



## ● WORK EXPERIENCE

**FREELANCE** – UDINE, ITALY

**POLITICAL/POLICY CONSULTANT** – 01/10/2024 – CURRENT

Consultancy assignments for various organisations/institutions on political issues relating to Sudan and South Sudan and the wider region.

**UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA OFFICE** – NAIROBI, KENYA

**SENIOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS OFFICER** – 11/12/2023 – 26/04/2024

Short term consultancy, seconded by NorCap/Norwegian Refugee Council, to work mostly on Sudan and South Sudan national and regional developments, in particular for what regards the international dynamics around and response to conflict in Sudan and preparations for elections in South Sudan. A particular attention to the developments in the contested region of Abyei and to Sudan-South Sudan bilateral interlinkages, both as regards political and military leaderships at the centre and economic, political and security related issues in the border areas. Very close cooperation with UN missions in South Sudan, Abyei and Sudan, with the SG personal envoy for Sudan, with the African Union and IGAD, as well as with other regional countries and main partners governments/leaderships.

**FREELANCE** – NAIROBI, KENYA

**POLITICAL/POLICY CONSULTANT** – 01/12/2022 – 30/11/2023

Consultancy assignments for various organisations (UN Mission in Sudan, UNITAMS; Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, CHD; Promediation) on political issues in Sudan and South Sudan and the wider region.

**EUROPEAN UNION** – NAIROBI, KENYA

**POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA** – 01/03/2021 – 31/08/2022

After moving to Kenya, I have slightly changed my file portfolio: I have continued to be in charge of the South Sudan file, as well as of the Sudan one in particular for what regards the implementation of the Juba Peace Agreement, the political dialogue which followed October 25 coup and the close coordination with the Troika (US, UK and Norway) Special Envoys and with UNITAMS and other partners, both for the Juba peace process (until it got stalled) and the Friends of Sudan coordination. In addition to these two main files, I have also kept abreast with developments in Kenya and Uganda, in particular for what regards the respective governments regional engagements/policies.

**ITALY'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS/EUROPEAN UNION** – ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

**POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA** – 01/11/2016 – 28/02/2021

In charge of both regional (Ethiopia's regional politics, Nile hydro-politics, political and peace&security regional dynamics) and country specific files (South Sudan and Sudan peace processes), my duties included the close engagement with Ethiopian, Sudanese, South Sudanese interlocutors, both in government and oppositions and civil society, as well as with other regional countries, with IGAD, AU and UN (Special Envoy to Sudan and South Sudan, UNMISS and later UNITAMS), with the main international partners and with other stakeholders.

I observed and represented the EUSR at the Juba peace process for Sudan, in person from Sept 2019 to the beginning of Covid19 pandemic, and then from remote. I continued to engage with JPA signatories after the agreement was signed.

Head of office, which I opened after closing the Juba one. I supervised the work of two staff and coordinated with the other team offices in Nairobi, Khartoum and Brussels.

**ITALY'S MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS/EUROPEAN UNION** – JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

**POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA** – 01/11/2013 – 31/10/2016

On the political side, I established and kept close contact and cooperation with local political interlocutors, both in government and in opposition, among civil society organisations and international organisations present in South Sudan. I advised the Special Representative on political matters, representing him locally.

I actively observed the IGAD-led peace process for South Sudan (Jan 2014-Aug 2015 and aftermaths). This involved continuous engagement with the South Sudanese parties, with the IGAD mediation and other international partners both at the peace talks in Addis Ababa and on the ground, in South Sudan. I also observed the Arusha-based SPLM reunification process, led by Tanzania's CCM.

Finally, I was involved in the observation to and engagement with the AU HIP-led intra-Sudanese talks and the process between Sudan and South Sudan.

On the administrative side, I ran the EUSR Juba office, taking care of some of the administrative tasks directly.

 **ITALY'S MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS/EUROPEAN UNION** – JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

**POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN** –

01/12/2012 – 31/10/2013

As head of the South Sudan's office, I established and kept close contact and cooperation with local political interlocutors, both in government and outside, among civil society organisations and international organisations present in South Sudan. I advised the Special Representative on political matters, broadly intended, representing her in my dealings with South Sudanese authorities. More specifically, I followed Sudan-South Sudan relations from a Juba perspective and the political developments, at cabinet and state levels as well as in the internal dynamics of the governing party, the SPLM, that led to the eruption of violence in Juba on 15 December 2013 and the beginning of the civil war.

Thanks to my previous knowledge of the two Sudans, their political dynamics and the challenges ahead, I managed in a very short time to establish a role for the EUSR office in Juba both inside the EU family and in the relations with the South Sudanese and Sudanese counterparts.

