

Raffaele Ventura

Education

Degree

- Nov 2021- April 2025 **University of Trento – PhD in International Studies**
Dissertation title: Water Scarcity, Conflict and Negotiation: Four Essays
Advisor Prof. Dr. Paolo Rosa.
- Mar 2021 – Oct 2021 **Società Italiana Per l’Organizzazione Internazionale (SIOI) – Master’s Degree in Sustainable Development, Geopolitics of natural resources and Arctic Studies**
Thesis: Sámi response to climate change: a multilevel comparative analysis of Norway, Sweden, and Finland. Advisor Prof. Bård Borch Michalsen.
- Sep 2018 – Dec 2020 **University of Bologna – Master’s Degree in International Relations and Security**
First class honours degree – *magna cum laude* (110/110 cum laude).
Thesis: “Regionalism and environmental governance in response to climate change in Sub-Saharan Africa: the case of SADC”. Advisor Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti
- Sep 2016 – Oct 2018 **Roma Tre University – Bachelor’s Degree in political science and international relations**
First class honours degree – *magna cum laude* (110/110 cum laude).
Thesis: “International environmental treaties from Kyoto to Paris: compared analysis of emission trading systems”. Advisor Prof. Dr. Stefano d’Addona

Professional Training

- Jun 2023 **Econometric Society – Summer School on Causal inference and climate change economics.** This workshop combined lectures on current research in climate economics with an introduction to causal inference methods applied to climate economics.
- Mar 2023 **University of Oxford – Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods**
Qualitative research methods and design. Interviews, focus groups, ethnography, process tracing.
- Jun 2022 – Aug 2022 **Michigan University, Ann Arbor - ICPSR Summer Program**
Time Series Analysis; Machine Learning for Social Sciences; Categorical Data Analysis; Maximum Likelihood Estimation Advanced Models
- Sep 2021 – Dec 2021 **Piccola Scuola di Politiche -Winter course (seminar series)**
Topics covered ranges from political philosophy to international relations, from civil law to comparative politics.
- May 2021 **Greenpeace and SIOI - Spring School**
Environment and Global Rights: resource crises, conflicts, and environmental disasters.

Research experience

- Jul 2023 **European University Institute** – Research Associate at the Global Governance Programme of the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies. I have been the coordinator of the GlobalStat database and the Applied Data Science for Social Research Working Group. My research activities focus on sustainable development policies, measurements and assessments, well-being studies, and economic governance.
- May 2023 **Italian Encyclopaedic Institute “Treccani”** – Author and scientific advisor. Contributed to the African section of the “Geopolitical Atlas” publication series: <https://emporium.treccani.it/atlante-geopolitico-2024-3013326.html>
- Nov 2021 – Apr 2025 **University of Trento** – Doctoral researcher – School of International Studies.
- Nov 2020 **Geopolitica.info** – Research Fellow
I published articles and conducted analyses on energy security, climate change, and governance of natural resources with a regional focus on Sub-Saharan Africa and the enlarged Mediterranean.
- Jan 2024 – Apr 2024 **University of Iowa** – Visiting doctoral researcher at the Department of Political Science.
- Oct 2023 – Dec 2023 **University of Uppsala** – Visiting doctoral researcher at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research.

Publications

Working papers

- Ventura Raffaele and Nila Zarepour-Arizi. Working paper. “Cry Me a River: Women and Water Disputes”
- Ventura Raffaele. Working paper. “Evaluating the influence of transboundary water treaty provisions on water use efficiency with Lasso and Elastic Net regularization techniques.”
- Ventura Raffaele, Gaby Umbach and Mira Manini Tiwari. Working paper. “Systematic review of the definitions and applications of well-being across disciplines”.

