

Curriculum Vitae
Professor Ilenia Ruggiu
University of Cagliari
2025

Contact

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Present Positions

Full Professor of Constitutional Law. Department of Law, University of Cagliari (since December 29th 2016).

Vice-Rector for Management of Administrative Procedures, University of Cagliari (since May 2021 until May 2027)

Education

- Feb 2004: PhD in Constitutional and European Law, University of Palermo, Italy
Final Evaluation: summa cum laude
- Jun 1998: Laurea Degree (BSc). Law, University of Cagliari, Italy
Final Mark: 110/110 cum laude.
- Jul 1993: Classic High School Degree, Liceo G.M. Dettori, Cagliari, Italy.
Final Mark: 58/60

Publications in English

Books:

1. Ruggiu I. (2025). *The Roots of Patriarchy. A Legal and Genealogical Approach*, London: Routledge
2. Ruggiu I. (2019). *Culture and the Judiciary: The Anthropologist Judge*, London: Routledge.
3. I. Spigno, I. Ruggiu, L. Efren Rios Vega, (Editors), *Justice and culture. Theory and practice concerning the use of culture in courtrooms* Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, pp.11-17.

Articles:

4. Ruggiu, Ilenia and Harika Dauth (2020) *A Legal and Anthropological Analysis of the Cultural Defense Concerning Fathers who Kissed and Touched Their Sons' Genitals: Sexual Abuse or "Homage to the Penis of the Child"?* in I. Spigno, I. Ruggiu, L. Efren Rios Vega, (a cura di), *Justice and culture. Theory and practice concerning the use of culture in courtrooms* Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, pp. 99-144.
5. Ruggiu, Ilenia and Irene Spigno (2020), Introduction, in I. Spigno, I. Ruggiu, L. Efren Rios Vega, (a cura di), *Justice and culture. Theory and practice concerning the use of culture in courtrooms* Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, pp.11-17.

6. Ruggiu, Ilenia (2020) *Judges and Cultural Disputes: How to Introduce Anthropological Knowledge into the Trial*, in *Studi economico-giuridici, Annali del Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza dell'Università di Cagliari*, ESI, Napoli, pp. 669-683.
7. Ruggiu I. (2019). *The “Cultural Test” as Cultural Expertise: Evolution of a Legal–Anthropological Tool for Judges*, in *Laws*, Special Issue: "Cultural Expertise in Europe: An Emergent Concept and Evolving Practices" (ed. Dr. Livia Holden), 1-15
8. Ruggiu I. (2016). “Interpreting Culture in Italian Courts: A Proposal of a ‘Cultural Test’” *The Law & Ethics of Human Rights*, Volume 10, Issue 2, pp. 425–452.
9. Ruggiu I. (2016). “Is Begging a Roma Cultural Practice? Answers from the Italian Law and Anthropology”. *Romani Studies*, Vol. 26, No. 1, pp. 31–61.
10. Ruggiu I. (2015). “From Culture to Patriarchy: Recent Changes in Judicial Reasoning and in Normative Classifications of Multicultural Conflicts”. E. Olivito, (ed.), *Gender and Migration in Italy. A Multilayered Perspective*, London: Ashgate, pp. 161-176.
11. Ruggiu I. (2014). “The Scottish Referendum: the View from Italy and Sardinia”. *Scottish Affairs* 23.3, p. 407–414.
12. Ruggiu I. (2013). “The Crucifix and the Margin of Appreciation”. G. Repetto (ed.), *The Constitutional Relevance of the ECHR in Domestic and European Law*, Cambridge: Intersentia, pp. 149-158.
13. Ruggiu I. (2012). “Building Subnational Constitutionalism Through Identity Narratives. The Case of Spain”. *Perspectives on Federalism*, vol. 4, p. 15-42.
14. Ruggiu I. (2010). “Diversity as a public good? Cultural identity in legal narratives”. S. Niccolai, I. Ruggiu (eds.), *Dignity in Change. Exploring the Constitutional Potential of EU Gender and Anti-Discrimination Law*. Lamporecchio (FI): European Press Academic Publishing, pp. 152-186,

Other publications: 2 books in Italian, 90 articles and essays in Italian

Funded projects

- 30 December 2020-30 December 2022: Coordinator of the research project l.r. 7/2007 – Tender 2020 “Autonomy of the Region and local authorities: from the system of competences to the results of administrative action. A theoretical-empirical-evaluative analysis”; amount 150,000 euros at the Department of Law of the University of Cagliari:

- January 2022 - September 2023: Component of the research project "Smart Justice: tools and models to optimize the work of judges". Acronym JustSmart PON "Unified project for the diffusion of the Office for the Trial and the implementation of innovative operational models in the Judicial Offices for speed-up justice"