 **RADIO RAI** – ROME, ITALY

**ANCHOR** – 14/08/2006 – 30/11/2012

Anchor of the morning foreign press review and for the programme "Radio3Mondo", Radio Rai3. Both programmes focus on foreign affairs: the first reviewing the most important foreign media outlets daily coverages (I selected, read and comment on articles from media in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic), the latter choosing a few specific issues or themes and debating in depth through interviews to actors on the ground, journalists, academics and others.

Preparing the morning foreign press review and anchor it live taught me to be precise, quick, to the point and very time-conscious when given a task to perform in an extremely tight time. I learnt and successfully manage to take every second, quite literally, into account, being able to focus on the most relevant and interesting news, structure my programme and then go on air live for twenty minutes without interruptions, alone with my listeners, knowing to be speaking to an attentive audience of several hundred thousands.

 **LETTERA22** – ROME, ITALY

**FREELANCE JOURNALIST** – 01/03/2003 – 30/11/2012

For almost ten years, as member of the Association of independent Journalists "Lettera22" ([www.lettera22.it](http://www.lettera22.it)), I followed foreign affairs issues, with a peculiar focus on African and Middle Eastern ones. Frequent travels to Sudan and East Africa, longer periods spent living in Egypt. Articles published in several Italian newspapers and magazines (il manifesto, IlRiformista, D-Repubblica, Diario, L'Espresso, Il Fatto quotidiano, Repubblica.it) and in the Portuguese monthly magazine "Além-Mar".

 **UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE** – GORIZIA, ITALY

**Address** p.le Europa 1, Gorizia, Italy

**LECTURER, AFRICAN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS** – 01/03/2012 – 01/09/2012

I was responsible of a post-graduate course on African social and political systems at the Magistral Degree course in International and diplomatic Sciences, University of Trieste. I prepared and delivered lectures, examined students and supervised research for final dissertations. The course focussed in particular on 19th and 20th centuries events and developments of political systems.

For most of my students, mine was the first and only university course of African studies they would follow. From the feedback I continue to receive, I like to think that I succeeded in showing them the beauty and the richness of Africa, the role of the continent in the history of world political developments since the 19th century and in untangling some of the very complex and often misrepresented and/or oversimplified events and historical and political processes.

 **UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM** – DURHAM, UNITED KINGDOM

**LEVERHULME VISITING FELLOW** – 15/02/2011 – 15/12/2011

Post-doc research fellowship at the History Department, University of Durham, to conduct research on Southern Sudan's political history in the years 1946-1965, with a particular focus on the emerging of the first Southern Sudanese political movement and parties and the debate around a specific Southern Sudanese (sub)national identity. The

research was carried out by working on archival material in the UK, Italy and (Southern) Sudan, as well as interviews to Southern Sudanese former political leaders.

During the fellowship, I attended some workshop and international conferences on Sudanese issues as well as on China's presence and engagement in Africa and I travelled to South Sudan for field research.

Working on Southern Sudanese post-war political parties and the emerging of a national identity in the year during which South(ern) Sudanese achieved independence was a privilege. Publication of articles derived from the research has been delayed by my subsequent job for the EU.

 **UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE** – GORIZIA, ITALY

**Address** p.le Europa 1, Gorizia, Italy

**LECTURER, AFRICAN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS** – 01/10/2009 – 01/09/2010

I was responsible of a post-graduate course in African social and political systems at the Magistral Degree course in International and diplomatic Sciences, University of Trieste. I prepared and delivered lectures, examined students and supervised research for final dissertations.

For most of my students, mine was the first and only course of African history they would follow at university. Having remained in touch with many among them, I think I can say I was successful in waking up their interest for the continent, its often neglected history and how it fit in the world history, the last decades changes and developments. I supervised some of my students' final dissertations and remained in contact when they moved on to start working with international organisation (EU, UN agencies, NGOs) in African countries.

 **EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE** – BRUXELLES, BELGIUM

**Address** rue Belliard, Bruxelles, Belgium

**CONSULTANT, EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE** – 01/02/2009 – 30/06/2010

I worked as "expert of the rapporteur" for three different EESC's opinions: "EU-China-Africa trilateral dialogue"; "Supporting developing countries in coping with the financial and economic crisis"; and "The social economy in Africa". My main responsibilities included the drafting and revision of documents to be discussed in working groups and adopted by EESC's plenum as official EESC's opinions.

All the three opinions I worked on were adopted with very little changes by both the working groups and the EESC's plenum, as considered well balanced, well argued and exhaustive already in their first drafts.

