

**Prof. BARBARA POZZO**

Full Professor of Comparative Private Law  
UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Women's Rights  
University of Insubria – Como  
[barbara.pozzo@uninsubria.it](mailto:barbara.pozzo@uninsubria.it)

Barbara Pozzo is currently a Full Professor of Comparative Private Law in the *Department of Law, Economics, and Culture* at the University of Insubria in Como, where she was appointed in 2001 following the attainment of national tenure. She lives in Milan, with frequent stays in Trieste and various locations abroad.

Since 2026, she has been President of the *European Law Faculties Association* (ELFA).

Since 2024, she has served as the Rector's Delegate for Internationalization.

Since 2022, she has been President of SIRD, the Italian Society for Research in Comparative Law.

From 2021 to 2024, she served as the Rector's Delegate for Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities.

Since 2021, she has served on *the Board* of the *European Law Faculties Association* (ELFA).

In 2021, she was the first person in Europe to be elected to *the Council of the European Law Institute* (ELI).

Since 2020, she has been a member of the Scientific Council of the Volta Foundation.

In 2019, she was awarded the UNESCO Chair on “Gender Equality and Women's Rights in a Multicultural Society.”

Since 2011, she has been a member of the “Forum of Legal Experts on Adaptation to Climate Change,” organized by LERU (League of European Research Universities), Director: Kurt Deketelaere (University of Leuven).

She is a Full Member of *the International Academy of Comparative Law* (IACL)

She is a member of the Italian Executive Committee of *the Association Capitant – Amis de la Culture Juridique Française*,

Member of the Editorial Board of *the \*European Review of Private Law\**, published by Kluwer Law & International, Amsterdam–London–New York, since 2000.

Member of the Scientific Committee and Editorial Board of *the Rivista Giuridica dell’Ambiente*, formerly published by Giuffrè, Milan, and now by Edizioni Scientifiche, Naples, since 1998.

Member of the Board of Directors of *the Annuario di diritto Comparato*, published by Edizioni Scientifiche Italiane, Naples.

Member of the Scientific Committee of *the \*Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado\**.

Member of the Scientific Committee of the *\*Chinese Law in Action\** series (Bononia University Press).

Member of the Jury of *the Institute of Advertising Self-Regulation (IAP)* since 2014.

## **EDUCATION**

After spending the very early years of her childhood in Calcutta (India), where she was born, she moved to Milan, where she attended the Swiss School starting in elementary school.

Following her family’s move to Rome, she attended middle school at the Swiss School in the capital.

Upon returning to Milan, she completed her schooling at the same school and earned the Swiss Federal Maturity in 1983.

She graduated with honors in Law in 1989, after having previously earned degrees from the University of Strasbourg’s *Faculté Internationale de Droit Comparé*, including diplomas for *the 1st cycle*, *the 2nd cycle*, and finally *the 3rd cycle—Promotion Ernst von Caemmerer* (1989).

In 1989, she ranked first nationally to win a scholarship for a doctorate in comparative law at the University of Florence.

He completed his training at the *Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Private Law* in Hamburg (from December 1989 to June 1993) under the guidance of Prof. Hein Kötz, Director of the

Institute.

And finally, at Florida International University in 1989 (Prof. Richard Hyland) and at Berkeley Law School in 1992 and again in 1998 (Prof. James Gordley and Prof. Melvin Eisenberg).

## ACADEMIC CAREER

Since 2001 Full Professor of Comparative Private Law, Faculty of Law, University of Insubria.

1998–2001: Associate Professor of Comparative Private Law, Faculty of Law, University of Milan–Bicocca.

1993–1998: Research Fellow in Comparative Private Law, Faculty of Political Science, University of Milan (Statale).

1992–1993 *Research Assistant* at the University of Hamburg II (Germany), where she taught *Introduction to the Economic Analysis of Law* (Einführung in die Ökonomische Analyse des Rechts), collaborating with Professors Hans-Bernd Schäfer and Claus Ott, authors of the book *Lehrbuch der ökonomischen Analyse des Zivilrechts*, Springer Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg, 1986, now in its sixth edition (2020).

## ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

From 2015 to 2021, she served as Director of the Department of Law, Economics, and Culture.

From 2015 to 2021, she served as a member of the Academic Senate of the University of Insubria.

