Odetta Pizzingrilli, Ph.D.

Current Position

01/09/2026 – present: Postdoctoral Researcher within the FIS3 project *"LIMBO – Lives in Motion: Belonging and Otherness. Women and Minors in the Context of Radicalization"*, Department of Civilizations and Forms of Knowledge, University of Pisa (Italy).

15/11/2024 – 31/08/2026: Winner of a 2-year Research Fellowship at the Department of Excellence "Civilizations and Forms of Knowledge," University of Pisa (Italy) with the project *The People of the Wall: Reconstructing One's Order through Narration.*

01/05/2025 – present: Affiliated researcher with the French Research Centre of the Arabian Peninsula - CEFREPA (Kuwait City).

Main areas of research: identity politics, minorities and minoritization process, statelessness, and identity in diaspora.

Education

15/04/2025-15/05/2025: Visiting scholar at the Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait City, Kuwait.

01/06/2023 – 01/11/2024: Senior Researcher and Office Manager of the Renaissance Strategic Center (RSC) - Arab Renaissance Democracy and Development (ARDD), Amman, Jordan.

01/06/2022 – 01/04/2023: Senior Researcher at the Center for Strategic Studies (CSS) - University of Jordan (Amman).

05/06/2019 – 30/04/2022: Winner of a 3-year Research Fellowship at Luiss University (Rome) with the project "Identity, Integration and Security".

02/10/2015 – 30/11/2018: Ph.D. in Politics: History, Theory, Science at Luiss University (Rome). Full scholarship.

- Thesis: "State and Legitimacy within an Arab-Muslim Context. Understanding the Identity Criteria in Jordan and Kuwait". (Thesis defended on 26/06/2019)
- Supervisor: Francesca Maria Corrao, Full Professor of Arabic Culture and Language, Faculty of Political Science, Luiss University.
- Main research topics: The nation/state-building process and (national) identity formation of the Arab States, minorities and minoritization processes, statelessness (*bidūn* in Kuwait, Gazans in Jordan).

02/2015 – 06/2015: High Specialization Course in Immigration Law and Recognition of International Protection. In partnership with the Italian Council for Refugees, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Legal Union for the Protection of the Human Rights Association "Ius & Nomos" (Rome). Course partially funded by the Italian Council for Refugees.

04/07/2013: Teaching Qualification for the Exercise of the Profession of Secondary Education: Arabic Language and Culture. Italian Ministry of Education.

As part of the training activities: a 150-hour Arabic Language course to second-generation Arab immigrants at the Elementary and Middle School "Via Merope" (Rome).

01/12/2013 – 30/03/2014: Master's Degree in Economy and Institutions of Islamic Countries (MISLAM) at Luiss School of Government (Rome). With the attainment of the diploma with evaluation 110/110 with honors on 10/03/2015

17/01/2009 – 14/07/2011: Master's Degree in Oriental Languages and Cultures at Sapienza University (Rome), 110/110 with honors.

15/09/2005 – 16/01/2009: Bachelor's Degree in Oriental Languages and Cultures at Sapienza University (Rome), 110/110 with honors.

Professional Academic Experiences

17/02/2025 – present: Instructor of History and Institutions of the Islamic Countries at the Humanities Department of the University of Macerata.

03/02/2020 – 31/04/2023: Instructor of Arabic Language, Culture, Literature, and History at the Humanities Department of the University of Macerata.

07/03/2019 – 30/12/2021: Instructor of Arabic Language at the Political Sciences Department of Federico II University (Naples). Teaching language: English.

24/02/2019 – 14/03/2019: Instructor of Italian Language at Petra University (Amman, Jordan). Teaching language: Arabic.

9, 11, 25/10/2018: ARAB 101 – Elementary Arabic 1, The American University of Rome. Teaching language: English.

26/01/2016 – 18/06/2016: Instructor of Arabic Language and Culture at the Post-Graduate course in Economy and Institutions of Islamic Countries (MISLAM) at Luiss School of Government (Rome).

10/10/2013 – 30/04/2014: Teacher of Arabic Language at the public high school "James Joyce" (Rome).

01/11/2011 - 31/03/2012: Teacher of Italian Language to non-native speakers at the International Institute Berlitz (Kuwait City).

Organization of international conferences, supervising and mentoring activities

01/05/2022 – 21/04/2023: Master Thesis Supervisor. University of Macerata. Subject: History of Contemporary Middle East. Topic: Women condition in the Arab Muslim world.