Publications under review

- Giulio Sabbati, Gaby Umbach, Raffaele Ventura. [April 2026]. “Food security amid war and environmental challenges: perspectives for EU citizens and states”. *European Parliament Research Service Policy Papers*.
- Ventura, Raffaele and Bogna Kietlińska. [R&R]. “Sex- and Gender-Disaggregated Data: Data Availability and Data Pathways in the European Union”. *Data and Policy*
- Ventura Raffaele. Under review. “Interstate Response to Endogenous and Exogenous Drivers of Water Scarcity: A Dyadic Analysis of Hydrographic Basins’ Water Politics”. *Political Geography*

Publications in peer-reviewed outlets

- Ventura Raffaele. 2025. “Trent’anni di governance dei bacini idrici in Africa australe tra aspettative di pace e sviluppo”, in «Afriche e Orienti», (1), 2025, pp. 145-171, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23810/>

Tarasov, Andrei, Claudio Passalacqua, and Raffaele Ventura. 2024. "Cherished Outcast: Italian Foreign Policy Change towards Russia in the Cases of Georgia (2008), Crimea (2014), and Ukraine (2022)". *Italian Political Science* Volume 18 (1), pp. 34-56 <https://doi.org/10.69101/IPS.2023.18.1.3>

Ventura Raffaele. 2024. "GIUSEPPE BETTONI (a cura di), *Africa. Politica, democrazie e migrazioni*, Torino, UTET Università 2023". *Documenti Geografici* 1(2024) [Book review]. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.19246/DOCUGEO2281-7549/202401_43

Ventura Raffaele and Irene Ricca. 2023. "I colpi di Stato nel Sahel e la diversa sorte del Niger: un confronto tra Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger e Ciad". *Rivista Marittima* Settembre 2023: 59-65.

Ventura Raffaele. 2022. "Una transizione più veloce? L'effetto delle sanzioni internazionali sulle politiche energetiche". *Rivista Marittima* 7: 20-29.¹

Book chapters

Rosa, Paolo and Raffaele Ventura. 2026. "Trasferimento di Armi". In "Sicurezza Globale. Nuove minacce". Paolo Foradori e Giampiero Giacomelli (Editors). Bologna: il Mulino. [Book chapter]

Ventura Raffaele. 2024. "Il ruolo strategico del Mediterraneo meridionale nella transizione energetica europea". In: "Il gioco delle grandi potenze La competizione nel Mediterraneo allargato". Pietro Baldelli Roberta Ferrara, Gabriele Natalizia (Editors). Rome: LUISS University Press. ISBN 979-12-5596-133-8 [Book Chapter].

Ventura Raffaele and Irene Ricca. 2023. "Italia e Francia in Africa occidentale", in: *Oltre il Trattato del Quirinale*, Matteo Mazziotti di Celso and Elena Tosti di Stefano (Editors). Roma: Edizioni Nuova Cultura, (2023), ISBN 9788833656052 [Book Chapter].

Ventura Raffaele and Alessia Piccinini. 2022. "Risorse idriche da fattore di rischio a opportunità: gli Accordi di Abramo in una prospettiva climatica, ambientale ed energetica", in: *Dalla competizione all'integrazione nel Medio Oriente-Nord Africa L'impatto degli Accordi di Abramo sugli equilibri regionali*, Pietro Baldelli, Elena Tosti di Stefano (Editors). Roma: Edizioni Nuova Cultura, (2022), ISBN: 9788833652382 [Book Chapter].²

Ventura Raffaele and Arianna Colaiuta. 2022. "*Il Sahel*", in: *Verso un nuovo concetto strategico Nato: Prospettive e interessi dell'Italia*, Gabriele Natalizia, Lorenzo Termine, Andrea Carteny, Elena Tosti Di Stefano (Editors). Roma: Edizioni Nuova Cultura, (2022), ISBN: 9788833654836 [Book Chapter].³

Ventura, Raffaele, and Andrea Pesce. 2021. "Riforestazione agroforestale nel Petén: zeroCO₂ e la lotta alle disuguaglianze". *Atti Convegno Università LUMSA: Costruire comunità. La proposta del Service-Learning*. Rome: Ave, Educare Oggi⁴.

Analysis and reports for institutions and media

Ventura Raffaele. 2025. "Bipolarità e multipolarità nella definizione degli obiettivi per la transizione energetica: il ruolo di Cina e Stati Uniti". In *GEOPOLITICAL BRIEF La competizione USA-Cina per la sicurezza energetica*. <https://www.geopolitica.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Transatlantic-Forum-8th-edition-GB2.pdf>

China: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), December 2025.

¹ English translation: Ventura Raffaele. 2022. "A faster transition? the effect of sanctions on the energy policies of Russia, Iran, and Venezuela". *Rivista Marittima* 9(September 2022): 42-52.

