

# Martina Mecco

## Current position

Martina Mecco is a post-doctoral fellow at MODERNITAS (Université Libre de Bruxelles) as part of the PDR project 'Belgium "read" in German and Czech' directed by Petra James (ULB) and Roland Hubert (UCL).

## Education

### PhD in Germanic and Slavic Studies

Sapienza University of Rome | Charles University in Prague

Thesis title: "Roman Jakobson's Collaboration with Interwar Czech Press" – English

Supervisor: Prof. Annalisa Cosentino

Co-Advisors: doc. Mgr. Ph.D. Libuše Heczková | Prof. Tomáš Glanc

October 2021 – October 2024 (Discussion: January 2025) | Excellent cum laude

### MA in European and American languages and literatures

University of Padova

Thesis title: "La memoria culturale e l'avanguardia. L'identità collettiva del Devětsil e Majakovskij a confronto" (Cultural Memory and the Avant-garde. The Collective Identity of Devětsil and the Case of Mayakovsky Compared) – Czech and Italian

Supervisor: prof. Alessandro Catalano | prof. Claudia Criveller

October 2019 – July 2021 | 110/110 cum laude

### BA in Language, literature and cultural communication

University of Padova

Thesis title: "Gli *Apollosonette* di Rilke come superamento della poetica del Dinggedicht" (Rilke's *Apollosonette* as Defeat of the Dinggedicht Poetic) – German and Italian

Supervisor: prof. Elisabetta Mengaldo

October 2016 – September 2019 | 110/110 cum laude

## Fundings, Awards and Grants

- February 2025 – December 2025: Member of the project Digeocat & lib - Research into representations of intercultural contacts in Czech travelogue texts from the Mediterranean up to 1918, using digital humanities (Universita degli Studi di Udine, Universidad de Granada, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Moravská zemská knihovna v Brně)

- September 2024 – January 2025: Government scholarship at Charles University of Prague (Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
- March 2024 – May 2024: Visiting PhD student at Harvard University (Doctoral mobility – Research at Harvard University, MIT, and Columbia University)
- September 2023: Scholarship for short-term research visiting at University of Warsaw (NaNo Project)
- May 2023: Award for outstanding RID (research, development, and innovation) at Charles University of Prague
- December 2022: Short-term research visiting at Moravská zemská knihovna in Brno
- September 2022 – July 2023: Erasmus scholarship at Charles University of Prague
- July 2022: Fellowship Josef Dobrovský at Institute of Czech Literature, Academy of Czech Sciences
- March 2021 – June 2021: Government scholarship at Charles University of Prague (Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
- October 20120 – February 2021: Erasmus scholarship at Charles University of Prague

## Publications

### Books

- 2027 (in preparation) “Археология славистики. Переписка Романа Якобсона в фонде Славише Рундшай (1928-1934)” (An archeology of Slavic Studies. Roman Jakobson’s correspondence in *Slavische Rundschau*’s archive)

### Academic articles

- 2026 (in preparation) “Poesia e Rivoluzione. Appunti sulla ricezione della “nuova” poesia russa nella Cecoslovacchia interbellica”, in *Costellazioni*.
- 2025 (in preparation) ““У меня есть своя карта России, карта пустых сердец”. Le reportage dans la Russie de Poutine : formes et stratégies”, in *Slavica Occitania*.
- 2025 (in preparation) “Poetica/Poetiche. Nuovi percorsi nel formalismo russo” (Poetic/Poetics. New Paths through Russian Formalism) (working title) – with Lidia Tripiccione (Princeton University).
- 2025 (in preparation) Commented edition of Roman Jakobson’s Brno lectures on Old Czech Verse (1934), in *Slovo a smysl*.
- 2023: “Roman Jakobson and *Slavische Rundschau*”, in *Cahiers Ferdinand de Saussure*, 75, 83-100.
- 2024: “The Contours of Roman Jakobson’s *Randbemerkungen zur Prosa des Dichters Pasternak*. From Russian to Italian: a Fifty-year Journey (1935-1985)”, in *Europa orientalis*, 43, 351-398.

