

SIMONE PAPALE, PhD

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 - ORCID: 0000-0002-1026-6537
- Date of birth 23/5/1990; Nationality: Italian; Gender: Male, he/him

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CURRENT POSITION

- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Department of Law, Politics and International Studies, University of Parma, 2023 – ongoing
- **Adjunct Professor**, Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna, 2025 – 2026

PAST POSITIONS

- **Adjunct Professor**, Center for European Studies, Dickinson College, 2025 – 2026
- **Adjunct Professor**, Center for European Studies, Dickinson College, 2023 – 2024
- **Teaching Tutor**, Department of Social and Political Studies, University of Bologna, 2023 – 2024
- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Department of the Arts, University of Bologna, 2022 – 2023
- **Seminar Tutor**, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham, 2021 – 2022
- **Seminar Tutor**, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham, 2018 – 2019

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- **CIPFS Steering Committee Member**, Inter-university Research Center on the International Politics of Food Security (CIPFS), 2025 – ongoing.
<https://scienzepolitichesociali.dip.unipr.it/it/ricerca/gruppi-e-centri-di-ricerca/center-international-politics-food-security-cipfs>
- **FOSTER-Lab Team Member**, Food Security Team of Early-career Researchers (FOSTER), 2024 – ongoing. <https://www.cseia.unipr.it/it/foster/foster-lab-team/simone-papale/>
- **SUIT Associate Member**, Centre for the Study of Subversion, Unconventional Interventions and Terrorism (SUIT), University of Nottingham, 2022 – ongoing.
<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/suit/centre-members/associate-members.aspx>
- **SGRI Steering Committee Member**, Italian Standing Group of International Relations (Italian Political Science Association, SISP), 2024 – 2026

EDUCATION

- **Italian recognition of the PhD degree (equipollenza)**, with the conferment of the title of “Dottore di Ricerca in Studi Internazionali,” University of Trento, 2026
- **PhD in International Relations**, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham, 2021
 - *Tackling Terrorism in Africa: Post-9/11 US Security Policies and Radicalisation in Kenya*
 - Supervisors: Prof Andrew Mumford; Dr Louise Kettle
 - Examiners: Prof Lee Jarvis; Prof Wyn Rees.
 - Outcome: Passed with no corrections
- **MSc in International Relations**, University of Bologna, Italy, 2017. First-class honours (110/110 cum laude)
- **BA in Political Science**, University of Pisa (Italy), 2014. First-class honours (110/110 cum laude)

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, “Russia, Ukraine, and Food Warfare,” *International Affairs* 102, no. 1 (2026): 23-42. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iaaf230>
- Papale, Simone and Marco Solaroli, "Frames of conflict/conflict of frames: A frame analysis of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in Italian press and politics," *Media, War & Conflict* 19, no. 2 (2026): 419-437. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17506352251324622>
- Papale, Simone, "Changing Course? The US Biden Administration and the Promotion of Peace and Counter-terrorism in Africa," *International Peacekeeping* 23, no. 4 (2025): 892-917. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2025.2486255>
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, "Food, Terrorism, and the Boko Haram and Al-Shabaab Insurgencies," *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* (2025): 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2025.2457427>
- Papale, Simone and Marco Solaroli, “La guerra stampata,” in *ShoWar*, eds. Anna Maria Lorusso e Marco Santoro (Donzelli Editore, 2025), 21-37.
- Papale, Simone, "Tackling Terrorism in Africa: US Remote Interventionism and the Fight against Al-Qaeda and Al-Shabaab in Kenya," *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 18, no. 3 (2024): 306-325. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17502977.2023.2284655>
- Castelli, Emanuele and Simone Papale, "Two decades of SGRI: Italy and the evolution of IR scholarship in the twenty-first century," *Italian Political Science* 19, no. 1 (2024): 70-78. <https://doi.org/10.69101/IPS.2024.19.1.4>
- Papale, Simone, "The realpolitik of jihad: an anatomy of transnational Islamist terrorism in East Africa," *Security Journal* 36, no. 3 (2023): 459-471. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41284-022-00349-y>
- Papale, Simone, "Fuelling the fire: Al-Shabaab, counter-terrorism and radicalisation in Kenya," *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 15, no. 2 (2022): 356-380. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17539153.2021.2016091>
- Papale, Simone, "Framing frictions: frame analysis and Al-Shabaab’s mobilisation strategies in Kenya," *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 14, no. 1 (2021): 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17539153.2020.1855733>

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Papale, Simone, *Food Warfare* (Bloomsbury Publishing, final revision stage. Forthcoming in 2026).

