

## Workshop

### “Law and Practice of International Investigations into Corporate Complicity in Atrocity Crimes”

#### Instructor:

Irene Gasparini (Ph.D) – Financial Investigator

#### Short bio:

Irene Gasparini is a Financial Investigator with the United Nations in Geneva, where she conducts investigations mandated by the UN Human Rights Council into genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and other gross violations of human rights, focusing particularly on the complicity of corporate actors.

Previously, Irene worked as a white-collar crime lawyer at DLA Piper with a core practice in investigations on financial crimes. She was a financial sanctions consultant to a major oil & gas company and gained professional experience at the International Criminal Court and in counter-terrorism investigations in Italy. She holds a Ph.D. in International Criminal Law from the Catholic University of Milan and regularly provides training on international crimes and investigations.

#### Instructor’s affiliation:

United Nations (UNOG)

#### Abstract of the Workshop:

International investigations into war crimes are pivotal for ensuring justice and accountability worldwide. They play a key role in holding perpetrators accountable and ensuring justice for victims of gross human rights violations. Today, national and international courts increasingly witness cases involving corporate actors investigated and held accountable for their complicity in serious international crimes. This workshop offers an interactive and practical opportunity to explore the role of corporate complicity in atrocities and learn about the law and practice of international investigations for such crimes. The workshop will begin by introducing participants to the issue of corporate complicity in war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and other gross human rights violations. Through a review of relevant cases before international and national courts, participants will gain an understanding of the international legal framework, the case law, the practice and key issues of investigating the involvement of corporate actors in serious international crimes. The landscape of various international investigative and accountability mechanisms will also be explored in order to provide an understanding of key institutions and actors involved in the international fight against impunity for mass atrocities. The workshop will then provide a hands-on, practical understanding of the work of an international investigator in a fictitious scenario of serious international crimes. Using an interactive approach, the instructor will guide participants through the



analysis of the scenario and the necessary investigative steps. This session will delve into the technical, strategic and practical aspects of conducting international investigations in a practical setting. Participants will be introduced to essential techniques used in international investigations, including evidence gathering from various sources and witnesses.

**Number of participants:** max 25

**Dates & Calendar:**

*Two sessions of 3 hours each*

Monday, 16th of September, 15:00-18:00

Tuesday, 17th of September, 15:00-18:00

**Venue:**

**Lab. Multimediale 2** - School of International Studies, Palazzo Paolo Prodi.



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## Workshop

### “Structured Analysis of On-line Contents for Policy Analysis and Consulting”

#### Instructor:

Giorgio Comai - Senior Researcher and Data Analyst

#### Short bio:

Giorgio Comai is a senior researcher and data analyst based at OBCT/CCI (Trentino, Italy), with a research focus on post-Soviet affairs and an established record of academic publications. He has been visiting Russia and other post-Soviet countries since 2000, and he speaks fluently Russian and Romanian. He earned his PhD at Dublin City University's School of Law and Government.

As a data analyst and advanced R programmer, he has been crunching data and building tools for the European Data Journalism Network (EDJNet). As a data analyst, data visualization, and area expert, he has worked as an external consultant, including for Crisis Group. In recent years, he has increasingly been working on structured approaches for analysing online sources in conflict and area studies, data collection methods, and related ethical issues. Website: <https://giorgiocomai.eu/> - Ongoing project: <https://tadadit.xyz/>.

#### Instructor's affiliation:

Osservatorio Balcani e Caucaso Transeuropa/Centro per la Cooperazione Internazionale (OBCT/CCI)

#### Abstract of the Workshop:

On-line contents have become one of the main sources of information for researchers and analysts across disciplines. Yet, they are often explored serendipitously. This workshop outlines various approaches for the structured analysis of on-line contents, focusing on cases relevant to those working on international relations, peace and conflict studies, and policy analysis. Particular attention will be dedicated to text mining and text-as-data methods, considering not only materials originally published as text on websites but also other sources such as YouTube and Telegram channels. Techniques to enrich these data (e.g. through geocomputation or matching text to identifiers in external repositories such as Wikidata) will also be outlined. No matter if the task is to find the needle or to characterise the haystack (i.e. to find a specific piece of information or to highlight broad trends), it is then important to turn the results into visuals or give them a shape that can be used effectively for further analysis. Context is important. Sometimes, extreme simplification is necessary to convey a message to the wider public or to include a graph in an executive summary. In other occasions, our target audience expects to be able to have a deeper understanding of the data and its processing, and perhaps be able to explore it further. Sharing pre-processed data in meaningful formats is often important when doing consultancies, in collaborative journalistic investigations, or when conducting scholarly work, both within a research team and through public-facing outputs such as blog posts or accompanying materials to publications. The workshop will present these



techniques through practical examples. Even if many of these require at least basic programming skills, the focus will not be on the technicalities, but rather on the ways in which such approaches can be useful for research and analysis. Hands-on session will focus on services available through web interfaces and will not require advanced skills.

