation & A

EDUCATION

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM – UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA
2022 – 2024

PhD

Dissertation title: Towards Europe 2050. The role of Institutions, EU research, and citizens for climate justice. The urban challenge in Amsterdam, Bilbao, Freiburg, and Lisbon.

UNIVERSITY OF PADUA
2015

1st level professional master

Governance of local development networks

UNIVERSITY OF PADUA
2005 - 2008

MA, Sociology

Thesis: Territorial mobilisations: reclaiming public space

UNIVERSITY OF PADUA
2002 - 2005

BA, Sociology Science

Thesis: The ways of integration: migrant communities and local institutions in the Vicenza area

WORK EXPERIENCE

RESEARCHER, University of Applied Sciences ad Arts of
Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)

2023 – ongoing

- Project Horizon Europe INCA
- Project Bridge TiSDG

RESEARCHER, Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy
2024 - 2024

- Project Stories of the Future

RESEARCH ADVISOR, University of Bologna
2018 – 2023

- Horizon Europe, Mission 'Climate-neutral and smart cities

RESEARCH ADVISOR, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
2017 – 2018

- Horizon 2020

PROJECT MANAGER, Municipality of Santorso (Italy)
2008 - 2017

- Sustainable Energy Action Plan Coordinator

PUBLICATION

Palma, M. (2025). Crisi climatica: Radici, prospettive e percorsi. In S. Greppi (Ed.), *Le diseguaglianze in una società del benessere. Una questione cruciale per la Svizzera e il Ticino* (pp. 199–216). Armando Dadò Editore.

Palma, M. (2025). Review of Kaika M., Keil R., Mandler T., Tzaninis Y. Turning up the heat. Urban Political Ecology for a Climate Emergency, *Sociologia Urbana e Rurale*, 137/2025.

Palma, M. (2025). Social work and climate justice: towards new paradigms? *Swiss Journal of Social Work*, n. 33.

Palma, M., Cuppini, N., Cattabriga, G., Miccolis, S., Santese, A., & Caprilli, M. (2024). Traumi e trasformazioni: processi di ricostruzione sociale nella 'flood valley'. *Tracce Urbane. Rivista Italiana Transdisciplinare Di Studi Urbani*, 11(15).

Palma M., Deliberation/Climate Justice, in Borsari A., Trentin A., Ascari P., *TEMPORARY: Citizenship, Architecture and City*, Springer, 2023.

Boeri A., Longo D., Palma M., *Climate-neutral and smart cities: a European policies' overview*, WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment, Vol 253, © 2021 WIT Press.

Palma M., *No Dal Molin: The Antibase Movement in Vicenza*, South Atlantic Quarterly (2012) 111 (4): 839–846.

ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- Platform urbanization and citizenship: Understanding Platform Territories in a comparative context, 8 September 2025, National University of Singapore
- La politica di Big Tech: dall'Amazon-capitalism al tecno-autoritarismo?, discussant, Into The Black Box, 9-10 June 2025, Bologna.
- "Urinary Urban (c)interpretations", speaker, Politecnico di Milano, 22 February 2025, Milano.
- "AI, storie del futuro. Come i giovani immaginano il futuro con l'AI", speaker, AI Week, Lugano Living Lab, 15 December 2024, Lugano.
- The Lisbon Early-Career Workshop in Urban Studies: Governing the city: polity, politics, policy, participant, 18-20 November 2024, Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa.
- International Conference "Local environmental democracy and green transitions: Mapping institutional mechanisms and political mobilisations", speaker, 23-25 October 2024, Geneva Graduate Institute.
- "On the Frontiers of Urban: ecologies, infrastructure and territories in the era of climate crisis", organiser, 2 October 2024, SUPSI
- "Sostenibilità o giustizia climatica? Il ruolo del lavoro sociale nella pianificazione delle politiche climatiche," speaker, Sostenibilità e lavoro sociale - Forum della Società Svizzera di Lavoro Sociale, 2a Edizione, 12-13 September 2024, Manno.
- "Verso Europa 2050: crisi climatica e dimensione urbana", speaker, Brown Bag at SUPSI, 27 February 2024, Lugano.

- “Intelligenza Artificiale e Ricerca: Limiti, opportunità, strumenti”, co-organizer, 21 February 2024, University of Bologna.
- “Infrastrutture globali e processi di urbanizzazione”, participant, 15 November 2023, University of Turin (DIST).

RESEARCH

I work on issues related to urban areas and global warming, and my main research interests revolve around the social impacts of the climate crisis, with a particular focus on exploring the role of institutional actors, corporations and social movements in shaping the political agenda in the era of global warming.

Main projects:

- Horizon Europe [INCA](#) "Increase corporate political responsibility and accountability", September 2023 – March 2026
- SNF Bridge [TiSDG](#) "Just transitions towards net-zero society: a support tool for the co-design strategies at cantonal level in Ticino", November 2024 – October 2027
- Platform urbanization and citizenship: Understanding Platform Territories in a comparative context, December 2024 – November 2025
- SNF Agorà '[Stories of the Future](#)', June 2024 – December 2024, coordinated by the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy at the Geneva Graduate Institute.

TEACHING

- CAS Tecnologie e media nel primo e secondo ciclo, SUPSI, 1 lesson
- CAS Smart City / Smart Region 2024, Esperto in transizione digitale per la sostenibilità del territorio, SUPSI, 4 lessons

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

In my previous position as Research Advisor at the Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna (2018-2023) and Ca' Foscari University of Venice (2017-2018), I worked on European funding instruments to support researchers in submitting proposals to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe calls, focusing on topics related to climate change and urban policy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In my previous position at the Municipality of Santorso (2009-2017), I coordinated several projects and activities involving local, regional and national authorities and represented the municipality at various levels of negotiation. I was also in charge of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan ([SEAP](#)) and various initiatives aimed at promoting the active participation of local communities. One of the activities I promoted to involve citizens in energy sustainability issues was selected as one of the finalists of the European Sustainable Energy Awards ([EUSEW](#)) in 2017.

In June 2025, I have been selected by the European Commission as evaluator for the project proposals submitted under the call for proposals CERV-2025.

FUNDING

- SUPSI, 2024, voucher for the drafting of projects, project title: "Multi-scale urban analysis and climate crisis"

REFERENCES

[Niccolò Cuppini](#) | [Barbara Antonioli Mantegazzini](#) | [Spartaco Greppi](#) | [Danila Longo](#) | [Andrea Boeri](#) | [Devi Sacchetto](#) | [Christine Lutringer](#) | [Jerome Duberry](#) | [Lorenzo Di Lucia](#)

