

Sara Zanotta

EDUCATION

- 10/2021 – 03/2025 **PhD in History**, Università degli Studi di Pavia.
Thesis “Long-Distance Constitutionalists: Trans-Imperial Mobility and Cross-Border Strategies of the Iranian Constitutional Movement (1850s-1910s)”.
* Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award 2026, Association for Iranian Studies
*Honorary distinction of the 2025 Walter-Markov-Prize, European Network in Universal and Global History
- 09/2019 – 07/2021 **MA in International Relations**, Università degli Studi di Milano. Final mark: 110/110 cum laude
- 09/2016 – 07/2019 **BA in International Studies and European Institutions**, Università degli Studi di Milano. Final mark: 110/110 cum laude.

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 01/2025 – ongoing **Post-doc research fellow**, Department of Historical Studies, Università degli Studi di Torino.
- 11/2024 – 12/2024 **Research fellow**, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Università degli Studi di Pavia.

VISITING/GUEST POSITIONS

- 06/2026 **TeachOUT visiting researcher**, Sheikh Hassan Sharbatly Department of Arab and Islamic Civilization, American University in Cairo, Egypt. Supervisor: Amina Elbendary. Funded by TeachOUT mobility programme of the University of Turin
- 10/2025-11/2025 **Visiting researcher**, Centre de Recherche sur le Monde Iranien, Paris, France. Supervisor: Denis Hermann. Funded by programme Atlas: Italie > France, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme – Fondazione Einaudi Onlus
- 01/2024 – 03/2024 **Visiting doctoral fellow**, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany. Supervisor: Ulrike Freitag
- 04/2023 – 06/2023 **Visiting PhD student**, Lehrstuhl für Iranistik, Institut für Orientalistik, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany. Supervisor: Christoph U. Werner
- 01/2023 – 03/2023 **Erasmus+ visiting PhD student**, CEU, Austria. Supervisor: Nadia al-Bagdadi
- 09/2018 – 01/2019 **Erasmus+ student**, Sciences Po Lille, France

OTHER COURSES

- 09/2024 **Intensive course of Arabic language**, Summer school of the Double Degree Pavia-Fez in African and Asian Studies
- 06/2020 – 04/2024 **Course of Persian Language and Literature**, Iranian Cultural Institute, Italy
- 09/2023 **Summer Academy Entangled Histories of Concepts in the Bengal to Balkans Complex**, Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey
- 10/2021 – 07/2022 **Intensive course of Persian**, Dehkhoda Lexicon Institute and International Center for Persian Studies, University of Tehran
- 07/2021 – 07/2021 **Summer school TOMidEast**, Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy
- 03/2020 – 07/2020 **Diploma in Geopolitics and Global Security**, ISPI, Italy

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

- A.Y. 2025-2026 **Lecturer of Society, Economy and Environment between the First World War and its Aftermath: Comparing Europe and the Red Sea**, Scuola Superiore di Alti Studi “Ferdinando Rossi”, Università degli Studi di Torino.
- Since A.Y. 2023-2024 **Teaching assistant of History and Institutions of Muslim Countries**, Università degli Studi di Milano.
- Since A.Y. 2021 – 2022 **Teaching assistant of Comparative Constitutional Law**, Università degli Studi di Milano.
- A.Y. 2023 - 2024 **Lecturer of “Socialism between the Middle East and North Africa”**, other lecturers: E. Giunchi, M. d’Avanzo, M. Primavera. Università degli Studi di Milano
- A.Y. 2021 - 2023 **Teaching assistant of History and Politics of North Africa and the Middle East**, Università degli Studi di Milano.
- A.Y. 2020 - 2021 **Teaching assistant of History and Institutions of Muslim Cultures**, Università degli Studi di Milano.

Invited lectures and seminars in BA, MA, and PhD courses:

- 8-10/06/26 Summer workshop “Digital tools in researching Southwest Asian and African history” (12 hours), Sheikh Hassan Abbas Sharbatly Department of Arab and Islamic Civilizations, American University in Cairo
- 26/02/25 Managing an Academic Journal. An Insider View, Università degli Studi di Pavia
- 15/05/24 Between qānun and shari‘a. Discussions and practices of legal reform in Qajar Iran, Institut für Rechts- und Verfassungsgeschichte, Universität Wien
- 15/02/24 Managing an Academic Journal. An Insider View, Università degli Studi di Pavia
- 24/11/23 L’islam sciita. Da Karbala all’impatto della Rivoluzione Islamica in Africa, Università degli Studi di Pavia
- 29/05/23 La Rivoluzione Costituzionale Iraniana del 1905-1911 e il ruolo degli iraniani all’estero, Università di Verona
- 21/02/23 Women and transborder networks in the Iranian Constitutional Revolution, Università degli Studi di Pavia
- 18/11/22 L’eredità di Karbala: la divisione fra sunniti e sciiti tra religione e politica, Università degli Studi di Pavia
- 22/03/22 Le Costituzioni iraniane: variazioni nella struttura istituzionale iraniana dal 1906 alla Repubblica Islamica, Università degli Studi di Milano

