

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Francesco Cerchiaro

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CURRENT RESEARCH POSITION

February 2020 – ongoing: FWO senior fellow. Centre of Sociological Research (CeSO), research areas “Theory, Culture and Religion”, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Project title: “Fighting for Love. Mixed/Christian-Muslim Families’ Associations in Belgium, France and Italy”

AWARDS - GRANTS

November 1st 2019 – November 1st 2022

FWO (Research Foundation Flanders) senior postdoctoral fellowship

Call: FWO 2018

Application number: 12X6120N

Project title: “Fighting for Love. Mixed/Christian-Muslim Families’ Associations in Belgium, France and Italy”

Duration (months): 36

April 1st 2019 – April 1st 2022

STARS Supporting TALENT in ReSearch@University of Padova

Call: STARS@UNIPD 2019: finanziamento linea “Starting Grants (STARS-StG)” –

Principal Investigator: Francesco Cerchiaro

Application Number: 166264

Acronimo progetto: “FiLoMix”

Project title: “Fighting for Love. Mixed/Christian-Muslim Families’ Associations in Belgium, France and Italy”

Duration (months): 24

Amount: 132.000 €

After a two-round selection (Cv+proposal and interview) and the successful application I decided to decline the fellowship in favour of the FWO fellowship.

February 2018 - February 2020

Marie Skłodowska Curie Post-doctoral Fellow [Total score: 96.40/100 - Threshold: 70/100]

Call: H2020-MSCA-IF-2016

Funding scheme: MSCA-IF-EF-ST

Proposal number: 747592

Proposal acronym: ReMix

Project title: “Christian-Muslim families dealing with religious pluralism in everyday family life: Religious reconstruction in religiously mixed marriages”

Duration (months): 24

Amount: 160.800 €

ITALIAN ASN

I hold the Italian national scientific qualification (ASN) for the position of “associate professor” in the scientific sector 14 / C2 “Sociology of cultural and communicative processes” valid from 09/11/2020 to 09/11/2029 (Article 16, paragraph 1, Law 240/10). [In possesso dell’abilitazione scientifica nazionale (II fascia) nel settore concorsuale 14/C2 “Sociologia dei processi culturali e comunicativi” dal 09/11/2020 al 09/11/2029 (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10)].

PREVIOUS POST-DOC POSITIONS

February 2018 – February 2020: Marie Curie postdoctoral fellow, Centre of Sociological Research (CeSO), research areas “Theory, Culture and Religion”, KU Leuven, Belgium. Supervisor: prof. Dick Houtman.

Project title: “Christian-Muslim families dealing with religious pluralism in everyday family life: Religious reconstruction in religiously mixed marriages”

February 2016 – February 2018: post-doc position at FiSPPA (Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology - University of Padova). Scientific director: Prof. Stefano Allievi.

Project title: “Mixed couples and families: negotiating identity through generations” **Brief description:** Through an ethnographic study the project aims to understand what kind of “cultural repertoire” children of mixed couples develop and how they represent their identities.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

June 2013 – June 2014: Innovation Project Manager at Lago S.p.a. Villa del Conte (PD), Italy.

Brief description of my activities: **Sociological consulting:** connecting design, product and social changes for new development business formats; **Marketing strategist:** Creation of new brand contents (video concepts, Facebook campaign contents...); **Copyeditor:** brand communication; Project Manager for EXPO Milano 2015 LAGO related activities (events, business activities, communication).

March 2013 – June 2013: Researcher at IRES Veneto – Istituto di ricerche economiche e sociali [Economic and Social Research Institute]. **Brief description:** the qualitative research inquiries the representations of *ius soli* in scholastic institutions through focus groups and in-depth interviews.

September 2008 – April 2009: Internship at the Minister of Foreign Affairs (MAE) – Italian Embassy (Budapest).

Brief description: In-depth analysis on national and foreign Hungarian policy, political reports of the most important newspapers. I followed and reported on OIG and ONG international meetings and summit.

June 2007 – October 2007: Internship at the CNR – IRPPS (Rome). **Brief description:** I collaborated to the writing of the international cooperation project “Come2play” in Ethiopia promoted by the EU together with the Italian Cooperation Agency. I conducted surveys for the research on “Citizens and sports politics” promoted by the CNR-IRPPS and the Lazio region.

CAREER BREAK

November 2014 – February 2016

EDUCATION

January 2010 – 15th April 2013: PhD in Social Sciences: Interactions, Communication and Cultural Constructions. [Doctorate School in Social Sciences: Interactions, Communication and Cultural Constructions, Department of Sociology - University of Padova].