22/06/2022 SeSaMo congress, Naples. Chair of the panel "Constructing Constant Crisis: Research Methodologies as Filtering Mechanisms" with Irene Tuzi (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Patricia Ward (Technische Universität Dresden). Contribution: *Interviewing Outside the "Interview-society". Limits and Challenges of the Western-born Qualitative Approach*.

13/12/2021: Seminar organized with IFPO Amman Researcher and Leeds Beckett University PhD candidate Zaid Awamleh, and in partnership with IFPO Amman. Title: "Spatial Behavior and Self-perception in a State of Permanent Temporariness: The Gazan Refugees in Jordan and the bidūn in Kuwait" https://www.ifporient.org/spatial-behavior-and-self-perception-in-a-state-of-permanent-temporariness-the-gazan-refugees-in-jordan-and-the-bidun-in-kuwait/

12/03/2021– 20/04/2021: Arabic-Italian/Italian-Arabic Language Exchange coordinator of the "Tea for Two" Project.

18/01/2021– 10/05/2022: Thesis supervisor within the Joint Master in Global Economic Governance and Public Affairs (School of Government of Luiss University and Centre International de Formation Européenne) and the Joint Master in EU Trade & Climate Diplomacy (School of Government of Luiss University).

6-17/07/2020: Coordinator of the Luiss Summer Program "Euro-Mediterranean Trends", directed by Professor Francesca Corrao.

5-6-7/11/2014: Participation in the organization of the International Conference "Imams in Western Europe. Authority, Training, and Institutional Challenges" - LUISS Guido Carli University & John Cabot University (Rome).

01/09/2014 – present: Collaboration with the chair of Arabic Culture and Language, Political Sciences Department, Luiss University (Rome). Courses taught: Arabic Language, Islam in Europe, Mediterranean Studies. Lectures at the master's program "Economy and Institutions of Islamic Countries (MISLAM)."

Scientific Publications

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. 2027. "Kuwait City, Framed: Visual Narratives, Urban Memory, and the Politics of Space." *Kervan – International Journal of Afro-Asiatic Studies* 30. Accepted for publication.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. 2025. "Amman, 'City of Waters': Urban Policy, Literary Memory and the Making of Identity." In Maria Elena Paniconi, Mariangela Masullo, Amanda Salvioni and Cristiana Turini (eds.), *Environmental Changes, Global Challenges and Livelihoods: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. Macerata: Quodlibet, pp. 71–84

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "*Jordan and Kuwait Between Migration, Sovereignty, and Regional Upheavals: Rethinking Geopolitical Agency in the Contemporary Euro-Mediterranean Space*." In *The Wider Mediterranean within the Frame of the Great Global Disorder*, a cura di Francesca Maria Corrao e Riccardo Redaelli. Palgrave Macmillan (Springer Nature), forthcoming 2026 (accepted for publication).

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "Women, Peace and Security in Kuwait: Rethinking Inclusion Beyond Citizenship." In *Promuovere l'Agenda "Donne, Pace e Sicurezza" per una società più equa e inclusiva*. CeSPI – Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale, Forum WPS, 6 novembre 2025.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "Al-Ahmadi, la città del petrolio." *Arabpop. Rivista di arti e letterature arabe contemporanee*, n. 9 ("Città"), Autunno 2025, pp. 82–91. Napoli: TAMU Edizioni.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. *Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion*. Minorities in West Asia and North Africa Series. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "A Thousand and One Jordans: The Story of Rafedìn." In Fernanda Fischione and Arturo Monaco (eds.), *Be Like Adam's Son: Theorising, Writing and Practising Peace in the Arab Region*, pp. 309–337. Sheffield: Equinox Publishing, 2024.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "Afghanistan, la «Tomba degli Imperi» (1808–1989)." In Francesco Cherubini e Luigi Giorgi (a cura di), *Afghanistan 2021. Fine della guerra infinita? Storia, geopolitica, diritto, sicurezza*, pp. 17–35. Milano: FrancoAngeli, 2023.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. Recensione di *Ṭāhā Ḥusayn, Conversazioni del mercoledì (Ḥadīṯ al-arbaʿāʾ)*, trad. Isabella Passerini. *Arablit. La rivista di Arablit*, anno XI, nn. 21–22, giugno–dicembre 2021.