 **CEDEJ, CENTRE D'ÉTUDES ET DE DOCUMENTATION ECONOMIQUE, JURIDIQUE ET SOCIALE** – KHARTOUM, SUDAN

**VISITING RESEARCHER, CEDEJ** – 01/03/2008 – 31/12/2009

CEDEJ allowed me to look into my two main interests at the time, i.e. the role of China and India in Sudan and the implementation process of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that Khartoum had signed with the Southern Sudanese SPLM/A on 9 January 2005. In both cases, though with a historian background, my research edged other social sciences. Field work undertaken in April 2008, to both Khartoum and Juba, for interviews with local interlocutors. On the basis of this research, I contributed to the edited volume "Multi-dymensional change in Sudan, 1989-2011" (Berghahn, 2015), with the chapter "Asian players in Sudan".

 **UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE, FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCES** – GORIZIA, ITALY

**"CULTORE DELLA MATERIA" IN CONTEMPORARY HISTORY** – 15/12/1999 – 31/12/2009

A non-paid university status that allowed me to cooperate with and assist the professor of contemporary history in the degree course in international and diplomatic sciences, preparing and delivering lectures, examining students and supervising research for final dissertations. During those years, I took part in several conferences and seminars, mainly focussing my interventions on Sudan historical and current dynamics and China's presence in Africa.

 **CESPI** – ROME, ITALY

**Address** via dell'Aracoeli, Rome, Italy

**RESEARCHER/ANALYST** – 01/10/2008 – 30/11/2009

The assignment with CeSPI was twofold. On one side, it was a research assignment in the framework of a research programme sponsored by Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNICRI about the relations and interconnections between human mobility and conflict (or post-conflict) situations in Darfur and Southern Sudan. I carried out a field research mission to South Sudan in February 2009.

The second part of the assignment entailed a role as Sudan desk for the Crisis Monitoring Group, independent forum of international experts organised by CeSPI with the support of Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to analyse and reflect on complex emergencies.

The research about the interconnections between human mobility and conflict in Sudan resulted in the paper I. Panozzo, "Conflitto e mobilità: il Sudan tra guerre civili e sfollati", Working Papers 65/09, CeSPI – Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale.

 **MWINDA** – ROME, ITALY

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND CO-EDITOR, MWINDA** – 01/10/2007 – 31/12/2008

Mwinda was an association which I founded with another Italian Africa's expert and which dealt with political analysis of African affairs. Besides co-editing the website and coordinating the editorial work, I wrote the dossiers about Darfur, China's presence in Africa and Kenya's post election crisis published between November 2007 and April 2008.

 **AMREF ITALY** – ROME, ITALY

**COMMUNICATION CONSULTANT** – 01/06/2005 – 30/11/2006

Consultant for communication campaigns on health issues in East Africa (Kenya, northern Uganda, Southern Sudan).

 **FONDAZIONE UNIDEA-UNICREDIT FOUNDATION** – ROME, ITALY

**COMMUNICATION CONSULTANT** – 01/05/2006 – 30/07/2006

Consultant for a communication plan and campaign for the International congress "Food insecurity and the right to food", Roma, 14 luglio 2006.

 **FONDAZIONE UNIDEA-UNICREDIT FOUNDATION** – ROME, ITALY

**COMMUNICATION CONSULTANT** – 01/03/2005 – 30/06/2005

Consultant for communication campaign for the International congress "Strategie di sviluppo e aiuto internazionale. Le proposte africane", Milano, 8 giugno 2005.

 **UNIVERSITY OF PISA** – PISA, ITALY

**DOTTORATO DI RICERCA (PHD)** – 01/01/2001 – 15/09/2004

PhD in History, Institutions and International Relationships of non-European Countries. Subject of the research: "Il Sudan meridionale come entità politica, dalla revisione della Southern Policy all'indipendenza (1946-1956)" [The Southern Sudan as a political entity, from the reversal of the Southern Policy to independence (1946-1956)]. For research purposes, I spent four months in the UK (winter-spring 2002) and six months between Cairo, Egypt and Khartoum, Sudan (autumn-winter 2002-2003). Through administrative and personal documents of British Sudan Political Service officers I analysed Sudan government policies towards the Southern Provinces and the emergence of a "Southern problem" in Sudanese history and politics.

## ● **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

15/09/1994 – 11/03/1999 Gorizia, Italy

**LAUREA IN SCIENZE INTERNAZIONALI E DIPLOMATICHE** University of Trieste

4-year university degree in Diplomatic and International Sciences. Main subjects: history of international relations, international law, international economics, history and institutions of Africa, Arab world, Asia and Latin America, political science, etc. Thesis in contemporary history titled "Il conflitto interno al Sudan, dall'indipendenza a oggi. Origini e cause" [Sudan's internal conflict, from independence to date. Origins and causes] (110/110 cum laude).

