

Dr Pantaleo Gemma

Senior Lecturer | Animal Welfare, Behaviour, Ethics and Legislation Expert

Malta | pantaleo.gemma2@unibo.it

ACADEMIC PROFILE

Senior Lecturer, veterinarian and researcher with 19+ years of international experience across Europe and Africa. Expert in Animal Behaviour, Welfare, Ethics and Legislation, with strong engagement in EU regulatory systems. Extensive experience in teaching, supervision, policy development and international scientific collaboration.

RESEARCH PROFILE & VISION

My research focuses on animal behaviour, welfare, ethics and legislation, with the aim of developing integrated, evidence-based frameworks that improve animal welfare across different systems.

My work connects behavioural science, ethical reasoning and regulatory approaches, contributing to scientifically robust and policy-relevant welfare standards.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Animal Behaviour; Animal Welfare Science; Animal Ethics; Animal Welfare Legislation; Equine welfare; Welfare assessment methodologies.

EDUCATION

PhD in Animal Science, University of Bologna (2023-Present)

European College Residency (ECAWBM-AWSEL) (2021-2026)

Postgraduate Diploma in Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law, University of Edinburgh

MSc in Veterinary Public Health, University of Perugia

Postgraduate Certificate in Dairy Herd Health, University College Dublin

MSc in Animal Law and Society, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

MSc in International Veterinary Cooperation, University of Padova

Postgraduate Specialisation in Technology and Pathology of Poultry Species, Rabbits and Game Animals, University of Bari

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), University of Bologna

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Senior Lecturer, MCAST Malta (2026-Present)

Lecturer, MCAST Malta (2017-2026): Teaching multiple modules, curriculum design, supervision.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Delivered 500+ hours across Animal Welfare, Behaviour, Microbiology, Parasitology and Production. Developed curricula, assessments and practical teaching modules.

SUPERVISION

Supervisor of undergraduate and postgraduate theses across Malta and Italy.

Tutor for postgraduate veterinary specialisation programmes.

PUBLICATIONS

Gemma, P. et al. (2025). Perception and Awareness of Animal Welfare Among Residents of Malta. *Animals*.

Wijermans, A. et al. (2026). ESBL-producing Salmonella Kentucky outbreak. *Malta Medical Journal* (accepted).

Multiple conference proceedings and presentations (ISES, ASPA, EVCBMAW).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

France (IRSEA): Animal welfare assessment and behavioural studies.

Ethiopia (University of Addis Ababa): Welfare of working equids.

Italy: Academic research in animal science and welfare.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Veterinary Officer, Malta (2012-2026): Policy leadership, EU coordination, audits, team management.

United Kingdom: Meat Hygiene Inspector - food safety and welfare compliance.

Italy: Veterinary Surgeon and internships.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

150+ CPD activities including BTSF, FAO, EUFMD.

Active participation in EFSA, European Commission, WOAH expert groups.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Marco Polo PhD Scholarship (2024)

ISES Best Poster Award (2025)

MSc Scholarship AETS France

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

ISES; UFAW; Veterinary Without Borders

LANGUAGES

Italian (Native); English (C1); French (B2); Spanish (B1)