As the Rector's delegate for Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities, she prepared the University of Insubria's first *Gender Report* and drafted the first *Action Plan for Positive Action*. This work included organizing a course on "Gender Lexicon" led by Prof. Cecilia Robustelli.

She is the Coordinator of the Advanced Course in *Fashion Law – Legal Issues in the Fashion Industry*, jointly offered by the University of Insubria and the University of Milan since 2013.

She has been Director of the Summer School "*Critical Topics of Environmental Law in a Comparative Law Perspective*," in collaboration with the Universities of Utrecht (NL), Marseille/Aix-en-Provence (F), and Opole University (PL), since 2005.

From 2016 to 2022, she served as Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Law and Humanities at the University of Insubria.

From 2013 to 2016, she served as a member of the University's International Relations Committee.

From 2010 to 2018, she served as Coordinator of the Bachelor's Degree Program in *Interlinguistic and Intercultural Mediation Sciences* with a legal focus.

From 2004 to 2023, she served as Director of *the Inter-University Research Center for Comparative Law* (founded by the University of Milan, the University of Bologna, and the University of Insubria).

From 2002 to 2013, she served as Coordinator of the Ph.D. program in Comparative Law at the University of Milan.

From 2001 to 2008, she served as Director of the Master's Program in Environmental Law at the University of Milan.

From 2010 to 2015, she coordinated the Advanced Course in Environmental Law at the University of Milan.

## **LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Barbara Pozzo has served as Coordinator of several Projects of National Interest (P.R.I.N.):

2000–2002: *Private law instruments for environmental protection in various national legal systems and regulatory trends at the European level: a legal and economic analysis of the Italian system and its potential alignment with the EU model* (National Coordinator)

2002–2004: *European contract law between competing models and top-down harmonization* (Local Coordinator)

2003 – 2005: *Legal harmonization of European and harmonization of contract law* (Local Coordinator)

2005 - *The common frame of reference and the harmonization of European* (Local Coordinator)

2007 - *Institutional Italian in the Context of European Multilingualism* (Local Coordinator)

2009 - *Measuring the Impact of Environmental Legislation: National Measures to Implement the "Climate and Energy" Package Proposed by the European Commission* (Local Coordinator)

2018–present – *The New Silk Road: the One Belt, One Road Initiative* (Local Coordinator)

From 2023 to 2026, she served as local coordinator for the Project of National Interest (PRIN) titled *Next Generation Ita. Increasing Trust, Making Future Generations Possible*.

In 2011, she was also the winner of the Fondazione CARIPLLO call for proposals “*GOING EAST - Enhancing Asian research cooperation in higher education for the challenges of global markets,*” for which she served as Coordinator until 2016.

In 2022, she was selected as the winner of the *NODES* project: *Digital and Sustainable Northwest*, under the PNRR Innovation Ecosystems call for proposals, which resulted in the allocation of 9 million euros to the University of Insubria for the research project titled “*The Culture and Tourism Industry,*” which concluded in 2026.

## **ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES ABROAD**

Barbara Pozzo has served as *a visiting professor* at the University of Hamburg (1993), the University of Montpellier (1998), Louisiana State University (2004 and 2005), Fordham University (2010, 2012, 2014), the University of California, Davis (2012), McGeorge School of Law at Pacific University (2012), William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada (2010, 2012), Hitotsubashi University – Tokyo (Japan) (2015), and Aix-en-Provence (2023).

## **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AS A SPEAKER**

- 2025 (20 Juin) Paris – Société de Législation Comparée, *Le Patrimoine Culturel, les Savoir-Faire et la Mode*.
- 2025 (29 May) Piri Reis University – Istanbul (Turkey), *Sustainable Fashion: An Introduction*.
- 2025 (4-5 April), *The new European Union Regulation on Geographical Indications for craft and industrial products and the protection of “Lace of Cantù”*: a work in progress, Florida International University College of Law.
- 2025, (11-12 April), Yale Law School, *Corporate Sustainability and the European Union*
- 2025 Nagoya University (Japan), February 19, 2025, *Climate Change Litigation in a*

