

Country of origin: Italy.

Previous degree: BA in Political Science and International Relations (University of Pavia).

Occupation: researcher; scientific coordinator for conferences and seminars at the Collegio Fratelli Cairoli (Pavia); studying for the public exam to enter into the Italian diplomatic corps (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);

**a) Why exactly did you choose to study “World Politics and International Relations” at the University of Pavia?**

I attended my Bachelor's in Pavia and I fell in love with the city thanks to its chill yet international vibe. Pavia is tiny yet vibrant as it is packed with Italian and international students; also, it is extremely close to Milan (less than 45 minutes by train), where you can get pretty much anything you can imagine in terms of entertainment, services, etc. I was obviously very happy about the University as well. The WPIR program was extremely interesting to me for several reasons. The most prominent ones were:

- its international focus and high percentage of foreign students;
- the writing and research-oriented focus, with 2-3 papers to be written each semester;
- the didactical methods, with plenty of group works, projects and similar activities;
- the subjects treated;
- the fact that this master's program was entirely taught in English.

**b) What skills did you gain from the program that you utilize in your current profession?**

As previously mentioned, I learned how to properly conduct research, and perfected my academic writing proficiency in English and French. This enabled me to publish English-language articles on peer-reviewed academic journals. Moreover, this masters program was a solid knowledge base to me and helped me studying for the exam I am planning to take.

**c) Did your initial career plans change during your studies?**

Not much. My main goal is still to pass the public exam and become a diplomat working for the Italian MFA. The WPIR program definitely helped me in developing skills that are useful to pursue this ambitious goal; the program also played a key role in my search for some side activities to engage with while studying for this exam.

**d) Why were you interested in International Relations in the first place?**

I have always been passionate about international subjects, especially in a comparative perspective, and this is one of the main reasons why I chose to enrol at this program.

**e) What do you remember the best from your studies? Particular subject or a conference?**

In general, I have very nice and pleasant memories from my university years, especially the ones spent attending WPIR courses and lectures. A meeting with Italian diplomat Mattia Lupini back in 2019 was very helpful to me and gave me more determined in pursuing my goal. Other very interesting lectures were held by prominent international figures such as Mr.

Staffan De Mistura (diplomat, Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, and UN official) or Mr. Fausto Pocar (ICJ Judge).

**f) What kind of career opportunities are available to graduates of this program?**

There is a wide set of possibilities, but perhaps the most obvious and natural are:

- academic field: research and related activities;
  - private corporations (consulting firms, enterprises, etc.);
  - journalism (international affairs and politics-related topics);
- many of my classmates pursued other paths though, so this list is by no means exhaustive.

**g) Name three things that you find the most important to get the most out of studying on this faculty.**

- Enjoy the outstanding multicultural environment of the program, with students from all over the world;
- Take written assignments and project works seriously;
- Enjoy at least one traineeship opportunity or spend one or more semesters studying abroad.