

# Sara de Simone

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University of Trento  
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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

September 2024 – ongoing – Assistant Professor in African Studies, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento

March 2024 – August 2024 – Postdoctoral researcher, DIRPOLIS Institute, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

February – March 2024 – Research assistant, School of International Studies, University of Trento

April 2020- October 2023 – Postdoctoral researcher, School of International Studies, University of Trento

January 2020- January 2021 – Research assistant, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento

December 2019 – Research assistant, School of International Studies, University of Trento

June 2017- November 2019 – Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento.

## EDUCATION

2016 – PhD in African Studies, University of Naples L'Orientale, *cotutelle* with the Doctoral School in Political Sciences of the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris (France)

2011 – Master degree in Development Studies, University of Naples L'Orientale, Naples (Italy), 110L/110. Erasmus at University of Paris 7 Denis Diderot, Paris (France).

2008 - Bachelor degree in International Relations, University of Naples L'Orientale, Naples (Italy), 110L/110.

## MAJOR TEACHING ACTIVITIES

2024-2025 – African history and institutions (Bachelor degree course, 8 cfu)

2024-2025 – African Agency in the International System (Master degree course, 6 cfu)

2017-2022 Short courses (Seminari di credito), Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento ("At the origins of migrations: understanding conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa", 2 cfu; "Understanding Sub-Saharan Africa between migrations and International Relations", 2 cfu; "Africa today: state, economy and society between migrations and International Relations", 3 cfu; "Africa in the International System", 2

cfu)

2020-2021 – Adjunct professor of African Studies, University of Naples L'Orientale.

Title of course: "Africa in the International System" (L'Africa nel sistema internazionale), (48h, 8 cfu)

#### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Consultancies – with international NGOs and development agencies

#### OTHER POSTS AND SERVICES

July 2023-June 2024 – Research consultant for the European Union Delegation in Eritrea.

2012-2021 – Member of the Board of Directors of the Italian NGO Mani Tese (Chairperson from 2018 to 2021)

2017 – Research Consultant for Italian NGO Mani Tese on the topic: Environmental Justice

2016 – Research Consultant for Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), South Sudan on the topic: Strengthening Local Governance and Resilience in South Sudan

January-December 2013 – Consultant for Italian NGO Mani Tese, South Sudan on the topic: Empowering local NGOs in South Sudan; Participatory needs assessments in Nyal (South Sudan) in partnership with German NGO Sign of Hope.

February-May 2012 – Consultant for Italian NGO Mani Tese, South Sudan on the topic: "Grabbing Development - towards new models of north/south relations for a fair exploitation of natural resources"

September-December 2011 – Junior Consultant for Finnish NGO Finn Church Aid, Sierra Leone and Liberia on the topic: Mid-term evaluation of West Africa Programme.

#### CAREER BREAKS

March – August 2019 – maternity leave

June – December 2021 – maternity leave

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2022 – National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in the 14/B2 sector – History of International Relations, Extraeuropean Societies and Institutions (Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale alle funzioni di professore universitario di Seconda Fascia nel Settore Concorsuale 14/B2 – Storia delle Relazioni Internazionali, delle Società e delle Istituzioni Extraeuropee).

2019 – Starting grant for young researchers from the University of Trento (11.600)

€)

2017 – Gerda Henkel Foundation Postdoctoral research scholarship (48.789 €)

2010 –Angelo Frammartino Foundation, research scholarship for Master students (3000 €)

## **VISITING**

February-March 2023 – Institute of Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia)

November 2017- November 2018 – Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR), Makerere University, Kampala (Uganda)

2014-2015 – Centre Européen de Sociologie et Science Politique, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France), in the framework of the doctoral *cotutelle*.

October-December 2013 – College of Social and Economic Studies, University of Juba (South Sudan)

Field research in  
Africa

May; October 2024 – Cote d’Ivoire

January – February 2023 – Ethiopia

January – March 2018 – Uganda

November – December 2017 – Uganda

April – May 2016 – South Sudan

January – March/October – December 2013 – South Sudan

February – April 2012 – South Sudan

November – December 2011 – Sierra Leone and Liberia

October – December 2010 – South Sudan

## **PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS**

2023-2024 - Advancing Climate Resilience and Enhancing Security in West Africa (ACRES-WA), funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in the framework of “Decreto Missioni” (Principal Investigators prof. Francesco Strazzari and prof. Mario Enrico Pè), as a postdoctoral researcher at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies

2020 – 2023 – PRIN (National Research Project) “Inventing the Global Environment: Science, Politics, Advocacy and the Environment-Development Nexus in the Cold War and Beyond” (Principal Investigation Prof.ssa Sara Lorenzini) as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Trento.

2013-2016 – PRIN (National Research Project) “Stato Pluralità e Cambiamento in Africa” (Principal Investigator Prof. Pierluigi Valsecchi), as a doctoral student at the University of Naples L’Orientale.

## **REFEREE ACTIVITY**

Conflict Security and Development; Afriche e Orienti; Nuovi Autoritarismi e Democrazie (NAD); Global Environment; Peacebuilding; Journal of Eastern African

Evaluator	<p>Studies; Italian Political Science Review; IOB bulletin; Nordic Journal of African Studies; Rights and Resources Initiative, Journal of Peacebuilding and Development.</p> <p>Swedish Development Agency (SIDA): Referee for evaluation of SIDA's work in South Sudan and Zambia (2023-2024).</p> <p>National Science Foundation (USA): Review of project proposal "'We are Not at War, but We are Not at Peace': Forging the Future Through Financial Infrastructure in Post-Conflict Bentiu and Malakal, South Sudan" (September 2022).</p>
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**EDITORIAL  
ACTIVITIES**

Member of the editorial committee for the Italian Review of International History since 2024

Member of the editorial committee for Afriche e Orienti since 2024.

**MEMBERSHIP  
IN SCIENTIFIC  
SOCIETIES**

Since 2016 – Italian Association for African Studies  
 Since 2021 – Italian Society of International History

**SPOKEN  
LANGUAGES**

<b>Italian:</b>	Mother tongue	<b>English:</b>	Fluent
<b>French:</b>	Fluent	<b>Spanish:</b>	Basic

Trento, 20/02/2025

*Acconsento al trattamento dei miei dati personali ai sensi del Regolamento UE n.679/2016 e del Dlgs 2003 n. 196 e successive modificazioni.*