² English translation: Ventura Raffaele and Alessia Piccinini. 2022. "Water Resources from Risk Factor to Opportunity: the Abraham Agreements in a Climate, Environmental and Energy Perspective," in: *From Competition to Integration in the Middle East-North Africa The Impact of the Abraham Agreements on Regional Balances*, Pietro Baldelli, Elena Tosti di Stefano (Editors). Rome: Edizioni Nuova Cultura, (2022), ISBN: 9788833652382 [Book Chapter].

³ Ventura Raffaele and Arianna Colaiuta. 2022. "The Sahel," in: *Towards a New Nato Strategic Concept: Italy's Perspectives and Interests*, Gabriele Natalizia, Lorenzo Termine, Andrea Carteny, Elena Tosti Di Stefano (Editors). Rome: Edizioni Nuova Cultura, (2022), ISBN: 9788833654836 [Book Chapter].

⁴ English translation: "Agroforestry reforestation in the Petén: zeroCO₂ and the fight against inequalities". *Conference Proceedings LUMSA University: Building Community. The Service-Learning proposal*. Published in Rome by Ave, Educare oggi.

Selected southern African countries: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), December 2025.

Georgia: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), October 2025.

Moldova: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), October 2025.

Ukraine: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), October 2025.

US: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolochova (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), September 2025.

Mercosur: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), July 2025.

Canada and Mexico: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), April 2025.

Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), February 2025.

China: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), December 2024.

East African Community (EAC): Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), December 2024.

US: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), September 2024.

BRICS+: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), September 2024.

Indonesia: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), June 2024.

United Kingdom: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), May 2024.

Gulf Region: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), January 2024.

China: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), November 2023.

Kazakhstan: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), October 2023.

US: Economic indicators and trade with EU, Györgyi Mácsai (EPRS), Raffaele Ventura (GlobalStat), September 2023.

Media

In addition to the academic publications, I have contributed to reports and articles for online outlets and traditional media like national newspapers, such as “Domani il Giornale,” and given interviews to national and international TV and radio stations, including Al Jazeera, on topics related to climate change, natural resources, and security.

Teaching experiences

- Jan 2026 – Jul 2026 **LUISS School of Government and Institut Européen (CIFE)** – Lead instructor of the course “Governance of natural resources, conflict, and cooperation” as part of the Joint Master in Global Economic Governance and Public Affairs.
- Sept 2025- Jan 2025 **Piccola Scuola di Politiche (PSP) -Academic assistant and coordinatore (programme of the seminar series)**
The PSP is a school of politics run by professors from the University of Florence and the University of Bologna. This year, the seminar series I coordinated, together with the directors, featured national and international speakers from both academia and institutions.
- Sep 2025- Sep 2025 **Centro Alti Studi per la Difesa (CASD)** – One-day workshop for high-level military officials from the Mediterranean countries. Workshop title: *Regional Challenges for the Mediterranean Region: Environment, Sustainability, and Resources*.
- Apr 2025 – May 2025 **Geopolitica.info** – Organizer and lead instructor of the two-day executive course in Geopolitics of natural resources
- Feb 2024 -May 2024 **University of Trento** – Teaching Assistant in Introduction to Quantitative Methods for social science research and instructor of an applied Laboratory on data visualization with R
- February 2023 -May 2023 **University of Trento** – Teaching Assistant in Introduction to quantitative methods for social science research.
- February 2023 -May 2023 **University of Trento** – Teaching assistant in Advanced quantitative methods for social science research.

Invited conferences and lectures

- European Regional Science Association annual conference 2025, Athens. Presentation of the paper: “Systematic review of the definitions and applications of well-being across disciplines”.
- Transatlantic forum 2025, Centro Studi Americani, Centro Studi Geopolitica.info, May 2025, presentation of the Geopolitical Brief: La competizione USA-Cina per la sicurezza energetica.
- International Studies Association annual conference 2025, Chicago. Presentation of the paper. “Interstate Response To Endogenous And Exogenous Drivers Of Water Scarcity: A Dyadic Analysis Of Hydrographic Basins’ Water Politics”.
- University of Trento, May 2024. Graduate student conference. Presenter and main organizer of the conference.
- University of Iowa, March 2024. Reorganize the literature on climate change, environment and international conflicts using game theory. Within the Seminar Series of the faculty of Political Science of the University of Iowa.
- University of Bologna. October 2023. *Regional governance of an environmental challenge between poverty, climate change, and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin*. Lecture within the undergraduate course “Africa and Governance Of Climate Change” held by Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/443909>)
- International University of Rome (UNINT). April 2023. *Climate change economics and its challenges to international politics: why is it complicated to mitigate climate change?*
- University of Bologna. December 2022. *Regional governance of an environmental challenge between poverty, climate change, and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin*. Lecture within the undergraduate course “Africa

and Governance Of Climate Change” held by Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/443909>)

XVI Winter School di Geopolitica.info. May 2022. “Peripheries of competition? The Russian-Chinese challenge in Latin America and Africa”.