Bustani, Hisham. "Three in One. Ten Years of Tumultuous Change and Nothing Has Changed" (*Thalatha fī wāḥid*, 2021). Traduzione dall'arabo all'italiano di Odetta Pizzingrilli. *Arabpop*, 2022.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta, e Luigi Giorgi. "Mashreq Monarchies' Role in the Mediterranean Sea." In Francesca Maria Corrao e Riccardo Redaelli (eds.), *States, Actors and Geopolitical Drivers in the Mediterranean*, pp. 317–335 (contributo di Odetta Pizzingrilli: pp. 318–324). Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.

Ḥusayn, Ṭāhā. *The Tree of Misery* (*Shajarat al-buʾs*, 1944). Introduzione di Odetta Pizzingrilli; traduzione dall'arabo all'italiano di Odetta Pizzingrilli e Isabella Passerini. Roma: Istituto per l'Oriente Carlo Alfonso Nallino, 2021.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "Transnational Identity and Circassians in Contemporary Jordan (1991–2018)." In Paolo Maggiolini e Idir Ouahes (eds.), *Minorities and State-Building in the Middle East: The Case of Jordan*, pp. 85–107. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.

Pizzingrilli, Odetta. "Circassians: An Identity in Exile. The Case of Jordan, a Minority at the Royal Palace." *Studi Magrebini*, XVI (2018), pp. 159–186.

Grants

15/11/2024 – 31/08/2026: Winner of a 2-year Research Fellowship (euro 47780.16 gross) at the University of Pisa with the project "The People of the Wall: Reconstructing One's Order through Narration".

05/06/2019 – 30/04/2022: Winner of a 3-year Research Fellowship (euro 58,101.00 gross, net of charges borne by the University) at Luiss University (Rome) with the project "Identità, integrazione e sicurezza".

Research Proposal: Places, Voices, and Faces: Retracing Identity Narratives of the "Global City" of Jerusalem through the Archives of the Franciscan Custody

Entities: Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), Custody of the Holy Land, Centre de recherche français de Jérusalem (CRFJ), The Mellon Foundation

Awarded: September 2023

Duration: 8 months, 2 extra months were granted when the initial limit was 6 months (The scholarship amount is a monthly lump sum of €1,875).

Note: Grant implementation postponed due to ongoing attack on Gaza and the West Bank.

Collaboration Assignment for the project "Archives of Palestinian Refugees and Childhood History"

Role: Researcher, focusing on the history of Palestinian refugees, with particular emphasis on the UNRWA archives and humanitarian actions toward children.

Scientific Supervisor: Dr. Maria Chiara Rioli, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE)

Awarded: September 2023

Duration: 1 month

Gross compensation to the beneficiary of €1,890.

Objective: To facilitate research on the history of Palestinian refugees.

Award Winner: ALMArie CURIE 2021 - SUpER Line, funded under D.M. 737/2021

Institution: Department of Political Sciences, University of Bologna

Recognition: For the best Marie Curie Global proposal presented

Funding: European Union's NextGenerationEU program, 10.000 euro

Academic activities: Courses, lectures, seminars, and invited presentations at international conferences

September 15, 2025: Lecture "Walls, Oil, and Memory: Kuwait and the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Conflict". Roundtable PEACE - "Protecting art in times of armed conflict and emergency: an interdisciplinary perspective". Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies.

July 1, 2025: Paper presentation *"I am a bidūn woman": A Story of Those Who Do Not Belong* at the BRISMES Annual Conference 2025, Panel *Minorities, Loss, and State Violence in the MENA*, Conference Theme *Destruction, Loss, and Recovery in the Middle East*, University of Newcastle (UK).

June 24, 2025: Paper presentation *Stateless Activism in Kuwait: The Case of the "Bedoon Women" Community* at the 6e Congrès des Études sur le Moyen-Orient et les Mondes Musulmans (GIS MOMM), Panel *Citizenship(s) and Digital Cultures in the Gulf States*, University of Strasbourg (France).

May 22, 2025: Participation in the roundtable *ديناميات مكانية، والهويات المُسرّدة في الكويت: الأماكن التي تُقصي، وهوية الذين لا ينتمون* (*Dynamics of Place and Identity: Amman and Kuwait City*) jointly organized by the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies – Amman and the Institut français du Proche-Orient (IFPO), Amman.

