

Francesca Cadeddu

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Short bio

Francesca Cadeddu is a researcher in Contemporary History at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia since 2020 and affiliated researcher at FSCIRE – Fondazione per le scienze religiose since 2011. She studies religious pluralism and religious illiteracy in Italy and Europe. President of the European Academy of Religion (2021-2022), in 2022 was nominated Executive Director of RESILIENCE – European research infrastructure on religious studies.

Statement

I served the EuARE since its launching event, in 2016. From the idea of a single institution, it became a shared project which sees the participation of many individuals, institutions and groups, contributing to its daily life and annual conference. In the past year, in my role as President, I worked with the mission of making the EuARE a welcoming association for all scholars, publishers, institutions and media willing to bring into it their ideas and ready to work for a better research environment for all people whose scholarly work crosses or is crossed by religions. Thanks to the work of all members of the Executive Committee, we are closing our term as a group with a structure which is capable of remaining attentive to the liveliness of research life, while offering enough stability to those who will be in its future.

In the next term, I see my role as a direct connection between all EuARE members and RESILIENCE, the European Research Infrastructure for Religious Studies, whose services are and will be built according to the needs of the community of scholars animating EuARE. In the re-election, I see the challenge of imagining the EuARE of the future and making it real with the contribution of all members.

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Current positions

February 2022 – ongoing

Executive Director

RESILIENCE – European Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies

September 2022 – ongoing

President, European Academy of Religion

November 2021 – October 2024

Researcher

Department of Education and Human Sciences, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy

October 2019 – ongoing

Member of expert pool

Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen (FWO), Brussel

March 2018 – September 2021

Secretary General, European Academy of Religion

March 2018 – ongoing

Associate Editor, Brill Research Perspectives series in Religion and Politics

December 2016 - ongoing

Member of the Editorial Board of the Peer-Review Journal USAbroad

November 2015 – ongoing

Postdoctoral research fellow, FSCIRE - Foundation for Religious Sciences, Bologna, Italy

Assistant to the UNESCO Chair in Religious Pluralism and Peace, University of Bologna

Research conducted at University of Modena and Reggio Emilia:

History of the language of religious diversity in Europe in the 20th century

Teaching conducted at University of Modena and Reggio Emilia:

1. History of Interreligious Dialogue
2. Religious Pluralism in Italy and Europe
3. Contemporary History

Coordination of international research projects at FSCIRE:

1. Religious Illiteracy in Italy and Europe (from January 2014)
2. European Academy of Religion (from June 2016)
3. Freedom of religion and religious pluralism in the United States (from July 2013)

Other main tasks at FSCIRE:

1. EC-funded projects management (ReIReS <https://reires.eu/>; RESILIENCE Research Infrastructure for Religious Studies <https://www.resilience-ri.eu/>);
2. Management of the annual conference of the European Academy of Religion when hosted by FSCIRE.

Education

University of Bologna, Italy

- June 2013 Ph.D., Europe and America: Constitutional, Institutional and Political Doctrines
Thesis: *Democracy and Catholicism in the United States. Religious Freedom according to John Courtney Murray's thinking.*
- December 2008 M.A., International Relations, cum laude
Thesis: *Civil religion in the United States. An empirical analysis of Presidential addresses (1960-2008).*
- October 2006 B.A., International Relations
Thesis: *Mahmoud Mohammad Taha and the Second Message of Islam.*

Working experience

May 2018 – April 2019

Postdoctoral researcher, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy
Project: A web portal on religious pluralism. Knowledge in the service of critical information. Sources and tools.

December 2016 – August 2020

Visiting Fellow, Faiths and Civil Society Unit, Goldsmiths University of London

April 2015 – December 2018

Member of the Commission on pluralism, freedom and the study of religious sciences
Ministry of Education, Italy

June – December 2017

Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy
Scholarship for a project on religious illiteracy in Italy

February – March 2017

Scientific direction of the Winter School “Social Diversity and Content Portals”, Department of Education and Humanities, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy

September 2013 – October 2015

Postdoctoral researcher, Università di Cagliari, Italy
Project: Catholicism in the United States. Diplomatic relations and transatlantic intellectual circles.

July 2011 – March 2013

Doctoral research fellow, Fondazione per le Scienze Religiose Giovanni XXIII, Italy

Teaching experience

March 2015 – ongoing

Teaching assistant (30 hours/semester)

History of Inter-religious relations, Contemporary History, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy.