University of Rome la Sapienza. May 2022. *Evolution of Regional Security Complexes in Africa*. Lecture within the graduate course “International Relations” held by Prof. Dr. Gabriele Natalizia (https://corsidilaurea.uniroma1.it/sites/default/files/international_relations_prof._g._natalizia_-_programma_a.a._2021-22.pdf)

University of Bologna. November 2021. *Combating a humanitarian crisis between poverty, climate change, and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin*. Lecture within the undergraduate course “Africa and Governance Of Climate Change” held by Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/443909>)

University of Bologna. May 2021. *Combating a humanitarian crisis between poverty, climate change, and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin*. Lecture within the undergraduate course “Africa and Governance Of Climate Change” held by Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/443909>)

XV Winter School di Geopolitica.info. May 2021. “Italian foreign policy and cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa, a discussion with Consul Fabrizio Lobasso”.

Lecture for the Online Course on Sub-Saharan Africa Geopolitics of the research centre Geopolitica.info. Available Online in June 2021 (<https://onlineducation.it/>). Climate refugees and environmental threats to security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Lecture for the Online Course on Sub-Saharan Africa Geopolitics of the research centre Geopolitica.info. Available Online in June 2021 (<https://onlineducation.it/>). Islamic terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa: Boko Haram in the Lake Chad basin.

Lecture for the Online Course on Sub-Saharan Africa Geopolitics of the research centre Geopolitica.info. Available Online in June 2021 (<https://onlineducation.it/>). Islamic terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa.

University of Bologna. May 2020. *Combating a humanitarian crisis between poverty, climate change, and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin*. Lecture within the undergraduate course “Africa and Governance Of Climate Change” held by Prof. Dr. Arrigo Pallotti (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/443909>).

Other relevant work experiences

11/2019 – Ongoing **zeroCO2** - Co-founder (<https://www.bezeroco2.eco>)

I co-founded zeroCO2, a benefit corporation dedicated to carrying out reforestation, afforestation, and tree planting projects in urban and rural areas across the globe, with the goal of preserving nature. ZeroCO2 supports and implements permaculture, a system that prioritizes sustainable agriculture by regenerating natural ecosystems to meet the needs of communities. To date, we have planted over 1 million trees and have supported thousands of families in Latin America and Western Europe. After the company's initial startup phase, I stepped away from any operational role and now devote my time to research.

Jul 2020 – Oct 2020 **Embassy of Italy in South Africa** – Trainee, *winner of the CRUI Foundation grant*
While conducting research for my master's thesis, I processed data and wrote analyses that helped deepen the Embassy's dossiers.

I worked within the international cooperation projects of AMKA ONLUS in Italy and Petén (Guatemala). The projects aimed at improving food security and inclusive education in rural areas of the Petén region. I conducted fieldwork interviews and coordinated project activities both in Italy and Guatemala.

Languages and computing skills

Languages:

Italian – C2	Native speaker
English – C1	IELTS – Overall Band 7,5 (November 2020)
French – C1	TCF – Overall Band C1 (July 2021)
Spanish- B2/C1	Instituto Cervantes DELE B2 – (August 2015) and volunteering experiences in countries where Spanish is the first language (Guatemala and Mexico).
Arabic – A1	A1 level course attended at the linguistic centre of the University of Trento.

Software:

Office packages	Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel); LaTeX, Google Office Suite.
Data analysis	R programming language; Python, Stata, QGIS, Qualtrics, HTML,
AI	
Audio and video	Final Cut pro and Logic pro, Adobe Photoshop,

Acconsento al trattamento dei miei dati secondo la normativa vigente per gli usi di pubblica amministrazione

Roma 20/4/26

Raffaele Ventura

firma autografa omissa ai sensi dell'art. 3 del D.Lgs. 39/1993