**Final grade** 110\110 e lode |

**Thesis** "Il conflitto interno al Sudan, dall'indipendenza a oggi. Origini e cause" [Sudan's internal conflict, from independence to date. Origins and causes]

15/09/1989 – 13/07/1994 Gorizia, Italy

**MATURITÀ LINGUISTICA (LINGUISTIC CERTIFICATE)** Paolino d'Aquileia

## ● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s): **ITALIAN**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
<b>FRENCH</b>	C1	C1	B1	B1	B2

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>GERMAN</b>	B1	B1	A2	A2	B1
<b>ARABIC</b>	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
<b>SPANISH</b>	C1	B2	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

## ● **JOB-RELATED SKILLS**

### **Job-related skills**

Very strong analytical skills and strong political judgement, acquired and reinforced both during the several years of journalistic and research experience and as EUSR Political Advisor.

Very good drafting and verbal skills in Italian and English, as well as a good ability to think strategically.

## ● **OTHER SKILLS**

### **Other skills**

Writing, whether as a journalist, as an academic research or as an analyst, has been the core business of whole my professional experience so far.

### **Publications**

Books:

I. Panozzo, *Il dramma del Sudan, specchio dell'Africa*, EMI, Bologna, 2000.

I. Panozzo, *Il conflitto tra due pianeti: Nord e Sud Sudan*, in P. Affatato, E. Giordana (a cura di), *Il Dio della guerra, viaggio nei falsi conflitti di religione*, Guerini e Associati, Milano, 2002.

Lettera22, *Geopolitica dello tsunami*, ObarraO Edizioni, Milano, 2005.

I. Panozzo, *Sudan*, coll. "Il giro del mondo", Editori Riuniti, Roma, 2005.

C. Brighi, I. Panozzo, I. M. Sala, *Safari cinese. Petrolio, risorse, mercati: la Cina conquista l'Africa*, ObarraO, Milano, 2007.

I. Panozzo, *Asian players in Sudan*, in M. Assal, B. Casciarri, F. Ireton (eds), *Multi-dimensional change in Sudan, 1989-2011*, Berghahn, Paris, 2015.

Analyses, papers, reports:

I. Panozzo, *Sudan: il rischio di implosione*, in "Aspenia", Africa, il continente grigio, rivista dell'Aspen Institute Italia, a. 10, n. 29, giugno 2005.

I. Panozzo, *La Cina invade l'Africa*, in "Limes", Africa a colori, n. 3, 2006.

I. Panozzo, *Alle origini del dramma del Sud Sudan attuale: dalla conquista egiziana alla Southern Policy britannica*, pp. 289-304, in G. Romanato (a cura di), *Giovanni Miani e il contributo veneto alla conoscenza dell'Africa*, Atti del XXVII convegno di studi storici, Rovigo 14-16 novembre 2003, Minelliana, Rovigo, 2006.

I. Panozzo, *Africa: la Cina ringrazia e Washington spazia*, in Osservatorio Scenari Strategici e di Sicurezza di Nomisma (ed.), *Nomos & Khaos. Rapporto Nomisma 2006 sulle prospettive economico-strategiche*, Agra Editrice, Roma, 2007.

I. Panozzo, *'Beijing consensus', l'offensiva dello charme nel Continente Nero*, in "Limes", *Il marchio giallo*, n. 4, 2008.

I. Panozzo, *Le safari de la Chine en Afrique: opportunit  ou danger?*, in Cycle des conferences du CEDEJ au Khartoum, au Centre Culturel Francais 2007-2008, CEDEJ Khartoum, 2009 (bilingual publication, in French and Arabic).

I. Panozzo, *Conflitto e mobilit : il Sudan tra guerre civili e sfollati*, Working Papers 65/09, CeSPI – Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale, 2009.

I. Panozzo, *Il caso Mugabe*, in "Limes", *Il Sudafrica in nero e bianco*, n. 3, 2010.

I. Panozzo, *Will South Sudan make it?*, ISPI Analysis, n.36, dicembre 2010.

I. Panozzo, *Sudan's separation: an uneven path ahead for two unstable countries*, in "The International Spectator", Italian Journal of International Affairs, Vol. 46, Issue 2, June 2011.

I. Panozzo, *Vecchie sfide per il nuovo Sud Sudan*, in "Limes", (Contro)rivoluzioni in corso, n. 3, 2011

## ● **ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS**

### **Organisational skills**

Very strong organisational skills have always been part of my character. At the same time, I am flexible and used to operate on last-minute programmes that include frequent travels.

- **COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**

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### **Communication and interpersonal skills**

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I have very good social skills and competences. I have a very good team spirit, acquired both through work experiences and voluntary activities. Living, working and travelling abroad, mainly in North-eastern Africa, has improved further my already very good ability to adapt to multicultural environments, including working and living in difficult political and security environment. I have excellent communication skills, including the ability to speak in public, acquired through my radio anchoring and university teaching experience.

- **PRIVACY**

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**Autorizzo al trattamento dei dati personali ai sensi del Regolamento UE n.679/2016 e del D. lgs. 2003 n. 196 e successive modificazioni.**

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