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| **Profile** | I am a senior researcher with a long track record of work on crime, irregular migration and violence. For the past 16 years I have researched irregular migration, transnational crime, and forced displacement. I have extensive fieldwork experience in the Middle East, Africa, Mexico and Central America. I have raised almost 3 million euro in research funds from European, international and national sources (mostly in the capacity of main applicant). In this context, I have managed and directed the work of several research assistants and junior researchers. My approach has always been multi-sited and interdisciplinary. I have conducted and supervised multisited research of ethnographic nature in sensitive fields and with hard-to-reach populations (smugglers, displaced populations, UASC, and other criminal or criminalized actors). I am familiar with secondary research (desk and archival research) and quantitative data collection (large surveys and records analysis). I have also adopted alternative methodological approaches – such as discourse analysis, digital ethnography, rapid qualitative methodology, and participatory methods. Over the years, I have conducted research and authored several among reports and policy briefs for the use of policy makers and practitioners – including, but not limited to the European Commission, the UNs, FCDO, and INGOs |
| **Nationality & Languages** | Not specified  Not specified |
| **Qualifications** | **2012, Ph.D. in Social Anthropology, School of Oriental and Africa Studies, London, UK**  **2006, MA in Migration and Diaspora Studies, School of Oriental and Africa Studies, UK**  **2004, BA & MA in Sociology and Anthropology, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Italy** |
| **Country work experience** | Not specified |
| **Experience** | **Since 2021, Global Research coordinator | *UNODC |*** Nigeria, Iraq  Project: "STRIVE Juvenile: preventing and responding to violence against children by terrorist and violent extremist groups". Duties include: (1) Development of a research framework and the elaboration of a detailed research methodology; (2) Coordinate the work of the advisory board; (3) Plan, train and coordinate the national research teams in the three partner countries (Nigeria, Iraq and Nigeria); (4) Ensure quality control of the national research and global deliverables; (5) Assist the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the project |
| **2008 - 2022, Expert researcher | *European Commission |*** Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa, North Africa, US-Mexico Border, Southern Europe, Italy  Project name: "WARFUN - War and Fun: Reconceptualizing Warfare and Its Experience (ERC Consolidator, European Commission). Duties: leading the research cluster on forced displacement, developing research and conceptual framework, overseeing research activities and output production. 2017-2021 - Project name: "MAPS – a comparative study of the Mediterranean and the Central American smuggling routes" (MSCA, European Commission). Duties: leading the study, conducting research (ethnography, digital ethnography, and desk-research) in North Africa, US-Mexico Border, Eastern and Southern Europe, managing two research assistants, and drafting written outputs.2017 - Project name: "Communication channels used by migrants and asylum seekers to obtain information in countries of origin and transit" (DGHOME, European Commission). Duties: contributing to the study, supervising desk review and field research (survey, semi-structured interviews and focus groups) in Italy, and managing four research assistants. Since 2008 Expert researcher on minor protection and mobility in Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa. Producing information and evidence to (1) design and implement programs adapted to the context; (2) identify the main risks in terms of protection and develop recommendation; (3) support the development and application of normative frameworks and governance systems in line with international child protection standards; (4) contribute to the advancement of research and knowledge on minors and youth. Projects include: |
| **2008-2021, International Expert | *Multiple (ICMPD, Mixed Migration Centre/DRC, Mix Migration Platform, Save the Children & Enda Tiers Monde) |*** Turkey, Mali, Lebanon, Jordan, Greece, Senegal  2021 - Project name: "Research on child trafficking and labour trafficking in Turkey to support evidence-based policy formulation and DGMM decisions on Turkey's anti-trafficking response (International Expert for ICMPD)." Duties: (1) reviewing/providing input to the draft research methodology, (2) reviewing and providing feedback to the preliminary research findings and (3) reviewing/providing feedback to the draft research study.2021 - Project name: "Enfants et jeunes sur les routes migratoires en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Nord" (Mixed Migration Centre, DRC). Duties: leading the "Mali" case study, supervising research, managing two research assistants, and drafting the report. 2016-17 - Project name: "Assessment and evaluation of Unaccompanied and Separated Children's protection policies in Lebanon, Jordan and Greece" (Mix Migration Platform). Duties: leading the study, designing research methodology, desk review and qualitative data collection (semi-structured interviews and focus groups) in the selected countries, and drafting final report.2008 - Project name: "Mobile children: from 'victims' to 'actors'" (Save the Children & Enda Tiers Monde). Duties: qualitative data collection (ethnography, semi-structured interviews, focus groups), review of secondary sources, and report writing on unaccompanied minors and child labour in Senegal. |
| **2020, Consultant | *FCDO |*** Gaza  Project name: "Covid-19 In Gaza: Community Perspectives on the Pandemic. Goal: elaborate a better-informed response to COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee communities. Duties: designing rapid qualitative methodology, supervising time-sensitive research in Gaza (line interviews, mobile methods, story completion and informant diaries), managing four research assistants, and drafting report. |