*Comparative Law Perspective*

- 2024 (15 – 16 Novembre) *The Future of Comparative Law: Balancing Practical Insights and Speculative Approaches*, Paris, Congrès des 100 ans de l'Académie Internationale de Droit Comparé (AIDC)/ 100th Anniversary Congress of the International Academy of Comparative Law (IACL)
- 2023 (October 26–28) *Women's Rights through the Looking Glass of Private Law: A Comparative Law Perspective*, at the conference of the *American Society of Comparative Law*, Miami, Florida International University College of Law.
- 2023 (September 25–27), “*Harmonizing Contract Law without a Common Terminology: Comparative Law Perspectives*,” at the *Comparative Reflections in the Law of Obligations Conference in Honor of Professor Simon Whittaker*, Oxford, St. John's College.
- 2023 (February 10) *The Evolution of Good Faith in Italian Law*, lecture delivered at the invitation of the *Institut de Droit Comparé*, Paris.
- 2022 (October 23–28) *International Academy of Comparative Law*, Asunción (Paraguay) – Speaker for Italy on *Green Finance in Italy*.
- 2021 (November 10) Side event at COP26 on climate change – Glasgow, with a presentation titled *Recent Trends in Climate Change Litigation*.
- 2021 (May 27, 2021) *Climate Change Litigation – A Comparative Law Perspective*, European Law Institute – Environmental Law Special Interest Group Seminars.
- 2018 (July 28) Italian Reporter, “*Climate Change Litigation from a Comparative Law Perspective*” (International Academy of Comparative Law, Fukuoka, Japan).
- 2017 (September 4–5) Comparative legal methods for global environmental law research? (Symposium on Global Environmental Law – Strathclyde University – Glasgow)
- 2017 (January 10) *The circulation of legal models in environmental law: the case of civil liability for environmental damage in China and India* (University of Aix-en-Provence/Marseille)
- 2016 (September 26) *The protection of the environment between private law and public law: A comparative law perspective*, Florianópolis, Auditorium of the Center for Legal Sciences at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil).
- 2015 (December 15), *The Application of the Environmental Liability Directive in Italy, the United Kingdom, and Germany*, Faculty of Law – University of Aix-en-Provence-Marseille

- 2015 (November 6), *Liability for Environmental Harm in Europe: Towards a Harmonized Regime?* Hitotsubashi University – Tokyo.
- 2014 (November 24, 2014), *Compensation for Ecological Damage in Italy*, Comparative Environmental Law Week, *Aix-en-Provence*
- 2014 (November 6): Speaker, “*Directive 2004/35 – Remedies and Sanctions*,” Workshop on “Environmental Liability and Environmental Crime,” Brussels.
- 2013 (October 4): Speaker, *Environmental Agreements in Italy in General, Particularly in Cases of Polluted Sites, The Contract and the Environment – Comparative Perspectives* (Center for International and Community Studies and Research – Faculty of Law and Political Science, Aix-en-Provence).
- 2012 (August 30) - *Changing the Scope, Range, and Methodology of Comparative Law* (Pacific University, McGeorge School of Law)
- 2010 (July 25–August 1): Italian Reporter – Panel: Climate Change Law at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Comparative Law (Washington)
- 2009 (March 26–27): Keynote Speaker, NATO Conference, “Control and Risk Prevention of Dangerous Materials and Crisis Management” (Sofia, Bulgaria).
- 2003 *Side event* at COP9 on climate change in Milan: presentation of the book *The New Emissions Trading Directive. The First European Implementation of the Mechanisms Provided for by the Kyoto Protocol*, B. Pozzo (Ed.) 2003
- 2005 (November) Keynote Speaker – PUC (Pontifical Catholic University) Porto Alegre – Rio Grande do Sul – Brazil (“International Conference on the Environment”)
- 2005 Speaker at *the Convention on Civil Liability*, University of La Coruña – Galicia (Spain).
- 2004 Speaker at UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) – *The Future of Environmental Liability* (Como)
- 1999 Speaker at the Superior Council of the Judiciary during the refresher and training program for judges on environmental matters.
- 1999 Conference on “*Private Law and the Protection of the Environment*,” held at the Athens Law School, at the invitation of Prof. Ioannis Karakostas.

- 1998 *Water Rights in Common Law and Civil Law*, at the International Conference on *Property Rights and Water*, organized by the *Centre d'Analyse Economique in Aix-en-Provence* (France).
- 1996 *Environmental Protection and Private Property - The Italian Situation from a Comparative Perspective*, at the international conference *Property Rights and the Environment* organized by the *Centre d'Analyse Economique in Aix-en-Provence* (France).