May 20, 2025: Presentation at the seminar *Statelessness and Belonging in the Arab Region* at the Institut français du Proche-Orient (IFPO), Amman.

May 6, 2025: Panelist, "Diritti (negati) delle donne e costruzione narrativa dell'inclusione nella Amman mediterranea", University of Macerata – Study Day "Women and Girls: What Rights in Conflict & Post-Conflict Contexts in the Mediterranean Region?"

April 15, 2025: Presentation of the book *Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion* (Palgrave 2024) at the French Research Centre of the Arabian Peninsula - CEFREPA (Kuwait City)

April 1, 2025: Presentation of the book *Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion* (Palgrave 2024) at LUISS University (Rome).

March 31, 2025: Presentation of the book *Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion* (Palgrave 2024) at the University of Tor Vergata (Rome)

March 19, 2025: Presentation of the book *Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion* (Palgrave 2024) at the University of Macerata, Italy.

October 3 – 5, 2024: Panelist at the SeSaMO Congress "Crossing and Contaminations. Practices, languages, and politics in transit in the Middle East and North Africa", Cagliari (Italy). Panel "Turning water into politics: narratives, imaginaries and practices in the Middle East and North Africa". Paper presented: Amman, "City of Waters".

March 18 - 20, 2023: Participation at the Workshop on "Ethics of Social Research: Institutional Protocols and Practices" organized by the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS) in Amman (Jordan).

01/10/2022: Panelist at the Interdisciplinary Congress "Sustainable Humanities: humanities, social sciences and sustainability. Challenges and perspectives" at the University of Macerata (Italy). Panel: "Ecology and sustainability in Arabic poetry and fiction". Paper presented: "Elements of ecocriticism and literary ecology in Arà al-Maʿnà of Hisham Bustani".

21/09/2022: Panelist at the Social Sciences International Forum Insaniyyat (online). Panel: "How to face the socio-political crisis: reflections about Just Peace in the Arab cultural production". Paper to be presented: "A Thousand and One jordans. The story of Rafedìn".

10/07/2021: Panelist at the 26th IPSA World Congress of Political Science (online). Paper presented: "Drawing Borders in the Desert: The Case of Kuwait".

05/07/2021: Panelist at the BRISMES Conference 2021 (online). Paper Presented: "Interviewing Outside the 'Interview-Society'. Limits and Challenges of the Western Born Qualitative Approach".

15/06/2020: Pre-Summer Talks Webinar on Luiss Summer University programs: "The Covid-19 Emergency in the South Mediterranean and the Middle East".

04/05/2021: Presentation of the book Minorities and State-Building in the Middle East: The Case of Jordan with the editor Paolo Maggiolini and Laura Guazzone (Associate Professor of History of the Contemporary Arab World, Sapienza University of Rome), within the cycle of webinars "Jordan: Stories and Narratives Between Identity and Otherness" organized by Ada Barbaro (Senior

Researcher in Arabic Language and Modern and Contemporary Arabic Literature at Sapienza University of Rome).

13/07/2020: Lecture: "The Jordanian Neighbor, a Country Built on Migration Movement". Luiss Summer University "Euro-Mediterranean trends".

04/12/2019: Seminar "Perspectives on the New Centrality of The Mediterranean States, Actors and Geopolitical Drivers in a Changing Region" (Luiss University, Rome). Paper presented: "Mashreq Monarchies' role in MED".

17-21/06/2019: Summer School "Understanding the Middle East. Identity in the Middle East and North Africa: Actors, Strategies and Dynamics". University of Turin, Department of Culture, Politics and Society.

16/05/2019: Seminar "Cultures, languages, justice. A lexicon of Political Theory" (Luiss University, Rome). Paper presented: "Language and Change in the Arab Middle East. The Evolution of Modern Political Discourse".

21/06/2018: Panelist at the 2018 conference of the Association for Social and Political Philosophy (Rome). Paper presented: "Sovereignty and Legitimacy in the MENA Region: Between Kin, Religion and National Identity".

26/05/2015 – 30/05/2015: Istanbul Seminars 2015 "Philosophers Bridge the Bosphorus – Politics Beyond Borders" (Istanbul), organized by Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations in partnership with the Istanbul Bilgi University. Full scholarship awarded by Reset.

