

Simone Ghezzi Colombo

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Education

M.A. in Programming and Management of Political and Social Services Oct 2023 – Oct 2025
University of Milano-Bicocca Milan, Italy

Final grade: 110/110 *cum laude*; GPA: 30.09/30. Thesis: *Masculinities, Feminist Mobilization and the New Cultural Divide: A Quantitative Analysis of Gendered Political Attitudes Among Young Europeans*.

- Built an original EU27 comparative dataset by harmonizing ESS Round 11 (2023–2024) and EES 2024 microdata, linking vote choice to CHES 2024 expert-coded party positions through a manually validated party-ID crosswalk.
- Designed a reproducible R workflow for data preparation, cohort trends, country comparisons, and multivariate modelling, with documented harmonization procedures, diagnostics, and version control.
- Produced figures and EU maps using centred rolling windows, LOESS smoothing, confidence intervals, and transparent trimming rules to reduce instability and outlier influence.

Selected coursework research

- **Planning and Project Management:** designed an evidence-based intervention on youth-related challenges in Brianza using Project Cycle Management, Stata, and QGIS.
- **Globalization and Local Development:** conducted a comparative analysis of post-socialist EU member states using R, Python, Eurostat, ARDECO, and QGIS to map regional disparities.
- **Quantitative Analysis of Social Phenomena:** used Stata to analyse ISSP 2019 *Social Inequality V*, studying the relationship between subjective class position and future expectations.
- **Welfare and Public Action:** examined the political dimensions of local welfare governance, with a focus on technicization, depoliticization, and democratic control.
- **Processes of European Integration:** explored the relationship between English proficiency, social media use, and European identity among young Europeans.
- **Social Change, New Social Risks and Social Innovation in Europe:** conducted a survey experiment on welfare chauvinism among students at the University of Milano-Bicocca.
- **Social Planning:** evaluated Free-Fare Public Transport policies through comparative case studies and literature review.
- **Systems of Family Solidarity:** analysed the geography of gender-based violence through cross-cultural and cross-national comparison.

Erasmus Exchange Semester

Universität Konstanz

Sep 2020 – Mar 2021

Konstanz, Germany

- **The Social Neuroscience of Empathy:** analysed altruistic punishment and empathic anger in contexts of unfair treatment.
- **European Integration Theories:** examined the 2020 shift in Italian politics from populist Euro-scepticism to pro-European technocracy through a post-functionalist lens.

B.A. in Sociology

University of Milano-Bicocca

Sep 2019 – Oct 2022

Milan, Italy

Final grade: 110/110 *cum laude*. Thesis: *Queer Migration: The Role of Sexuality in Moving to a Foreign Country*.

- Conducted research on studentification in European cities through a comparative analysis of Loughborough and Urbino.
- Investigated the role of social media in youth socialization through interviews and qualitative analysis.

- Developed a qualitative research project on queer migration, focusing on sexuality, mobility decisions, and post-relocation experiences.

Professional Experience

Junior Data Manager – Open Data Observatory Apr 2025 – Oct 2025
Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milano-Bicocca Milan, Italy

- Contributed to the structuring, validation, and documentation of institutional datasets.
- Developed reproducible data pipelines in R and Git, ensuring methodological rigor, version control, and compliance with open-data standards.
- Assessed data quality, completeness, and interoperability across institutional sources to support policymaking and research.
- Aligned research activities with European and national data-governance frameworks, promoting open science and public-value creation.

President of the Youth Committee Jul 2022 – Present
Municipality of Olgiate Molgora Olgiate Molgora, Italy

- Collaborate with the *Ambito Distrettuale Sociale* of Merate and the special agency Retesalute on youth-related local social issues.
- Contributed to the *Piano di Zona 2025–2027* of the Ambito of Merate and the unitary *Piano di Zona 2025–2027* of the Province of Lecco.
- Coordinated and implemented municipal social-policy initiatives, including a Youth Social Park, educational street-art interventions, and a municipality-funded train service for families with children in public kindergarten.