October 2015 – September 2016

Teaching assistant

Religious identities and international politics, Università Link Campus, Italy

Grants and Awards

March 2015

University of Notre Dame, South Bend – Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism Travel Grant

October 2013 - October 2015

Regione Sardegna, Italy – “Master and Back” Postdoctoral Scholarship

March - June 2012

University of Bologna – Marco Polo Research Travel Grant

March 2011 - March 2013

Regione Sardegna, Italy – “Master and Back” Doctoral Scholarship

Publications

Volumes:

(with A. Melloni, eds.), *Religious Literacy, Law and History: Perspectives on European Pluralist Societies*, Routledge, 2018.

(with A. Melloni and F. Meloni, eds), *Blasfemia, diritti e libertà. Una discussione dopo le stragi di Parigi*, il Mulino, 2015.

(ed), *I trent'anni dell'intesa tra la Tavola valdese e lo Stato italiano*, «Quaderni del Circolo Rosselli», 122, 2 (2015).

Articles and essays (selection):

Marco Büchler, Sarah Riegert, Federico Alpi, and Francesca Cadeddu. 2020. Towards big religious data: RESILIENCE research infrastructure for data on religion in the digital age. In Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Digital Tools & Uses Congress (DTUC '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 9, pp. 1–5. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3423603.3424007>

John Courtney Murray, in *The Oxford Handbook of Reinhold Niebuhr*, edited by Robin W. Lovin and Joshua Mauldin, Oxford University Press, 2021, pp. 180-198, DOI:10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198813569.013.11

Comrades in a Sacred Cause. Methodist women, Social Gospel and the suffrage movement in the

early 20th century, in «USAbroad – Journal of American History and Politics», vol. 3, n.1S (2020), pp. 59-67.

“*The Woman Cause is Man’s*”: *Social Gospel, metodismo e lotta per il suffragio femminile negli Stati Uniti*, in *I metodisti nello spazio pubblico. Diritti e giustizia sociale fra Europa, Asia e America*, a cura di Maria Fallica, Roma, Carocci, 2020, pp. 98-115.

Fighting Religious Illiteracy with Knowledge. Presentation of Pars, Portale di formazione e informazione per il contrasto dell’analfabetismo religioso, in *RiMe. Rivista dell'Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea*, n. 5/I n. s., dicembre 2019, Special Issue “Religious culture and education in 20th and 21st century Europe”, Maria Giuseppina Meloni and Anna Maria Oliva (eds.), pp. 11-18.

John Courtney Murray: la sfida del consenso negli Stati Uniti degli anni Cinquanta, in *Tracce di ricerca: Cristianesimo e potere*, a cura di Silvia Cristofori, Eurilink University Press, 2018, pp. 157-170.

«*I did this as a religious action*». *Appunti di ricerca sul martirio come strumento di contestazione contro la guerra in Vietnam*, in *Tracce di ricerca: Cristianesimo e potere*, a cura di Silvia Cristofori, Eurilink University Press, 2018, pp. 193-201.

Secularism and religious literacy, in *Religious Literacy, Law and History: Perspectives on European Pluralist Societies*, edited by A. Melloni and F. Cadeddu, Routledge, pp. 111-119.

Sostenere l’islam in Europa attraverso la conoscenza, in *Dall’islam in Europa all’islam europeo. La sfida dell’integrazione*, a cura di Mostafa El Ayoubi e Claudio Paravati, Carocci, 2018., pp. 58-65.

Cristiani evangelici nella polis: il contributo metodista al Patto di integrazione e alle intese, in *Protestantesimo e sfide della contemporaneità. Percorsi inediti di scienze delle religioni*, «Quaderni di Studi e Materiali di Storia delle Religioni», maggio 2017, supplemento al n. 82 (2/2016), pp. 182-198.

“*The Historical ‘Dispute of the New World’. European Historians of the United States and European History, Culture and Public Life*”, *International workshop*, in «Transatlantica [On line]», 2 (2015), on line from May 31, 2016, <http://transatlantica.revues.org/7664>.

A Call to Action: John Courtney Murray, S.J., and the Renewal of American Democracy, in «Catholic Historical Review», 101, 3(2015), pp. 530-553.

L’analfabetismo religioso in Italia, in *Proposte per l’insegnamento della storia delle religioni nelle scuole italiane, Atti del convegno di Milano, 18-19 marzo 2013*, edited by Giampiera Arrigoni, Claudio Consonni, Anna Però, Bergamo 2014, pp. 21-31.

Definizioni e strumenti di alfabetizzazione religiosa nel panorama internazionale, in *Rapporto sull’analfabetismo religioso in Italia*, edited by A. Melloni, Bologna 2014, pp. 99-110.

Per un portale delle religioni, in *Rapporto sull’analfabetismo religioso in Italia*, edited by A. Melloni, Bologna 2014, pp. 433-434.