Title of the thesis: “Fare casa fuori casa. Processi di *mixité* coniugale nei racconti di vita delle coppie miste in Veneto” [*Doing home far from home. Mixité processes in the life stories of mixed couples in the Veneto Region*]. Supervisor: prof. Enzo Pace; co-supervisor: prof. Chantal Saint-Blancat.

April 2006 – 18th March 2008: Laurea specialistica in Istituzioni e politiche dei Diritti Umani e della Pace [Master in European Institutions and Politics for Human rights and Peace - University of Padova]. Final grade: **110/110 cum laude**. Title of the thesis: “Gendering terrorism: The conflict between Al-Qaeda and Western countries through masculinity representation”.

October 2001 – 15th March 2005: Laurea triennale in Scienze politiche e relazioni internazionali – Università di Padova [Bachelor in Political Sciences and International Relations - University of Padova]. Final grade: **110/110 cum laude**.

Title of the thesis: “Il controllo delle migrazioni: verso un regime migratorio globale” [*Controlling migrations: trough out a regime of worldwide migrations*].

RESEARCH AREAS

- Cultural Sociology
- Sociology of Religion
- Sociology of Family

- Sociology of Migration
- Gender studies (with a specific focus on Masculinity)

RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

February 2020 – ongoing: affiliated member of the “Leuven centre for the study of Islam, culture and society” (LCSICS)

February 2020 – ongoing: collaboration with the research group of “Literary Theory and Cultural Studies, Leuven”

February 2018 – ongoing: **KU Leuven. Centre of Sociological Research (CeSO)**, research areas “Theory, Culture and Religion”.

Member of Kosmoi – “Leuven Centre for the Study of Religion and Worldview” (KU Leuven, Belgium)

March 2016 – ongoing: member of HERMES (Intercultural Research Group on Mobility, Religions, Family, Gender) – FiSPPA Department (University of Padova, Italy)

February 2012 – June 2012: visiting PhD student at “Erasmus Universiteit” - Rotterdam. Research and collaboration with CROCUS (Centre for Rotterdam Cultural Sociology, Netherlands). Supervisor: prof Dick Houtman

2011: Collaboration with WRERU (Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit) (Director: Robert Jackson). Supervisor: Prof. Elisabeth Arweck

MEMBERSHIPS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

2018 – ongoing: Member of **ISSR/SISR**: International society for the sociology of religion

2019 – ongoing: Member of the European Research Network for **Qualitative inquiry**

2019 – ongoing: Member of **ESA** (European Sociological Association – Sociology of migration)

2018 – ongoing: Member of **ISA** (International Sociological Association)

2019 – ongoing: Member of **IMISCOE** (International Migration Research Network)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANISATION

10 – 11 January 2020, Ku Leuven (Belgium), Organizer of the **1st International Conference on Muslim non-Muslim families**.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS

16 November 2021 – KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Conference “Rethinking Narratives” (15th - 16th November 2021), University of Padua (Italy) – My lecture: “Narratives of mixedness: methodological controversies in researching intimacy, religion and stigmatization”.

30 August – 2 Septemebr 2021, European academy of religion (EUARE) Münster, (Germany), panel “Spirituality Between Religion and the Secular” – paper presented: “Finding Your Own Spiritual Way”: A Case Study of a French Association of Christian-Muslim Families.

12 – 15 July 2021, ISSR/SISR (International Society for the Sociology of Religion) “Religion in Global/Local Perspectives: Diffusion, Migration, Transformation”, **Taipei (Taiwan) (online)** – **paper presented:** Stage Fright and Romanticism in Il Giro del Mondo (Asiago, Northeastern Italy).

22 April 2021 – KEYNOTE SPEAKER – My lecture “Pluralità religiosa e differenza culturale in Europa le coppie miste tra sfide e risorse” was included within the seminars’ cycle “Pluralismo confessionale e dinamiche interculturali: le best practices per una società inclusiva” promoted by the “Istituto di Studi Politici ‘San Pio V’” (Roma).

7 – 8 April 2021, Helsinki, Finland – IASYM European Biennial Conference 2021 in Helsinki (online): “Cultivating Youth Spirituality: Faith, Nurturing and Youth Ministry” – paper presented: Re-mixing faith. Religious identification amongst offspring of Christian-Muslim couples.

