

Carolina De Stefano

Carolina De Stefano is a Lecturer in European and Russian History at Luiss Guido Carli University and an associate member of the Centre d'Etudes des Mondes Russe, Caucasiens & Centre-Européen (CERCEC-EHESS) in Paris.

After graduating in International Relations from Luiss Guido Carli University, she earned her PhD from Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and a post-doc from the Finnish Academy of Sciences, with a dissertation and research project focusing on the collapse of the USSR and the handling of post-Soviet ethnic conflicts.

From 2014 until early 2022 she conducted long-term archival research in Moscow. She has been a visiting researcher at several research institutions, including Harvard University, George Washington University, the Hoover Institution at Stanford, and the University of Warsaw. She is fluent in Russian.

She is the author of *Storia del Potere in Russia. Dagli Zar a Putin* (Morcelliana, 2022) and has published several articles on late-Soviet and contemporary Russian history in international peer-reviewed academic journals such as *Kritika* (forthcoming, 2025), *Russian History* (2023), *Cahiers du Monde Russe* (2023), *Russian Review* (2022), the *Journal of Eurasian Studies* (2020). Her current book project aims to provide the first systematic historical account of the attempts made by experts and politicians under Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin to reform nationality policies, handle ethnic conflicts, and give birth to Russia's new foreign policy towards its new neighbors in the years of the Soviet disintegration 1986-1994. This research aims to retrace some of the historical and political roots of today's Russo-Ukrainian War.

Since 2016 she has collaborated as a Russia expert with Oxford Analytica, as well as written analyses on Russian politics, foreign policy, and Russia-Ukraine relations for national newspapers (*Il Sole 24 Ore*, *Corriere della Sera*, *Domani*, and *The Huffington Post*).