COMMENTARIES AND POLICY PAPERS

- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, “Il cibo nei conflitti contemporanei,” *BLab Magazine*, n.2 2026. <https://bonassisa.it/blab-magazine/#2>
- Papale, Simone, “La guerra alimentare contro l'Ucraina non è un fronte secondario,” *Il Foglio*, March 4, 2026. <https://www.ilfoglio.it/esteri/2026/03/04/news/la-guerra-alimentare-contro-l-ucraina-non-e-un-fronte-secondario-8736109/>
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, “Fame di potere,” *Nigrizia*, July/August 2025. <https://www.nigrizia.it/notizia/fame-potere-boko-haram-nigeria-cibo-controllo>
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, “Terrorists use food as a weapon: how Boko Haram and Al-Shabaab exploit hunger,” *The Conversation*, May 18, 2025. <https://theconversation.com/terrorists-use-food-as-a-weapon-how-boko-haram-and-al-shabaab-exploit-hunger-256162>
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, “The Role of Food in Civil Conflicts,” *Food For Future*, 2025. <https://www.foodforfuture.unipr.it/news-en/the-role-of-food-in-civil-conflicts>
- Papale, Simone and Chiara Cervasio, “Ukraine, Remote Interventionism, and the Stability-Instability Paradox: The Need to Re-Prioritise Nuclear Risk Reduction,” *British American Security Information Council (BASIC)*, 2022. <https://basicint.org/ukraine-remote-interventionism-and-the-stability-instability-paradox-the-need-to-re-prioritise-nuclear-risk-reduction/>
- Papale, Simone, “Counter-terrorism and the fight against Al-Shabaab in East Africa: Time for a more targeted approach,” *Security Praxis*, 2022. <https://www.securitypraxis.eu/counter-terrorism-and-the-fight-against-al-shabaab-in-east-africa-time-for-a-more-targeted-approach/>
- Papale, Simone, “A major shift? Biden, Africa and (the stagnation of) the US security policy,” *Security Praxis*, 2022. <https://www.securitypraxis.eu/usa-biden-security-policy-africa/>

AWARDS

- **2024 – SGRI Best Paper Award**, Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI)
- **2022 – SPIR Best PhD thesis prize**, The University of Nottingham
- **2021 – Michael Cowan Scholarship**, The University of Nottingham
- **2020 – Founders Fund Award**, British International Studies Association (BISA)

RESEARCH GRANTS AND PROJECTS

- **2025 – ITALIM – “L’Italia e la Politica Internazionale della Sicurezza Alimentare,”** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), Contribution to projects of study, research, and analysis in the field of foreign policy and the promotion and development of international relations – EUR 16,000. Project member.
- **2024 – FOSTER – “Food Security Team of Early-career Researchers”**, EU Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence, University of Parma – EUR 100,000. Project member.

CONFERENCE PAPERS (SELECTED)

- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Water as a Weapon in the Siege of Gaza,' Food Security in International and European Affairs, University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, 25 June 2026.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'The Military Use of Water in Israel's Siege of Gaza: Towards a Typology,' Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Palermo, 17–19 June 2026.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Food Warfare in the War in Ukraine,' Food Security and Political Power in and beyond the MENA Region, University of Naples "l'Orientale," 12 May 2026.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Russia, Ukraine, and Food Warfare,' Food Security and Global Politics: New Avenues of Research, John Cabot University, Rome, 20 April 2026.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Interstate Conflict and Food Warfare: Evidence from the Russian Invasion of Ukraine,' Italian Political Science Association (SISP) 38th Annual Conference, University of Naples, 4 – 6 September 2025.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Understanding food warfare in Ukraine,' British International Studies Association (BISA), Belfast, 18 – 20 June 2025.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Exploring food warfare in Russia's war on Ukraine,' Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, Catholic University of Milan, 12 – 13 June 2025.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'Weaponizing basic resources: Food and security in contemporary terrorist insurgencies,' Italian Political Science Association (SISP) 37th Annual Conference, University of Trieste, 12 – 14 September 2024.
- Papale, Simone and Emanuele Castelli, 'The Use of Food by Terrorist Groups: Evidences from sub-Saharan Africa,' Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Parma, 20 – 21 June 2024.
- Papale, Simone, 'The Biden administration, democracy promotion and the war on terror in the African continent,' Italian Political Science Association (SISP) 36th Annual Conference, University of Genoa, 14 – 16 September 2023.
- Papale, Simone, 'Remote interventionism, US security policies and the fight against terrorism in Kenya,' Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Catania, 15 – 16 June 2023.
- Papale, Simone, 'Securing the Country: Kenyan Counter-Terrorism Efforts in the Fight against Al-Shabaab,' Italian Political Science Association (SISP) 35th Annual Conference, Democracy and Its Enemies. Sapienza University of Rome, 8 – 10 September 2022.
- Papale, Simone, 'Fuelling the Fire: Al-Shabaab, Counter-Terrorism and Radicalisation in Kenya,' British International Studies Association (BISA) Postgraduate Network. Internalities: political action and conflict within state boundaries (online). 12 May 2021.
- Papale, Simone, 'Narratives of Conflict and Identity: Al-Shabaab's Mobilisation Strategies and Counter-terrorism in Kenya,' European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference (online). 24 – 28 Aug 2020.
- Papale, Simone, 'Framing frictions: Al-Shabaab's propaganda and recruitment in Kenya,' New Perspectives on Non-State Political Violence (NPPV), Queen's University, Belfast. 22 – 23 Nov 2019.
- Papale, Simone, 'Increasing security? US post-9/11 policies and radicalization in Kenya,' African Studies Association of the UK (ASAU), biennial conference, University of Birmingham. 11 – 13 Sept 2018.

- Papale, Simone, 'The Price of Stability: Post-9/11 Aid Policies and the Puzzle of Radicalisation in Kenya,' Association for African Studies in Italy (ASAI), biennial conference, Plural Africa. Politics, knowledge and social dynamics in time and space. University of Bologna. 5 – 7 Sept 2018.
- Papale, Simone, 'Understanding the Effects of Donors' Security Policies: Political Violence and Radicalization in Kenya,' Graduate Conference on Terrorism and Political Violence, Contemporary Issues in Terrorism Studies, The Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV), University of St Andrews, Scotland. 1 – 2 March 2018.

PANEL CHAIRING AND DISCUSSANT ACTIVITIES

- Panel chair – “Contemporary Warfare and the Changing Character of Conflict: Actors, Spaces, and Resources,” (with Martino Tognocchi), Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, Catholic University of Milan, 12 – 13 June 2025.
- Panel discussant – “Insurgencies and Terrorism,” Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Catania, 15 – 16 June 2023.
- Panel chair – “Contemporary Challenges for Peace and Security in Africa: Exploring Emerging Perspectives,” (with Clara della Valle), Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Catania, 15 – 16 June 2023.
- Panel chair – “Africa, security and the war on terror: Exploring new challenges and opportunities,” (with Edoardo Baldaro), Italian Political Science Association (SISP) 35th Annual Conference, Democracy and Its Enemies. Sapienza University of Rome, 8 – 10 September 2022

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

- “Food Security in International and European Affairs,” University College Dublin (UCD) and FOSTER – “Food Security Team of Early-career Researchers,” University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, 25 June 2026.
- Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, Catholic University of Milan, 12 – 13 June 2025. Member of the SGRI Steering Committee, involved in conference organisation.
- Italian Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) conference, University of Parma, 20 – 21 June 2024. Member of the SGRI Steering Committee and part of the local organising team at the host institution.