## COLLABORATIONS with INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Barbara Pozzo has collaborated with various European institutions, including:

- **The Commission’s Directorate-General for Translation**, by organizing specialized seminars on legal translation for interpreters and translators working at the EU institutions as part of its collaboration with the REI network, *the Network of Excellence for Institutional Italian* (2005–2006).
- the European Commission’s **Directorate-General for Climate Action** (Adaptation Unit), by drafting a proposal for a directive on adaptation to climate change within the “Forum of Legal Experts on Adaptation to Climate Change” in light of the 2013 EU Strategy. She also participated in drafting the *National Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (SNACC)*, commissioned by the Ministry of the Environment and coordinated by the Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC). In particular, she is co-author of the “*Analysis of EU and National Legislation Relevant to the Impacts, Vulnerability, and Adaptation to Climate Change*,” which examines relevant EU legislation—including its transposition at the national level—and further illustrates the “European Adaptation Strategy” adopted in April 2013 by the European Commission, as well as the existing tools for integrating adaptation into various EU sectoral policies.
- The **European Parliament’s Environment Committee**, in response to a specific parliamentary question, prepared a report on the status of transposition of European waste legislation in the Calabria Region.
- On September 29, 2023, she was invited by **the Court of Justice** of the EU to participate in the roundtable discussion “*Un nouveau regard sur les métiers linguistiques*,” organized as part of the seminar “*Maintenir un Multilinguisme de qualité dans un contexte d’accélération des progrès technologiques*.” On the same occasion, the following volumes were presented: *Multilingualism at the Court of Justice of the European Union*, in which Barbara Pozzo participated as Italy’s representative with a contribution titled: *A Lifetime of Multilingualism*.

## UNESCO CHAIR

Barbara Pozzo was awarded the UNESCO Chair in 2018 based on a project titled “*Gender Equality and Women’s Rights in a Multicultural Society.*” The Chair is part of the *UNITWIN UNESCO Chair Programme*, which is dedicated to facilitating international cooperation and networking among universities, as well as the *Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender*. In 2021, she participated in the national project “*Dialogues of the UNESCO Chairs: A Laboratory of Ideas for the World to Come*” and in the drafting of the “*Declaration of the Italian UNESCO Chairs for Sustainability,*” which was later presented at the Dubai Expo. Since 2023, the UNESCO Chair has been a member of *the Network of Italian UNESCO Chairs (RECUI)*.

In January 2024, he organized the annual meeting of RECUI, the network of Italian UNESCO Chairs, in Como, focusing on “*Peace Education and Dialogue Processes.*”

As a UNESCO Chairholder, he also participated in the following events:

1. January 25, 2023: *UNESCO Education Seminar: Beyond Limits - New Ways to Reinvent Higher Education* (webinar).
2. January 18, 2023: *A New Social Contract for Education: Perspectives, Reflections, Issues*, Rome – La Sapienza.
3. January 24, 2022: *UNESCO Chairs Forum: The Futures of Higher Education, Collective Intelligence for Knowledge and Learning*, Dubai Expo (webinar).
4. August 19–20, 2021, *Global Summit of UNESCO Gender-Related Chairs and Networks*, organized by Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University (Kerala, India) (webinar).
5. November 13, 2019, *High-Level Meeting on Inclusion and Mobility in Higher Education*, UNESCO, Paris.

She also organized the following events:

1. “*Feminism in a Time of #BlackLivesMatter,*” with Prof. Tanya Hernandez (Fordham University – NY), (December 10, 2020).
2. *Measures for the Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women in the Spanish and Bulgarian Legal Systems*, featuring the following speakers: Prof. Dominique Feola, Attorney Esther Susin (Spain), Attorney Maria Gancheva (Bulgaria) (April 5, 2019).

3. “*Nein heißt Nein*,” with the following speakers: Prof. Gabriella Mangione, Prof. Martin Löhnig (University of Regensburg) (April 15, 2019).
4. *Discrimination law in the United States: when gender converges with race discrimination*, with Tanya Hernandez, Archibald R. Murray Professor of Law at Fordham University, New York (May 8, 2019).
5. *Different Approaches to Harmful Sexual Behavior - the wider picture*, featuring the following speakers: Prof. Grazia Mannozi, Prof. Vince Mercer (AIM Project, UK) (May 22, 2019).

## EDITORIAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

Barbara Pozzo is the editor of two series:

***Le Lingue del Diritto***, Giuffrè – Milan.

Published titles:

1. *Ordinary Language and Legal Language*, 2005
2. *The Language Policies of the EU Institutions after Enlargement*, 2006
3. *Europe and Legal Languages*, 2008
4. *A Linguistic (and More) Introduction to Swiss Law*, 2012
5. *Language and Law: Beyond Europe*, 2014
6. *Categories and Terminology of Law from a Comparative Perspective*. Proceedings of the 3rd SIRD National Congress (Como, March 14–15, 2014), 2015
7. *Codes, Terms, and Translations: Transdisciplinary Issues*. Proceedings of the International Colloquium of January 22–23, 2015, D. Garreau, E. Bracchi (Eds.) 2017
8. *According to the Law. Peculiarities of Federal Italian*, 2019
9. *Multilingualism and Italian-speaking communities in Central and Eastern Europe. Linguistic and legal profiles*. Proceedings of the conference held at the University of Insubria on November 9, 2018, 2020.

***Environmental Law and Economics***, Giuffrè - Milan.

Published titles:

1. *The New Emissions Trading Directive. The First European Implementation of the Mechanisms Provided for by the Kyoto Protocol*, 2003
2. *Environmental Liability. The New Directive on Environmental Liability Regarding the Prevention and Allocation of Environmental Damage*, 2005
3. *Seveso Thirty Years Later: Industrial Risk Management*, 2006
4. *Seveso Thirty Years Later: Legal, Sociological, and Research Perspectives*, ed. B. Pozzo, 2008

5. *EU Energy Policies. An Analysis of Incentives for the Development of Renewable Energy Sources*, B. Pozzo (Ed.), 2009
6. *The New EU Emissions Trading System. From Directive 2003/87/EC to the Changes Introduced by Directive 2009/29/EC*. B. Pozzo (Ed.), 2010
7. *Renewable Energy Between the State and the Regions. An Unstable Balance Between Market, Autonomy, and Environment*, Lorenzo Cuocolo, 2011
8. *Green economy and regulatory levers*, B. Pozzo (Ed.) 2013
9. *Environmental Liability: Civil, Administrative, and Criminal Aspects – Italian Law in the Context of European Union Law*, B. Pozzo (Ed.) 2022.

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English, French, and German.

## AREAS OF INTEREST

- Methods of Legal Comparison.
- Environmental Law, Energy Law, and Climate Change Law.
- Comparative Law and Language, European Multilingualism Policies, Legal Translation, Law and Literature, Law and Cinema.
- Gender Policies from a Comparative Perspective.
- Fashion and Law.
- Advertising and Law.
- Comparative Corporate Law.

Barbara Pozzo's areas of interest are diverse, though they fall within the broader framework of the field of Comparative Private Law (a subject that has undergone various administrative codifications over time).

An initial focus, such as environmental law and climate change—which straddles the fields of public and private law—was followed by an interest in topics more specifically related to private law, but situated at the intersection of civil and commercial law, culminating in a monographic study on the repurchase of treasury shares from a comparative perspective.

These “borderline” studies and research have spurred in-depth explorations of methodological issues, to which a sporadic yet significant phase of her research on comparative methodology was dedicated.

Consequently, Barbara Pozzo's interests have focused on the most cutting-edge aspects of comparative methodology, namely those related to language and translation studies: fields to which she has dedicated significant monographic studies and educational initiatives, gaining a certain prominence in this area of research (she was, in fact, invited to speak at the Accademia dei Lincei in 2017).

This subsequent development was inspired by the connections between language and gender issues, which were strongly emphasized by the ideological movements of *Legal Feminism*, particularly influential in American academic circles. After conducting a critical analysis of these approaches, which are rooted in a realistic phenomenology, Barbara Pozzo's focus shifted to more pragmatic issues related to the legal regulation of sectors of human activity connected to communication-related themes (and thus linked to the medium of language in the broadest sense), such as fashion and advertising.