Outreach and Communication activities

07/10/2025: Contributor, ARCS Podcast "PASS – Peace, Community Assistance, Economic Development and Social Solidarity in Jordan" (2025). Provided contextual and analytical insights on community activism and Christian minorities in the Middle East for a documentary podcast produced by FADA Collective (Italy–Jordan–Lebanon).

11/03/2021: Talk on the Twitch channel "Tenet Project" http://www.twitch.tv/tenetproject. Title: "Middle East, Near East or Arab World?". In the "toolbox" section of the channel, every week the discussion focuses on different topics to provide the audience with the necessary information to better understand the challenges of our time.

05/01/2021: Lecture: "Ten Years On: The Impact of Arab Revolts on Migrations. The Case of Jordan". Workshop on Global Politics - Understanding Mediterranean politics. Luiss University.

26/10/2020: Filming of "Grammar Pills: Arabic", a cycle of Arabic Lessons to be broadcasted in the national public broadcasting company of Italy (RAI). The lessons are part of the project "La scuola in tivù" (School on TV).

https://www.raiplay.it/video/2020/12/Odetta-Pizzingrilli-Pillole-di-grammatica-araba-1-Il-nome--cf3f9314-67f4-47fa-823f-04d492566934.html?wt_mc=2.www.wzp.raiplay

20/02/2020: Presentation on "Economic Development, Poverty and Social Justice. The case of Syria, Jordan and Lebanon" to 200+ high school students as part of the awareness-raising project "Total Life", Avellino.

Other professional experiences

01/11/2016 – 30/06/2017: Intern at the Italian NGO AVSI. Head of Mission and Project Manager support in writing and monitoring projects; Arabic-English-Italian translations (Amman).

15/01/2015-30/06/2015: Paid Internship at the online magazine Arab Media Report (Rome).

Press review (Arabic, English, Italian); managing Newsletter, Website and social media accounts of the magazine.

01/07/2014 - 30/12/2014: Project officer at the Italian Council for Refugees (CIR), based in Rome.

Front-office services, linguistic mediation (Italian-Arabic/English), and active collaboration within the A.V.R. project (Assisted Voluntary Return).

01/12/2011 - 30/01/2012: Front officer at the commercial branch of the Italian Embassy in Kuwait (Kuwait City).

Linguistic mediation (Italian-Arabic/English), managing the work schedule of the Commercial Representative.

Arabic Language Courses (taken)

01/03/2023 – 01/04/2023 Ahlan Jordan Institute. Private lessons in Levantine Arabic (Amman).

01/11/2021 – 30/08/2022 Deewan Institute (Amman). Private lessons in Modern Standard Arabic and Levantine Arabic

01/11/2021 - 01/01/2022 Qasid Institute (Amman). Private lessons in Modern Standard Arabic; *Tağwīd* (pronunciation) course.

01/01/2019 – 14/03/2019 Qasid Institute (Amman). 3-month intensive course of Modern Standard Arabic; *Tağwīd* (pronunciation) course (01/01/2019-11/03/2019).

15/11/2016 – 15/06/2017 Ahlan Jordan Institute. Private lessons in Modern Standard Arabic and Levantine Arabic (Amman).

05-16/09/2016: University of Tor Vergata (Rome). Université de Tunis el Manar; Bourguiba School des Langues Vivantes (Tunis). Summer School in Arabic Language and Culture.

03/01/2010 – 28/01/2010: Kuwait University (Kuwait City). 9-month Arabic language course. (Full scholarship awarded by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

15/09/2011 – 23/05/2012: University of Damascus (Damascus). Modern Standard Arabic intensive course.

11/10/2009 – 10/01/2011: Linguistic Institute for non-Arabic speakers (Damascus). 3-month intensive course of Modern Standard Arabic. (Partial scholarship awarded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

06/08/2007 – 01/09/2007 : Institut Bourguiba des langues vivantes (Tunis). Modern Standard Arabic intensive course. (Partial scholarship awarded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Linguistic Skills

Mother tongue: Italian

Other Languages:

- English
- Arabic (Modern Standard Arabic), and Levantine Arabic

Other Skills

18/09/2003: Intermediate piano certificate (grade 5/6 in the ABRSM System) – State Conservatory "G. B. Pergolesi" (Fermo, Italy).

04/09/2000: Music Theory/ Solfege certificate (grade 5 in the ABRSM System) – Conservatory "L. D'Annunzio" (Pescara, Italy).

Year of Birth: 1986, Italy

Odetta Pizzingrilli