15 – 6 October 2020, University of Birmingham, Conference “Multiple religious belonging” (online) – paper presented (22th September 2020: Single, dual, beyond: ethnic, racial and religious self identification among mixed individuals raised in Christian-Muslim families in Italy

8 – 10 August 2020, San Francisco, CA - 115TH ASA Annual meeting “Power, Inequality and Resistance at Work” (online) – paper presented: When I told my parents I was going to marry a Muslim: ‘Christian-Muslim’ couples facing family opposition in Italy, France and Belgium.

5 – 7 February 2020, ECQI 2020 – University of Malta, 4^o European Conference of qualitative inquiry – paper presented: “we...as a couple” methodological implications in interviewing partners individually or together.

9 – 12 July 2019, ISSR/SISR (International Society for the Sociology of Religion), Barcelona (Spain) – paper presented: “Dilution” or “reshaping”? Ethnic and religious identifications amongst offspring of “Christian-Muslim” couples.

2 – 3 July 2019, International ERC MusMar Workshop, “Politics and/of ‘Muslim Marriages’, University of Amsterdam, Department of Anthropology – paper presented “Family negotiations and social activism: the case study of two “Christian-Muslim” families’ associations in Belgium and France”.

16 – 18 June 2019, Tel Aviv University, (Israel), Globordered Intimacies Immigration and Gendered Labor, Family and Personal Relationships – paper presented: What is Love About? Migration, Emotions and Gender Constructions in Christian-Muslim Couples in Italy, France and Belgium.

20 March 2019, Università degli Studi di Milano, (Italy), Secondo Convegno Mondì Migranti, Migrazioni e società alla prova dei sovranismi: una sfida per l’Italia e per l’Europa – paper presented (together with Ricucci Roberta): Parlarsi, ma non comprendersi: la sfida del bilinguismo per i figli di coppie miste o migranti.

13 – 15 February 2019, University of Edinburgh, (Scotland, UK), ECQI 2019 – 3^o European Conference of qualitative inquiry – paper presented: “The missing data” Researching on intimacy and stigmatization.

17 – 19 October 2018, Université Al-Akawayn, (Ifrane, Morocco), International Conference “Identities and (trans)nationalism in mixed families: transmission, agency and social constraints” – paper presented: Ethnic and religious identifications amongst offspring of “Christian-Muslim” couples.

12 October 2018, Kosmoi (Centre for the Study of Religion and Worldview) Symposium (Leuven, Belgium) – paper presented: The spiritual way: A case study of three associations of “Christian-Muslim” families in Italy, France and Belgium.

15 – 21 July 2018, XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology 2018 (Toronto, Canada) - Session Organizer “International Family Migration and Normative Languages” (RC25, Language and society) and paper presentation (avec Laura Odasso), Behind the Circumcision: Kinship, Gender and Religion in the Life Stories of Mixed Couples with an Arab-Muslim Partner (RC31, Sociology of migration).

16 – 18 April 2018, European Conference “Europe’s New Migrants: Marriage Practices and Policies” at the University of Birmingham (Birmingham, UK): paper presented: The “Culturalisation” of couple’s conflicts? Dealing with religious pluralism in Catholic- Muslim families living in Italy.

4 – 7 July 2017, ISSR/SISR (International Society for the sociology of Religion) (Lausanne – Switzerland) – paper presented: “Is it always the same God”? Religious identities in the children of Christian-Muslim couples.

27 February 2017, (Milano – Università di Milano Bicocca): Keynote speaker at the international seminar “Mixed unions: challenges and opportunities for the transnational society”

19 – 20 October 2016, – KEYNOTE SPEAKER – International Conference at the European University Viadrina (Frankfurt/Oder) and Collegium Polonicum (Stubice). Conference title “*Sex Still Sells. Paradoxical Right Wing Sexual Politics in Europe*” – My lecture: “Anti-Gender Mobilisations in Europe: Actors, Networks and Politics”.

11 – 13 September 2014, 1st International Symposium of Men and Masculinities (Izmir – Turkey) – paper presented: Doing Home Far From Home: The Migrant Man in the Mixed Couple Between Tradition and Betrayal.

7 – 9 June 2012, IV Ethnography congress (Bergamo - Italy) - paper presented: The semantic of love: love as a “communication code” within the life stories of Christian-Muslim couples.

7 – 10 September 2011, ESA (European Sociological Association - 10th conference) Network: “Sociology of Culture”. (Geneve – Switzerland) – paper presented: Religious and cultural differences on mixed couples in Italy: Alliances, mixité, gender constructions within the lives of Muslim-Western families.