European Coordinator of the Horizon 2020 project CLISEL, “Climate security with local authorities. From insecurity takers to security makers: mobilizing local authorities to secure the EU against the impacts of climate change in third world countries” (2016-2019) Amount 1.800.000 euros

Italian national project “Smart Justice: models and tools to optimize the workload of the Judiciary”/JustSmart coordinator of the Action: “Guidebook on cultural diversity for the Judiciary”
Period: 1 Jan. 2022 - 31 Sept. 2023
Amount: 1.100.000 euros

Coordinator of the Tender EU project 2020/lr. 7/2007 “Autonomy of the (Sardinia) Region and Local governments: from the system of competences to the administrative action: a theoretical/empirical assessment”; at Department of Law, University Cagliari
Period: 30th Dec. 2020-30 Dec. 2022
Amount: 150.000 euros

Expert member in the project: Between constitutional and national identity: the Belgian case as a testing ground for the role of collective identity in European law
Funder: FWO - Research Foundation Flanders
Project number: G0D4520N
Supervisor: Prof. dr. Raf Geenens (Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven), Co-supervisor: Prof. dr. Stefan Sottiaux (Faculty of Law, KU Leuven)
Period: 1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2023
Amount: 453.050 euro
Type of project: Senior Research Project
Host university: KU Leuven (University of Leuven, Belgium)

Coordinator of the Italian team of the CURED (Cultural and religious diversity) project at Max Planck Institute for Social anthropology, Halle, coordinated by Prof. Marie-Claire Foblets

Visiting Scholar Experiences

- 2024 26 October-3 December visiting professor at the Academia interamericana de derechos humanos, Universidad de Cohauila, Messico, Project *Female religiosity in Mexico*
- 2024 2nd May-31st May Honorary senior research fellow, University of Liverpool, project: *Immigration, asylum and cultural diversity in the UK. A comparison with Italy*
- 2019 October-2020 October (1 sabbatical year) Visiting scholar at Doshisha University, Kyoto (sponsor prof. Yuki Asano), project: “*Patriarchy. Ontology, Genealogy and Phenomenology of a Key-Feminist Concept*”
- 2015, April-May and August: University of California, Berkeley (sponsor prof. Sarah Song), project: “*Patriarchy and the Law*”
- 2013, May: John Marshall Law School, Chicago, (sponsor prof. Paul Lewis), project: “*The UN Resolution on Female Genital Mutilations enacted the 20th December 2012*”
- 2012, May: University of Southern California, Los Angeles (sponsor prof. Alison Dundes Renteln), Project: “*The religious test and the cultural test in US jurisprudence*”
- 2011, May: Department of Political Science, University of Victoria, Canada, (sponsor prof. Avigail Eisenberg) Project: “*The distinctive cultural test in Canada Supreme Court*”
- 2010, March-May: School of Law, Georgetown University, Washington DC, U.S.A., Project “*Cultural defense in U.S. Courts?*”
- 2009, April-May: Institute of Governance, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh, UK, project “*Cultural identity in constitutional law. A comparison between Sardinia and Scotland?*”;
- 2008, March-May: Department of Political Sciences, University of Victoria, Canada, project “*Cultural*

identity in constitutional law. Multiculturalism in Canada with special regards to native people”;

- 2007, May: School of Law, University of Seville, Spain, (sponsor prof. Javier Perez Royo) project “*Cultural identity in constitutional law. The case of Spain*”;
- 2006, September: School of Law, University of Barcelona, Spain, project “*The new Catalan Statute. Identity, rights, and competences*”;
- 2006, March-May: School of Law, University of Glasgow, UK, (grant of the Royal society of Edinburgh) project “*The principle of loyal cooperation in EU*”;
- 2005, August: Department of Political Science, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada (grant of the Canadian Government) project “*The Canadian federalism*”;
- 2004, April-May: School of Law, University of Glasgow, UK; project: “*The Scottish devolution*”;
- 2003, August: School of Law, University of Seville, Spain; project “*The Spanish regions and the EU*”;
- 2003, May: King’s College, University of London, UK; project “*Regions and the European Union*”;
- 2002, July-August: School of Law, University of Glasgow, UK, project: “*The Scottish devolution*”;
- 2001, July-August: School of Law, University of Seville, Spain (grant of the Italian Foreign Minister); project “*The Spanish regions and the EU*”;

Teaching Experiences

- Currently: Fundamental rights (48 hours) and Constitutional Law (12 hours) at the School of Law, Undergraduate, University of Cagliari;
- 2008-2023: Constitutional law; Regional law; Intercultural law, Undergraduate, University of Cagliari, Italy;
- 2007/08, 2009/10: Local government, Undergraduate. University of Cagliari;
- 2007/08: Theory of federalism, Master level, University of Seville, Spain;
- 2008/09: Human rights, Master level, University of Seville;
- 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10: Regional law, Master level, University of Cagliari;
- 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09: Constitutional jurisprudence, Graduate school for legal professions, Graduate, University of Cagliari;
- 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07: Public Law, Graduate school for diploma professors, Graduate University of Cagliari;
- 2003/04: Law and Cinema, Undergraduate, University of Cagliari,