- 2024: “‘Il verso ceco ricorda il suono di una raganella’. Roman Jakobson rivoluzionario della prosodia ceca” (“Czech Verse Reminds of the Noise of a Rattle”. Roman Jakobson’s Revolution of Czech Prosodic System), in *Slavia. Rivista trimestrale di cultura*, 3, 147-156.
- 2023: “Ripellino saggista: scritti di letteratura e cultura ceca” (Ripellino Essayist: Writings on Czech Literature), in *eSamizdat*, 26, 375-379.
- 2023: “I legami di Roman Jakobson con la stampa tedesca praghese. Il caso *Prager Presse*” (Roman Jakobson’s Relationships with the German Press of Prague. The Case of *Prager Presse*), in *Ricerche Slavistiche*, 6, 109-133.
- 2023 (printing): “Cara Olga. L’elusione della censura nelle lettere di Václav Havel alla moglie” (Dear Olga. The Circumvention of Censorship in Václav Havel’s Letters to his Wife), in *Il confronto letterario*, Special Issue, 121-131.
- 2022: “Language and Stylistic Aspects of Karel Čapek’s Journalistic Writing: An Analysis of *Hovory s T. G. Masarykem* through the Method of Textual Linguistics”, in *Academic Journal of Modern Philology*, 18, 121-130.

## Reviews

- 2023: Review of Ivan Šuša, *Italian Literature: Filling in the Blanks of its Slovak Translation*, in *Nová Filologická Revue*, 1, 107-108.
- 2022: Review of Vittorio Springfield Tomelleri, *Linguistica e filologia in Unione Sovietica. Trilogia fra sapere e potere* (Linguistics and Philology in the Soviet Union. Trilogy between Knowledge and Power), in *Ricerche Slavistiche*, 5, 484-486.
- 2022 Review of Petr Čornej – Václava Kofránková, *Místa paměti v procesu formování moderního českého národa – “Teorie míst paměti v rekonstrukci českých národních symbolů 19. století”* (*Places of Memory in the Formation of Czech Modern Nation – “The Theory of Places of Memory in the Reconstruction of Czech National Symbols of the Nineteenth Century”*), in *Slovo a smysl*, 41, 158-160.

## Translations

- 2025: Katarína Kucbelová, extract from *K bilej*.  
Translation Slovak-Italian
- 2024: Karel Teige, “Foto, Cinema, Film” (Photo, Cinema, Film), in *eSamizdat*, 17, 133-152.  
Translation Czech-Italian
- 2024: Roman Jakobson, “Note in margine alla prosa del poeta Pasternak” (Marginal Notes to the Prose of the Poet Pasternak), in *Europa orientalis*, 43, 351-398.  
Translation Russian-Italian
- 2023: Il’ja Zemcovskij, “Il folklorismo contemporaneo” (Contemporary Folklorism), in *Una romanza crudele. Estetiche e politiche del folklore nella Russia del 900* (*A Cruel Romance. Aesthetics and Politics of Folklore in 1900s Russia*), Pacini Editore, Pisa, 255-270.  
Translation Russian-Italian

- 2023: *Antologia di letteratura slovacca contemporanea (Anthology of Contemporary Slovak Literature)*, Istituto Slovacco, Roma | Selection of poems and proses by Katerína Kucbelová, Zuzana Husárová, Michal Habaj and Ivana Dobrákovová.  
Translation Slovak-Italian
- 2023: Elena Kostjučenko, *La mia Russia (The Country I love)*, Einaudi, Torino.  
Translation Russian-Italian
- 2022: Aleksandr Belousov, “Il folklore urbano: lezione a studenti per corrispondenza” (Urban Folklore: A Lesson for Long-Distance Student), in *eSamizdat*, 25, 229-240.  
Translation Russian-Italian