Co-founder and Organizer Feb 2024 – Present
EUatSchool Merate, Italy

- Co-founded a non-partisan, student-led European civic education initiative that has delivered three editions and engaged about 300 upper-secondary students in structured debates on EU politics.
- Helped secure the patronage of the European Parliament and the European Commission Representation in Italy, together with support from local institutions, schools, and civil-society partners.
- Organized and moderated exchanges with MEPs and senators, and coordinated workshops and public debates on European integration, foreign policy, defence, energy, AI, and the digital euro.

Project Coordinator Dec 2022 – Jun 2024
EVOLVO SRL Milan, Italy

- Managed communication with European partners, colleagues, and Erasmus+ National Agencies.
- Coordinated more than 100 Erasmus+ projects annually through structured information management and documentation.
- Organized multi-day team-building events for international groups and delivered orientations to more than 1,000 participants per year.
- Conducted outreach and market research to recruit new partner companies in Milan.

Founder and Manager Mar 2026 – Present
B&B della Stazione Olgiate Molgora, Italy

- Managed day-to-day operations of a short-term rental project, including guest communication, booking coordination, and on-site organization.
- Designed and implemented a custom Python/Flask self-check-in system with token-based access management and remote door-opening automation.

- Deployed and maintained the related cloud application on Google Cloud using Ubuntu, Gunicorn, systemd, Nginx, HTTPS/DNS configuration, SQLite, Telegram integration, Stripe payment links, and GitHub-based versioning.

Civil Servant

Italian Red Cross

Apr 2021 – Apr 2022

Olgiate Molgora, Italy

- Coordinated dialogue with municipalities, hospitals, and health institutions to support local service delivery.
- Supported needs assessment and operational planning for the committee.
- Helped manage departmental activities, health and social services, and coordination of more than 200 active volunteers.

Papers, Talks, and Academic Presentations

Paper accepted for presentation at the ECPR General Conference 2026

Sep 2026

European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

Kraków, Poland

Single-authored paper accepted in the panel *Gender, Democracy, and the Menace of Authoritarianism*.

Paper title: *From Gap to Cleavage: Gender Polarization Among Gen Z in the EU*.

Invited guest lecture on youth political participation in Europe

Mar 2026

Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milano-Bicocca

Milan, Italy

Invited by Prof. Tatjana Sekulić to lecture in the Master's course *Le Dinamiche delle Integrazioni Europee* (PROGEST, a.y. 2025/2026), presenting original research based on the Master's thesis.

Speaker and co-organiser, public seminar on mobility and public transport

May 2026

Viviamo Merate

Merate, Italy

Presented an original analysis of the S8 suburban railway line, focusing on service evolution, passenger growth, and the role of rail in regional mobility planning.

Awards and Recognition

Selected as one of six thesis presenters, 3rd Convivio Progest 2026

Mar 2026

Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milano-Bicocca

Milan, Italy

Selected among six Master's graduates invited to present thesis research at a departmental event showcasing outstanding theses discussed in the previous 18 months.

Research Projects

Electio: computational analysis of Italian parliamentary elections at municipal level

Mar 2026 – Present

Independent / GitHub-based research infrastructure

Italy

- Developing a reproducible and well-documented dataset for the study of electoral behaviour, territorial variation, and political competition.
- Implementing validation pipelines, derived indicators, and structured access tools for quantitative and computational social-science research.
- Building outputs that make political data explorable and reusable for future comparative work across countries, institutions, and political contexts.

Skills

Methods and tools: R, Python, Stata, QGIS, Git/GitHub, data harmonization, reproducible workflows, quantitative analysis, survey research, comparative research, spatial analysis.

Technical stack: Flask, SQLite, Google Cloud, Ubuntu, Gunicorn, systemd, Nginx, Telegram integration, Stripe payment links.

Languages: Italian (native), English (C2), Spanish (B1).

Academic and Civic Service

Volunteer and community organizer

Italian Red Cross and local civic initiatives

Apr 2021 – Present

Olgiate Molgora, Italy

- Coordinate community-based educational and social initiatives, including food and school-supply drives, activities for older adults, and inclusive events for children and families.
- Contribute to project planning, institutional communication, sponsorship requests, funding applications, and relations with local stakeholders.
- Support public-facing communication and outreach, as well as protected medical transport services for vulnerable individuals.