

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Massimo Tommasoli

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WORK EXPERIENCE

01/06/2021–Present

Director of Global Programmes

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Stockholm (Sweden)

Responsible for strategic planning and implementation of IDEA's global programmes, leading a team of over 60 experts and managing an annual budget of over 10 million Euros, focused on: electoral processes; constitution building; political participation and representation; parliamentary development; democracy analysis; democracy and inclusion; digitalization and democracy; climate change and democracy. The GP portfolio includes: the publication of the annual Global State of Democracy Report, handbooks, policy briefs, reports and assessment tools; the development and maintenance of online knowledge resources and databases; the creation and facilitation of communities of practices; and advisory and technical assistance services to IDEA regional and country partners

01/02/2007–31/12/2022

Permanent Observer for International IDEA to the United Nations

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), New York (United States)

Responsible for International IDEA's strategic partnerships at the UN, as well as North America outreach. Responsible for policy advocacy on democracy at the United Nations, especially in connection with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and UN policy fora. Organization of over 150 side events, seminars and round tables on the margins of high-level UN policy fora on such themes as: The rule of law and the quality of democracy; Electoral processes and electoral justice; Transitional justice and reconciliation; Constitution building processes in post-conflict settings; Political participation and representation; Gender equality and political participation; Democracy and development. Production of policy-relevant publications and analyses on UN and democracy building

01/06/2005–31/01/2006

Acting Secretary-General

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Stockholm (Sweden)

Responsible for the strategic planning and management of the Institute. Led the senior management team, strengthened partnerships and enhanced resource mobilization

02/01/2004–31/01/2007

Director of Operations

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Stockholm (Sweden)

Responsible for overall planning, design, and implementation of IDEA's programme of operations articulated into thematic components (electoral process, political parties, constitution building, gender and democracy building, democracy assessments and analysis), and regional programmes in Latin America, Africa, South Asia and South Caucasus, with seven field offices

19/04/2003–31/12/2003

Senior Advisor on Aid Policies

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Rome (Italy)

Policy advisor on governance and development co-operation during the semester of the Italian Presidency of the European Union. Member of the Italian delegation at the Peer Review of Italy carried out by the OECD/Development Assistance Committee

19/04/1999–18/04/2003

Principal Administrator

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) – Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD), Policy Co-ordination Division (POL), Paris (France)

Head of the Good Governance and Conflict Prevention Unit. Responsible for the support to the DAC Network on Good Governance and Capacity Development (GOVNET) and the DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation (CPDC). Lead-editor of the DAC Guidelines on Conflict Prevention. Member of the DAC Peer Reviews of the aid programmes of the United Kingdom and Italy, with field visits in Nepal and Ethiopia

01/06/1998–18/04/1999

Aid Advisor

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Under-Secretary of State, Rome (Italy)

Responsible for drafting policy papers and providing technical advice in connection with the parliamentary hearings on the reform of the Italian development co-operation. Responsible for the organization of three national consultations on decentralized co-operation and participatory development; migration and aid policies; private sector development policies and instruments

01/05/1989–31/05/1998

Social Development Specialist, Aid Evaluation Advisor

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General for Development Co-operation, Rome (Italy)

Evaluation Advisor, Evaluation Unit (1995-98): Coordinator of a team of evaluation experts for the quality control of financing proposals, as well as on-going and ex-post evaluations at the policy and programme levels. Responsible for the evaluation of the Italian support to education and training policies and the Italian aid in the University and tertiary education sector. Member of the OECD/DAC Working Group on Aid Evaluation and the Steering Committee for the evaluation of the European Commission aid to ACP countries

Social Development Specialist, Central Technical Unit, East/West Africa (1991-95): Coordinator of a team of social development experts and manager of aid projects in the fields of University cooperation, vocational training, rural development, food security, involuntary resettlement, rural water supply, primary health care, urban sanitation and humanitarian aid in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, and Somalia. Member of the Italian delegation to the UN conferences on Women (Beijing 1995) and Social Development (Copenhagen 1995)

Horn of Africa Desk Officer, East and West Africa Office (1989-90): Responsible for the preparation and technical negotiations with partner countries of country strategies and programmes in Ethiopia and Somalia, the IGAD and CILSS regions

01/11/1996–31/07/1998

Evaluation Expert

European Training Foundation, Turin (Italy)

Responsible for the evaluation methodology in the core team of the European Training Foundation (ETF) for an evaluation of the management training portfolio of TACIS in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Mongolia (for a total of over 107 million ECU). TACIS was the EU initiative to support transition to market economies and democratic societies in the CIS and Mongolia. Co-author of the synthesis report based on the evaluation of 20 projects. Author of the evaluation of two projects in St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) implemented by the SDA Bocconi (Italy) and ULG Gould Consultants (UK)