19 – 26 May 2011 (Istanbul– Turkey): Participation to the seminar “*Istanbul Seminars: Overcoming the Trap of Resentment*” organised by Reset DOC.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

“Cultore della materia” SPS/07/08 (Sociology/Cultural Sociology) – it is an Italian requirement to be entitled to teach at the University on a specific scientific discipline

September 2021: Professor of “**Culture, Identity and Alterity**” (4 credits) – Centre of Sociological Research (CeSO), KU Leuven.

April 2020: Lectures on interreligious mixed marriages within the course of *Godsdienstsociologie* [“Sociology of Religion”] (prof. Dick Houtman) – KU Leuven (Belgium).

21.12.2019: Invited speaker within the PriMed project: “Prevenzione e interazione nello spazio trans-mediterraneo”. Presentation title: “Pluralità religiosa e differenza culturale in Europa. Le coppie miste tra sfide e risorse”.

April 2019: Lectures on interreligious mixed marriages within the course of *Godsdienstsociologie* [“Sociology of Religion”] (prof. Dick Houtman) – Ku Leuven (Belgium).

November 2017 – January 2018: Professor of “**Imagineries of alterity**” (6 credits – 42 hours) – University of Padova – Corso di laurea magistrale in culture, formazione e società globale [MA “Cultures, formation and global societies”].

16.05.17 – PhD seminar: “Fare ricerca sui fenomeni religiosi oggi: Identità e mixité” [Doing research on contemporary religious phenomena: Identities and intermarriages] – PhD school in Social Sciences, University of Padova.

March 2016 – May 2017: Lectures within the course “**Social pluralism and Cultural conflicts**” (6 credits – 42 hours) – University of Padova – Corso di laurea magistrale in culture, formazione e società globale (Master course – Prof. Stefano Allievi).

November 2016: Lectures of “Sociology of emotions” within the course of “**Sociology**” – University of Padova – Corso di laurea triennale in Comunicazione (Master course – Prof. Stefano Allievi).

April 2014: Lectures within the course of “**Intercultural and communicative processes**” – University of Padova – Corso di laurea magistrale in sociologia (*Master course – Prof. Chantal Saint-Blancat*).

March-April 2013: Lectures within the course of “**Social change and globalization**” – University of Padova – Corso di laurea in comunicazione (*Master course – Prof Franca Bimbi*).

May 2013: Lectures within the course of “**Sociology of cultural processes**” – *University of Padova* – Corso di laurea magistrale in sociologia (*Master course – Prof. Luca Trappolin*).

SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

KU Leuven (Belgium):

Co-supervising of Bachelor thesis: (Student: Bavo Goffin) – 3rd Bachelor Sociologie – A.Y. 2018-2019

Co-supervising of Bachelor thesis: (Student: Tine De Smet) – 3rd Bachelor Sociologie – A.Y. 2018-2019

SUPERVISION OF POST DOCTORAL SCHOLARS

KU Leuven (Belgium):

Supervision of the postdoctoral scholar Cristina Rodriguez-Reche – project title: "Young people in Muslim / Christian inter-religious families; The dynamics of religious transmission and affiliation in a context of religious pluralism"

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Computer Skills

Windows, Knowledge of the principal software: Microsoft Office, Excel, Access. ECDL patent

Software for qualitative and quantitative analysis: *Atlas.ti* and *SPSS*

Languages

- Italian: Mother Tongue
- English: Fluent
- French: Intermediate
- Spanish: Basic

PUBLICATIONS

Publications on scientific peer-review journals:

Cerchiaro, F., (forthcoming 2021). Displaying difference, displaying sameness: Mixed couples' reflexivity concerning stigmatisation and everyday family life, *Sociology*.

Cerchiaro, F., (forthcoming 2021). "When I told my parents that I was going to marry a Muslim..." 'Christian-Muslim' couples facing family opposition in Italy, France and Belgium, in Therrien C., La Gall J., Cerchiaro F., (Eds.) Mixed Muslim/non-Muslim families: couple's social perception and majority/minority groups relations, Special Issue, *Social Compass*.