Training experience with judges

2021, 18-19 November, European Judicial Training Network in collaboration with the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology-Halle “*Cultural diversity in the courtroom. Judges in Europe facing new challenges*”; teaching in the workshop on *Criminal law and multiculturalism* (participants: 40 Judges from the 27 EU states)

2019, 13-15 March, Italian Superior School of the Judiciary-Scuola Superiore di Magistratura, Training course for judges “Criminal law and multiculturalism” lecture on: “The cultural test. Theory and practice” (participants 100 Italian judges)

2018, 14-16 March, Italian Superior School of the Judiciary-Scuola Superiore di Magistratura, Training course for judges “Criminal law and multiculturalism” lecture on: “The anthropologist judge: possibilities e limits of a *culture sensitive* interpretation of the law” (participants 100 Italian judges)

Presentations at Conferences and Seminars (latest)

- 2024, 8 November, *El patriarcado como sistema normativo*, Academia interamericana de derechos humanos, Universidad de Coahuila, Mexico

- 2023, 6 November, *Translating cultural practices for judges. Decolonizing the language of the Law*, Università cattolica of Brasilia (online)
- 2023 11-13 October, *Interpretation, translation and confusion in refugee status determination procedures*, discussant of Anthony Good (University of Edinburgh), at the Max Planck Institute for Social anthropology Halle Annual Meeting ‘Translation and the quest for justice in plural societies: A complex and challenging exercise’
- 2023, 27 June, Security and religious rights for migrants, Università di Foggia, *Religion and Comprehensive Security. Final Meeting Re.Co.Se.*
- 2021, 28 April, Universidad Católica de Brasilia (Brasil) Special lecture on *Topoi, the European Multicultural Jurisprudence*
- 2021, 22 March, Book launch *Culture and the Judiciary: the Anthropologist Judge* (author Ilenia Ruggiu) with Guilherme Borges, Giacinto Bisogni, Prakash Shah; Plurilegal Webinars Series (Queen Mary University, London)
- 2021, 15 February, Book launch *Justice and Culture Theory and practice concerning the use of culture in courtrooms*, (Luis Efrén; I. Spigno; I. Ruggiu Eds), with Carlos Gomez, Alison Dundes Renteln, Avigail Eisenberg, Lucia Bellucci, Clara Rigoni; Plurilegal Webinars Series (Queen Mary University, London)
- 2021, 3-5 February 2021, Observatorio Internacional de Derechos Humanos organizado por la Academia Interamericana de Derechos Humanos de la Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila-Mexico, *Ruth Bader Ginsburg: La Voz de la Justicia*, paper on *Miller v. Albright [523 U.S. 420 (1998)] (Dissenting)*
- 2020, 30 November, Academia Interamericana de Derechos Humanos de la Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila-Mexico, book launch "*La crisi dei diritti umani. La visione della giustizia regionale*" Ríos Vega, Luis Efrén; Spigno, Irene (Eds), Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, 2020
- 2020, 26 November, Universidad Católica de Brasilia (Brasil) Special lecture on *Cultural Rights and Multicultural Justice. Balancing Tools for Judges*
- 2019, 20 December, Nagoya University, Japan, Special lecture on *Multicultural Justice: balancing cultural rights with human rights.*
- 2019, 29 November, Hiroshima University, Japan, book launch *Culture and Judiciary: The anthropologist judge* (author Ilenia Ruggiu) with Yuki Asano, Dau Yokomizo, Shiho Kato and Fumihiko Ishiyama
- 2019, 3 May, Università di Trento book launch Ruggiu I. (Routledge 2019). *Culture and the Judiciary. The Anthropologist Judge*, with Livia Holden, Roberto Toniatti and Arun Thiruvengadam

Past Positions

2011-2016 Associate Professor of Constitutional Law. Department of Jurisprudence, University of Cagliari.

2002-2011 Lecturer in Constitutional Law. Department of Jurisprudence, University of Cagliari.

2015-2016 Director of the LLM “Multilevel Governance”, University of Cagliari

Research Interests

Legal Pluralism; Legal Anthropology; Patriarchy; Women and religion; Multiculturalism; Cultural defence; Cultural Rights; Climate change and migration; comparison and interdisciplinarity in the law; Federalism, devolution, regionalism; Sardinian identity.

Languages

English, advanced

Spanish, advanced

Italian, mother tongue

Sardinian, advanced