01/02/1987–30/04/1989

Free-lance Consultant

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Rome (Italy)

Identification, preparation and assessment of social development components of rural development, primary health care and resettlement projects in Ethiopia and Somalia

15/01/1985–14/01/1987

Associate Expert

UNESCO, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

Assisted with the supervision of the co-operation between UNESCO and Ethiopia, the Organization for African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in the fields of education, science, culture and information. Author of reports on educational policies & planning and rural development in Ethiopia

01/11/1982–01/01/1984

Researcher

Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP) & Istituto Italo-Africano (IIA, then ISIAO), Rome (Italy)

IIA-ISIAO (1984): Research on resettlement and villagization in Northern Tanzania
CISP (1982-84): Research on peasants' settlements in the Amazon basin in Colombia

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

01/10/1994–12/02/1998

Doctorat

École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris (France)
Anthropology of Development & African Studies

EQF level 8

11/10/1978–17/12/1982

Laurea in Lettere

University La Sapienza, Rome (Italy)
Social Anthropology ("Indirizzo demoetnoantropologico")

EQF level 6

15/10/1973–20/06/1978

Diploma di Maturità Scientifica

Liceo Scientifico Marcello Malpighi, Rome (Italy)

EQF level 4

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

Italian

Foreign language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Spanish	C2	C2	C2	C2	C1
French	C2	C2	C1	C1	C1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

Public speaker, moderator of international panels, and author of policy briefs and op-eds

Organisational and
Managerial skills

Leadership and organizational skills gained as senior manager in international organizations
Management training on conflict management, project cycle management, results-based management, and collaborative approaches to team building

Job-related skills

Development of International IDEA's institutional and multilateral policy advocacy strategic frameworks

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Independent user	Independent user	Basic user	Independent user	Basic user

Digital skills - Self-assessment grid

Good command of Microsoft Office

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Memberships

Board Member: Società Italiana di Antropologia (SIAA)
Member: Academic Council on the UN System (ACUNS); Associazione Italiana di Scienze Etno-Antropologiche (AISEA); International Political Science Association (IPSA); International Studies Association (ISA); Associazione Italiana di Valutazione (AIV); European Evaluation Society (EES)
Editorial Board Member of academic journals: *Etnoantropologia* (1997-2001); *Antropologia Pubblica* (since 2017)

Publications

Author of nine books, including: *Democracy and the Pillars of UN Work*, Stockholm & New York 2014 (translated into the UN official languages); *Nel nome dello sviluppo: Politiche di reinsediamento e conflitti in Africa orientale* (In the Name of Development: Resettlement Policies and Conflicts in East Africa), Rome 2013; *Politiche di cooperazione internazionale: Analisi e valutazione* (International Aid Policies: Analysis and Evaluation), Rome 2013; *Lo sviluppo partecipativo: Analisi sociale e logiche di pianificazione* (Participatory Development: Social Analysis and the Rationale for Planning), Rome 2001 (translated into French and Spanish)

Author of over 40 essays in edited books and articles in peer-reviewed social science journals (full list available on demand) on electoral assistance, the anthropology of democracy assistance, the quality of democracy, civil society and parliamentary/electoral processes, education sector policies and planning, aid and development, democratic governance, human rights, peace and security, and gender equality

Conferences

Responsible for the organization of conferences, seminars and workshops at international congresses of anthropology, political science, international relations and African studies, including panels at the following international conferences:

- The Annual Meetings of the ACUNS in 2018 (LUISS University, Rome) and 2021 (New York)
- The IPSA World Congresses in Fukuoka (2006), Santiago de Chile (2009), Madrid (2012), and Poznan (2016)
- The SIAA Annual Meetings in Prato (2015), Trento (2016), Catania (2017), Cremona (2018), Ferrara (2019), Parma (2020), Rome (2021), Verona (2022), Perugia (2023), Messina (2024)

Panelist at international conferences (full list of presentations available on demand)

Academic experience

National Scientific Qualification ("Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale") for full professorship ("Professore di prima fascia") in Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (2015)

Distinguished Scholar, International Studies, Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership, City College of New York

Guest lecturer, Universities of Bergamo, Bologna, Chieti, Milan, Pavia, Pisa, Rome, Venice, European University Institute (Florence), UN System Staff College (Turin), UNITAR (New York)

Visiting professor at the LUISS "Guido Carli" University, Rome (2016)

Fieldwork experience

Sub-Saharan Africa (Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania); Latin America (Colombia); The Russian Federation