REVIEWER ACTIVITIES (SELECTED)

European Journal of International Security; Terrorism and Political Violence; Critical Studies on Terrorism; African Affairs; Security Journal; Media, War & Conflict

RESEARCH EXPERTISE

- Contemporary warfare

- Counter-terrorism
- Food security
- International relations
- European security
- Framing processes

TEACHING

COURSES

- **Food Security in International Politics** (course leader) – University of Bologna, 2025 – 2026 (20 hours). GSPS-02/A
- **European Security** (course leader) – Dickinson College, Bologna, 2025 – 2026 (35 hours). Field equivalent to GSPS-02/A (Political Science / International Relations)
- **European Security** (course leader) – Dickinson College, Bologna, 2023 – 2024 (70 hours, two semesters). Field equivalent to GSPS-02/A (Political Science / International Relations)
- **International Relations** (teaching tutor) – University of Bologna, 2023 – 2024 (10 hours). GSPS-02/A
- **Politics at University** (seminar tutor, marking and assessment) – University of Nottingham, 2021 – 2022. Field equivalent to GSPS-02/A (Political Science / International Relations)
- **Understanding Global Politics** (seminar tutor) – University of Nottingham, 2018 – 2019 (33 hours). Field equivalent to GSPS-02/A (Political Science / International Relations)

INTIVED LESSONS

- **Food weaponization, peace and justice.** Summer School “Contemporary security and sustainability challenges in the international and EU legal framework: A focus on climate change and food,” Department of Law, Politics and International Studies, University of Parma, 25 May – 23 June 2026.
- **Food as a weapon of war.** EPOS seminar on International Affairs, University of Bologna. May 27, 2026.
- **Food warfare in the ancient world.** Dickinson College, Bologna, February 24, 2026.
- **The EU and global security.** Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) “The Value(s) of the European Union,” EU Green Alliance, November 26, 2025.
- **International relations and food security.** Summer School “Towards the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,” Department of Law, Politics and International Studies, University of Parma, May 25 – June 21 2024.
- **Media and representation of violence.** Seminar lesson, Department of the Arts, University of Bologna, April 18, 2023.
- **War, frames and media.** Winter School “Exploring the Media and Politics Landscape in Europe, East Asia and the US”, Department of the Arts, University of Bologna, 9 – 14 March 2023.
- **Jihadist insurgencies and governance in Africa.** Seasonal School “African Perspectives: Change, Conflicts, Connections”, Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, 7 – 11 March 2022.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

- Co-Supervision of Master's Thesis (correlatore) – “Governing hunger: food as biopolitical power in Gaza and Palestinian women's gendered resistance,” Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna, 2026 – 2027.
- Co-Supervision of Master's Thesis (correlatore) – “Food as a Weapon in Gaza,” Department of Law, Politics and International Studies, University of Parma, 2025 – 2026.
- Co-Supervision of Master's Thesis (correlatore) – “Al-Shabaab and Food Security in Somalia,” Department of Law, Politics and International Studies, University of Parma, 2024 – 2025.

MENTORSHIP ACTIVITIES

- Mentor – “International Studies PhD Workshop,” Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI), University of Milan, 11 June 2025.
- Mentor – “International Studies PhD Workshop,” Standing Group of International Relations (SGRI) and European Consortium on Political Research (ECPR), University of Parma, 19 June 2024.

TEACHING AND PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Teaching and pedagogical training undertaken during the PhD at the University of Nottingham. Included short courses on teaching methodologies, lesson planning, seminar delivery, student assessment and feedback, and strategies for active student engagement.

- A Practical Look at Core Teaching Skills. University of Nottingham, 2017/2018
- Inspirational Teaching. University of Nottingham, 2017/2018
- Marking and Assessment (Arts & Social Sciences). University of Nottingham, 2017/2018
- Small Group Teaching. University of Nottingham, 2017/2018
- What the Best Teachers Do. University of Nottingham, 2017/2018.

REFERENCES

- Prof Emanuele Castelli, University of Parma
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- Prof Andrew Mumford; University of Nottingham
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Nottingham, UK
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LANGUAGES

-
- Italian (mother tongue)
 - English (excellent, C2)
 - Spanish (very good, B2)