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- From 2024 **Editor for Persian, Turkic, and Biblical Studies**, The Digital Orientalist
- From 2023 **Member of the research unit** of the University of Pavia, PRIN 2022: Arms, Beads and Cloth. African Consumers and the 19th-Century Global Economy
- From 2021 **Deputy chief of the editorial staff**, Nuovi Autoritarismi e Democrazie: Diritto, Istituzioni, Società
- From 2020 **Research fellow**, The Square – Mediterranean Centre for Revolutionary Studies
- From 2019 **Member of the editorial staff and manager of the sections MENA, Africa and Asia**, Osservatorio su Nuovi Autoritarismi e Democrazie

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

TeachOUT mobility fellowship for a research and teaching stay in Cairo (2026); 2-month fellowship Atlas: Italie > France (2025); 24-month research fellowship “Encounters and Mixing between the Red Sea and Asia regions” (2025-2026); 3-month research fellowship “African consumerism in the Horn of Africa” (2024); PhD scholarship (2021-2024); Erasmus+ study (2018-2019 e 2022-2023); International mobility scholarship from University of Pavia (2023); DAAD Short-term research grant (2024)

- 2026 **Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award, Association for Iranian Studies** for the PhD thesis
- 2026 **Conference to Journal Paper Award, Association for Iranian Studies** for the article “Advocates from afar? Iranians in Egypt and the Constitutional Revolution (1906-1911)”
- 2026 **Honorary mention** of the award for early career researchers of the Italian Society for International History
- 2025 **Honorary mention** of the Walter-Markov-Prize, European Network in Universal and Global History for the PhD thesis
- 2022 **Award** of the ECMC Chair in Islamic Studies Mojtaba Mahdavi for the first best paper

PUBLICATIONS (* peer reviewed)

- 2026* “Persian-Arab Life Trajectories in the Red Sea (19th-20th Centuries): Tracing Mixedness through Digital Humanities”, with Tiziana Pasciuto, *Connections*, 1-9, <https://doi.org/10.60693/9rcj-rj41>
- 2025* “Losing Confidence: Iranian Revolutionaries and Italy from the Lesser Despotism to the Italo-Ottoman War (1908-1911)”, *The International History Review*, Latest articles, 1-18, <https://doi.org/10.1080/07075332.2025.2527793>.
- * Honorary mention of the award for early career researchers of the Italian Society for International History
- 2025* “Fucine di riformismo: spazi e dissidenti iraniani nell’Istanbul della seconda metà dell’Ottocento”, *Quaderni Asiatici*, 151, 27-53.
- 2025 “Entangled Food Histories: An Introduction” (with G. Casucci, S. Miola, P. Repishti), in *Entangled Food Histories. Methods and Sources for Exploring Foodways across Millennia*, edited by G. Casucci, S. Miola, P. Repishti e S. Zanotta, Edizioni dell’Orso, Alessandria, xiii-xx

- 2024 “Mikiya Koyagi, Iran in Motion. Mobility, Space, and the Trans-Iranian Railway (Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2021), 296 pp., \$70, ISBN 9781503613133”, in *The Journal of Transport History*, 45(2), 407-408, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00225266241238386>
- 2023 “Oil, water, and the veil: A history of the recent Iranian waves of protests”, in G.M. Arrigo and J. Franceschini (eds.), *Revolutionary Times. Mediterranean Perspectives*, Aracne, Roma, 61-82
- 2022* “In support of a constitutional government: Women’s voices in the Iranian Constitutional Revolution”, in “Donne, genere e politica in Asia. In ricordo di Anna Vanzan”, E. Giunchi and J. Guardi (eds.), *Afriche e Orientali*, XXV(2), 9-25, <https://doi.org/10.23810/AEOXXV202222>
- 2022 “Davoudi, Leonardo. Persian Petroleum. Oil, Empire and Revolution in Late Qajar Iran, I.B. Tauris, 2021, 240 pp.”, *Maydan. Rivista sui mondi arabi, semitici e islamici*, 2, 142-145, <http://rivista.maydan.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Recensione-Persian-Petroleum.pdf>

Monograph in preparation: *Long-Distance Constitutionalists. Mobility, Migration, and the Iranian Constitutional Movement (1850s-1910s)*, Brill Iranian Studies

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Participation as a speaker in more than twenty online and in-person conferences in Italy, Egypt, France, Germany, Austria, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Canada, and Singapore.

For a list of my papers, see: https://www.dipstudistorici.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Show?_id=szanotta#tab-profilo

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES AND WINTER SCHOOL

Member of the organising committee of the Unlocking the Red Sea’s Mixedness (2025), the winter schools “Entangled Food Histories” (2022 and 2023), the graduate conferences “Con quale autorità?” (2022), “Storie in circolazione” (2023), “Quando scende la notte” (2024) and **of the scientific secretariat** of the winter school “Global Labour Scapes” (2021)