Cerchiaro, F. and Odasso, L., (2021). 'Why do we have to circumcise our son?' Meanings behind male circumcision in the life stories of mixed couples with a Muslim partner, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, (online first). <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.1926941>

Cerchiaro, F. and Houtman, D., (2021). "Stage Fright and Romanticism in *Il Giro del Mondo*", *Annals of Tourism Research*, 89. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annals.2021.103201>

Cerchiaro, F. (2021). Dissonant masculinities? Migration, emotions and masculinities in marriages between Italian women and Moroccan men living in Italy. *Journal of Gender Studies*, 30(3), 256-269. (online first, 24 February 2020). <https://doi.org/10.1080/09589236.2020.1730162>

Cerchiaro, F. (2020). Identity loss or identity re-shape? Religious identification among the offspring of 'Christian-Muslim' couples. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 35(3), 503-521. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13537903.2020.1839250>

Cerchiaro, F. (2019). Fighting for What? Couples' Communication, Parenting and Social Activism: The Case Study of a "Christian-Muslim" Families' Association in Brussels (Belgium). *Religions*, 10(4), 270. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel10040270>

Cerchiaro, F. (2019). 'In the name of the children': mixed couples' parenting analysed through their naming practices. *Identities*, 26(1), 51-68. (online first, 27 July 2017). <https://doi.org/10.1080/1070289X.2017.1353314>

Cerchiaro F., (2016). Between recognition and betrayal. The migrant man in the mixed couple: the management of masculinity(ies), *Masculinities: A Journal of Identity and Culture*, 5, 53-78.

Cerchiaro F., (2016). 'Coppia mista? In che senso?'. Un'analisi della riflessività dei partner di coppie miste rispetto al discorso sulla differenza, ['Mixed couple? In what sense?' An analysis on the reflexivity of mixed couples' partners concerning the discourse on difference]. *Quaderni di Sociologia*, 72 (3), 165-184. <https://doi.org/10.4000/qds.1585>

Cerchiaro F., Houtman D., Aupers S., (2015). Christian-Muslim couples in the Veneto region, northeastern Italy. Dealing with religious pluralism in everyday family life. *Social Compass*, 62(1), 43–60. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0037768614561151>

Articles currently under revision:

Cerchiaro, F. and Houtman, D., "What's Wrong with Modernity? Off-Grid Romanticism in the Contemporary West, *Sociological Review*, (under revision).

Cerchiaro, F., Advancing research in couples studies. Methodological implications in interviewing partners individually or together, *Quality & Quantity*, (final revision).

Edited volumes/Special Issues:

Therrien C., La Gall J., Cerchiaro F., (Eds.) Mixed Muslim/non-Muslim families: couple's social perception and majority/minority groups relations, Special Issue, *Social Compass*, (forthcoming 2022).

Therrien C., La Gall J., Cerchiaro F., (Eds.) Mixed Muslim/non-Muslim families: Intergenerational transmission and offspring identifications, Special Issue, *Social Compass*, (forthcoming 2022).

Book chapters:

Cerchiaro F., (2021). Single, dual, beyond. Ethnic, racial and religious self-identification among mixed individuals raised in Christian-Muslim families in Italy, in Le Gall J., Therrien C., Geoffrion K., (Eds.), *Mixed Families in a Transnational World*, Routledge, London, p. 109-129. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003126263-5>

Cerchiaro F., (2017). "Sfidare i confini. Perché e come studiare la coppia mista" in Allievi S., Guolo R. e Rhazzali K. (a cura di), *I musulmani nelle società europee. Appartenenze, interazioni, conflitti*, Milano, Guerini ed. ISBN:9788862506700

Cerchiaro F., (2019). "I matrimoni misti e la prospettiva sociologica: epistemologia, integrazione e secolarizzazione", [Intermarriages and the sociological perspective: epistemology, integration, secularisation], in Tognetti Bordogna M., (a cura di), *I matrimoni misti nel nuovo millennio*, Milano, Franco Angeli, p. 71-90.

Cerchiaro F., (2019). Negoziare la religione nella famiglia mista: il caso delle coppie "cristiano-musulmane", [Negotiating religion in the mixed family: the case of Christian-Muslim couples"], in Tognetti Bordogna M., (a cura di), *I matrimoni misti nel nuovo millennio*, Milano, Franco Angeli, p. 141-165.

Monograph/Book:

Cerchiaro F., (2016). *Amori e confini. Le coppie miste tra islam, educazione dei figli e vita quotidiana*. [Love and borders. Mixed couples amongst Islam, children's education and everyday life]. Guida Ed., Napoli. <https://www.guidaeditori.it/prodotto/amori-e-confini/>

Other publications:

Cerchiaro F., (2014). "Lo ius soli a scuola. Dirigenti e docenti raccontano le 'seconde generazioni'", ["Ius soli in school. Headmasters and teachers narrate 'second generations'"]. *Paper Ires*, n.77, March 2014. <https://iresveneto.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/cerchiaro-lo-ius-soli-a-scuola-ires-veneto-paper-77-1.pdf>