| **2015-17, Expert Researcher on irregular migration and migration governance | *Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute |***  Leading and conducting research aimed to improved migration policies and governance in Middle East and along the Eastern Mediterranean route. Duties: designed research collection methodologies, data collection and analysis (qualitative and quantitative data), developed dedicated information management tools, regular production and dissemination of policy briefs, reports, international updates documents and infographics. Projects include, among others: |
| **2015-2017, Research Project Lead | *DFID, IOM, European Commission (H2020), INTERSOS |*** Southern Europe, North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Libya, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Macedonia, Serbia  Project name: "Migrants' Profiles, Drivers of Migration, Migratory Trends" (with DFID & IOM). Research areas: Southern Europe, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa. Duties: co-led the study, elaborated the methodology, supervising field research in Italy (desk review, survey, semi-structured interviews and focus groups), managed six research assistants, and drafted final report.2017 - Project name: "Human smuggling in limited statehood and contested orders areas" (H2020 - European Commission). Research countries: Libya and Tunisia. Duties: elaborating the methodology.2015 - Project name: "Research on irregular migration and smuggling networks in the Eastern Mediterranean route" (with INTERSOS). Duties: ethnographic research in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Macedonia, and Serbia, participation to UN cluster meetings, elaboration of methodology and the survey, qualitative data collection (ethnography, semi-structured interviews, focus groups) and analysis, and report writing. |
| **2014, Consultant | *Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN) |*** Jordan  Project name: "The Social Life of Nutrition". Evaluation study of the protection programs implemented among Syrian refugees living in urban areas, refugee camps and informal tented settlements in Jordan. Duties: led the study, qualitative research (semi-structured interviews and focus groups), analysis of secondary sources, and report writing. |
| **Publications** | Palestinian Refugees and Identity: Nationalism, Politics and the Everyday, I.B.Tauris, London  Global Human Smuggling, John Hopkins UP, New York, forthcoming, Dec 202 (with Kyle, D.)  Migration, Smuggling and the Illicit Global Economy. Public Anthropologist, vol 3, no 1 (with Sanchez, G.)  Critical Insights on Irregular Migration Facilitation. RSCAS-EUI, Florence (with Sanchez, G.)  Crimes of Solidarity in Mobility: Alternative Views on Migrant Smuggling. The ANNALS of American Academy of Social and Political Science, Volume 676(1) (with Sanchez, G. & Zhang, S.)  Les camps de réfugiés palestiniens au Proche-Orient: un provisoire qui dure, Special Issue, A-Contrario 2006/2,23 (with Oesch, L.)  Pratiche e politiche dell'etnografia, Meltemi, Milan (with De Lauri, A.)  'Protection' on my own terms: human smuggling and unaccompanied Syrian minors. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies: 1-19  Debunking the smuggler-terrorist nexus: human smuggling and the Islamic State in the Middle East. Studies in Conflict & Terrorism (with Tinti, A.)  Beyond legality and illegality: Palestinian informal networks and the ethno-political facilitation of irregular migration from Syria, JEMS (with Abu Samra, M.)  Waiting for the smuggler: tales across the border, Public Anthropologist, 1(2): 194-207  In search of dignity: political economy and nationalism amongst Palestinian camp dwellers in Amman, Journal of Ethnographic Theory (HAU), 8(3): 672–685  The 'good' smuggler: the ethics and morals of human smuggling among Syrians, Crimes of Solidarity in Mobility: Alternative Views on Migrant Smuggling. ANNALS 676(1): 77-96  Des espaces d'ambiguïté : les camps de réfugiés palestiniens en Jordanie A-Contrario, 2006/2 (23) : 17-36 (with Oesch, L.)  Becoming a Man in al-Wihdat: Masculine Performances in a Palestinian Refugee Camp in Jordan, International Journal of Middle East Studies, 47(2): 263-280  Disengagement from politics: Nationalism, political identity, and the everyday in a Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan, Critique of Anthropology, 34(2): 234–257  Analysis of migration trends of Palestine refugees: 2018-2022 (with Sari Hanafi), UNRWA  Security costs: How the EU's exclusionary migration policies place people on the move toward Italy and Greece at greater risk – a quantitative analysis (with Linekar, J.), Mixed Migration Centre  Children and youth across migrant routes in West and North Africa (with Massari, A.), Mixed Migration Centre  Covid-19 in Gaza: Community Perspectives on the Pandemic, ELHRA & University of Bath (with Jason Hart, Caitlin Procter and Mohammed Al-Rozzi)  Stranded: The impacts of COVID-19 on irregular migration and migrant smuggling, Policy Briefs, 2020/20, MPC (with Sanchez, G.)  Migrant smuggling in the Eastern Mediterranean: The case of children In Achilli, L. & Sanchez, G. Critical Insights on Irregular Migration Facilitation. RSCAS-EUI, Florence UNODC  Work toward integration: labour inclusion of migrants in Mexico, Policy Briefs; 2019/26; MP (with Negro, V.)  Reforming Dublin. In ISPI, Building Trust: The Challenge of Peace and Stability in the Mediterranean, MED 4TH Edition  The human smuggling industry: nuances and complexities. The University of Texas at El Paso, BTI Institute DHS Symposium Series, 2018/14  A study of the communication channels used by migrants and asylum seekers in Italy, with a particular focus on online and social media. European Commission (Achilli et al.)  On My Own: Protection challenges for unaccompanied and separated children in Jordan, Lebanon and Greece. INTERSOS-MMP (Achilli et al.)  What Does It Mean to Disrupt the Business Models of People Smugglers?, Migration Policy Centre (EUI), policy brief (with Sanchez, G.) |