**Number of participants:** max 25

**Dates & Calendar:**

*Two sessions of 3 hours each*

Tuesday, 17th of September, 9:30-12:30

Wednesday, 18th of September, 15:00-18:00

**Venue:**

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## Workshop "Policy Skills Lab"

www.sis.unitn.itc

### Instructor:

Giulio Venneri - Team leader for 'Rule of Law and Democracy' in the Directorate General for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)

### Short bio:

Dr Giulio Venneri is the team leader for rule of law and democracy in the Directorate General for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, at the European Commission. Previously, he served as team leader for relations with Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was also the Permanent Secretary of the International Monitoring Operation (IMO), deployed by the European Commission to oversee the vetting of magistrates in Albania. Amongst his previous roles at the Commission, he was coordinator for rule of law and security sector reform in the Enlargement process, the visa liberalisation dialogue, and demining. Prior to joining the European civil service, he worked at the "Global Issues" unit of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Active in academia, he is adjunct professor at the School of Government of LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome. He coordinates the policy lab at the Diplomacy and Global Politics programme of the University of Westminster in London. His latest publication includes the volume on "The European Union's Engagement with the Southern Mediterranean: Integrating the European Neighbourhood Policy".

### Instructor's affiliation:

European Commission, Bruxelles

### Abstract of the Workshop:

The intensive practical lab on policy writing techniques offers both theoretical and vocational training, as well as individual simulations based on concrete office-like scenarios. It has been designed to help students deepen their knowledge on both political and operational issues in the fields of diplomacy, international organisations, EU external relations, crisis management, and multilateral processes, as well as to get acquainted with the office dynamics of policy jobs in international affairs. Amongst other skills, students will get acquainted with the main aspects of political analysis and reporting; develop effective drafting techniques for policy advice; be introduced to the policy advisor's mind-set; learn practical methods to elaborate briefing notes in support of diplomatic engagement; acquire abilities for the preparation of outreach documents, including speeches and press statements; develop awareness of institutional communication practices and public outreach; become familiar with key features of spin-doctoring in international politics. At the practical simulations, students will be confronted with different mock situations, including a politically sensitive scenario, presented with limited information, for the most controversial from a legal perspective; a complex crisis, explained with media reports, field offices analyses and advice, instructions from different sources; an inter-institutional dialogue scenario, which will have to be carefully reviewed for the preparation of outreach documents and the design of a political communication



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strategy. In addition to getting students more familiar with the daily work and challenges encountered by policy officers serving at the headquarter of an international organisation, at a foreign ministry, or in field offices and bilateral embassies, the training offers key skills that are relevant to mainstream selection procedures currently applied by most international institutions (i.e., Council of Europe, European Union, NATO, OSCE, United Nations offices, etc...) for entry level jobs or mid-management posts.

**Number of participants:** max 25

**Dates & Calendar:**

*Two sessions of 3 hours each*

Thursday, 19th of September, 9:00-12:00

Friday, 20th of September, 9:00-12:00

**Venue:**

**Lab. Multimediale 2** - School of International Studies, Palazzo Paolo Prodi

Registration is mandatory. Applications will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis.

Please note that, as registration is open to a limited number of students, joining the workshops implies the assumption of a commitment to participate. Acceptable justifications for absence only include illness or other compelling reasons. Please note that participation in workshops does not constitute a valid excuse for absence in other teaching activities. Students engaged in simultaneous and incompatible teaching activities (e.g. crash courses, compulsory language courses) are requested not to attend the workshops.

Participation in each workshop will allow students to gain one virtual **micro-credential for each workshop** (further information available at <https://education.ec.europa.eu/education-levels/higher-education/micro-credentials>).

**Deadline to apply:** 12 July 2024



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