

4. Democratic Participation and Citizens Assemblies

MICHELE FIORILLO



Michele Fiorillo is a PhD candidate in Philosophy and Political Thought at “Scuola Normale Superiore”, Pisa, working especially on theories of democracy and critical theory. He has been visiting scholar in different European Universities such as Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris and Lyon, University of Strasbourg, University of Tuebingen and Humboldt University in Berlin. Alumnus of the “College of Europe” in Natolin-Warsaw, he developed research interests on IR theory, being also member of the Advisory Council of the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy and ideating the World Citizens’ Initiative concept. He has been also member of the Central Committee of the “Movimento Federalista Europeo” (UEF Italy). He worked as assistant of the Director at the Jean Monnet House in Houjarray, and as assistant of the Head of the Mediation and Dialogue Support Unit of the European Parliament (DG External Policies, Directorate for Democracy Support). He is also research fellow at CUNCR (Center for United Nations Constitutional Research) in Brussels with a focus on UN Security Council Reform/UN Charter review and on possible models of participatory and deliberative democracy at the global level. He is among the contributors of the project “Charta 2020- A Charter of European PublicGoods” and one of the initiators of Citizens Take Over Europe a coalition of more than 70 NGOs for transnational participatory democracy and CIVICO Europa, a civic platform which developed the paneuropean consultation “We Europeans”. He is also the coordinator of the European Citizens’ Assembly project and one of the authors of the Green New Deal for Europe- Blueprint for Europe’s Just Transition (<https://report.gndforeurope.com>).

BLEDAR KURTI



Dr. Bledar Kurti is a university lecturer, a published writer, political analyst and columnist. He has served for many years in public office as the Advisor to the President of the Republic of Albania, Advisor to the Minister of Health, Advisor to the Minister of Environment, and advisor to mayors and members of parliament in Albania. Dr. Kurti has been lecturing for over sixteen years in Albanian University, University of New York Tirana, and Alexander Moisiu University of Durres. He has published nine books in Albanian and English, and is the author of over a thousand political, historic and cultural articles and commentaries on the Albanian national and international newspapers, and dozens of academic articles and presentations on national and international academic journals and conferences. He has received his education and qualifications in England, France, Italy and the United States of America.

MARCO PASQUA



Marco Pasqua is 26 years old. He has double graduated in Law (110 cum laude, with a dissertation titled “Collective Redress Against Cross-Border Infringements of Data Protection Rights in EU Law”) and in Economics & Management (110 cum laude, with a dissertation titled “The Liability of Corporate Groups for Violation of EU Competition Law”) at LIUC – Cattaneo University in Castellanza. He is currently a second year PhD Fellow in International Law at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart of Milan and “cultore della materia” and teaching assistant in International Law at the same university; He is also “cultore della materia” and teaching assistant in the European Union Law courses at LIUC – Cattaneo University. He is a trainee lawyer in the phase to be admitted before the Italian Bar. He actively participates in the EAPIL (The European Association of Private International Law) where he has the role of Junior Editor of the related blog and Secretary for the related Young Research Network. He has been awarded by the SIDI (Italian Society of International Law and European Union Law) the "Daniele Padovani" Award, 2021 edition, for the best degree thesis discussed in the previous academic year in the field of Private and Procedural International Law.

NATASA KRALJEVIC



Natasa Kraljevic is a Teaching Associate at the Faculty of Visual Arts & the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University “Mediterranean” Podgorica and she lectures courses in the field of Arts and Cultural Management, Entrepreneurship in Arts, Public relations, and Services marketing with the aim to provide students with a good grounding into the theoretical and practical skills required for effective Arts and Cultural Management. She is a Ph.D. student at the Faculty of Economics and Business at the same University where she also works as Head of the International Office. Natasa is a Chevening Alumni (British Government Award) and she completed the MA program in Arts Festival and Cultural Management at the Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh. She also holds an LLM in Intercultural Human Rights, from the St. Thomas University, School of Law completed in Miami, FL/USA prior to which she earned a Bachelor’s degree at the University of Montenegro, School of Law in Podgorica. Natasa has a broad experience within the context of international cooperation. Since 2019, Natasa is the President of the Montenegrin Centre of ITI and in 2022 she became the Montenegrin National Expert in the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends.

FEDERICA ANTONACCI



Immediately after attending the linguistic high school, Federica Antonacci moved to London where she studied English language and worked at a language school for foreign students. Back in Italy, she worked in the artistic and cultural field as an actress, screenwriter and production assistant. In 2020 she took a degree in literature at the "Guglielmo Marconi" university in Rome with a thesis on the digitization of art. Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine, she created the social project "Italianaforukraine" which today has almost six thousand subscribers on Instagram. This project aims to raise awareness of international public opinion on what is happening in Ukraine, fight disinformation and propaganda coming from Russia and supporting ukrainian population. Over the last year she has taken part in several rallies in support of Ukraine as well as appearing on several television reports and YouTube videos on the issue. In the autumn of 2022, she started a social action that led to the cancellation of Poulinin's show, a Putin supporter, at the Arcimboldi theater in Milan.