### Conferences, Presentations, and Speaking

- April 2025: “Libuše Sobotková and Junia Letty: Cultural Mediators between Belgium and Czechoslovakia”  
*Mediating Belongings, Constructing Identities: Belgian Modernism in Transfer (1870-1940)*  
Maison française d’Oxford, Oxford
- March 2025: “The Prague Linguistic Circle in the interwar periodicals: some remarks”  
*Workshop One Hundred Years of Czech Structuralism: Legacy, Influence, and Future Directions* -  
with Ondřej Sládek, Bohumil Fořt, Cristian Cămara Outes  
MODERNITAS – Université libre de Bruxelles
- March 2025: “‘У меня есть своя карта России, карта пустых сердец’. Le reportage dans la Russie de Poutine : formes et stratégies”  
*Être écrivain.e sous Poutine : retour sur deux décennies d’histoire littéraire*  
INALCO, Paris
- November 2024: Workshop “TradurRe”, translating contemporary Slovak literature into Italian.  
Sapienza University of Rome
- November 2024: “Cultural Memory: Theory and Applications”.  
Lecture in the frame of mgr. Lukáš Kubík course “Koreanistika v kontextu společenských věd”  
(Korean Studies in the Context of Social Sciences).  
Charles University of Prague
- October 2024: Organisation and moderation of the online lecture “Tynianov in/and/on Film” by prof. Daria Khitrova (Harvard University).  
Online Lectures promoted by the Italian Young Slavists Collective
- July 2024: Organisation of the conference and presentation of the poster “Slavic Studies in Czechoslovakia: Space and Identity (1929)”.  
*Selfscapes. Identity Shaping at the Intersection of Self, Community, and Environment*  
Sapienza University of Rome and Karlova Univerzita v Praze, Rome
- April 2024: “Jakobson’s *Marginal Notes on the Prose of the Poet Pasternak (1935)*: perspectives of analysis between Russia, Czechoslovakia and Italy”.  
*GSAS Workshop*  
Harvard University (Slavic Department), Cambridge MA
- February 2024: “‘Czech Verse Reminds of the Noise of a Rattle.’ Roman Jakobson’s Revolution of the Czech Prosodic System”.

*Norms, reforms, deviations. International Conference of the Young Slavist Collective*  
University of Verona, Verona

- December 2023: “Ripellino Saggista: Scritti di letteratura ceca” (Ripellino Essayist: Writings on Czech Literature)  
*Angelo Maria Ripellino letto dai giovani studiosi: Due tavole rotonde del per il centenario (1923-2023) (Angelo Maria Ripellino Read by Young Scholars: Two Roundtables for the Centenary /1923-2023/)*  
Sapienza University of Rome, Rome
- December 2023: Two presentations about Roman Jakobson’s activity in Czechoslovakia in the frame of prof. Annalisa Cosentino’s course of Czech Literature.  
Sapienza University of Rome
- June 2023: “‘Lingvistická smetánka’: Jakobson and Bogatyrev in Interwar Czechoslovakia”  
*Beyond Language 2023 Conference*  
University of Wrocław, Wrocław
- May 2023: “Cinema ucraino contemporaneo 2014-2022” (Contemporary Ukrainian Cinema 2014-2022) – with Claudia Fiorito (University of Padova)  
*Ucraina in primo piano (Ukraine in the Foreground)*  
University of Padova, Padova
- November 2022: “Roman Jakobson in Interwar Czechoslovakia”  
*Josef Dobrovský Fellowship Roundtable*  
Institute of Czech Literature – Academy of Czech Sciences, Prague
- October 2022: “Discussion: Who is Alessandro Baricco? with Miroslava Vallová and Stanislav Vallo” – with Matteo Annechiarico (Sapienza University of Rome)  
*Literary Maps. Festival of Contemporary Slovak Literature*  
Catania
- September 2022: “Roman Jakobson v Československu. Esejistický styl a publicistika” (Roman Jakobson in Czechoslovakia. Essay Style and Journalism)  
*Annual Doctoral Conference*  
Institute of Czech Literature – Academy of Czech Sciences, Třešť
- July 2022: “Beyond the Tradition of the Novel. Elaborations and (Re)interpretations of Disorientation in Contemporary Czech Prose”  
*Losing the World, Losing the Self within the World. Observations and Expressions Concerning Estrangement – Doctoral Conference*  
Sapienza University of Rome, Rome
- June 2022: “Aspects of Karel Čapek’s Journalistic Writing: an Analysis of *Hovory s T.G. Masarykem* through the Method of Text Linguistics”  
*Beyond Language 2022 Conference*  
University of Wrocław, Wrocław
- May 2022: “Cara Olga. L’elusione della censura nelle lettere di Václav Havel alla moglie” (Dear Olga. The Circumvention of Censorship in Václav Havel’s Letters to his Wife)  
*Forme e conseguenze della censura nel testo letterario (Forms and Consequences of Censorship in Literature) – Doctoral Conference*  
University of Pavia, Pavia

- April 2021: “Vzpomínky jako obrazy pro všechny smysly. *Všecky krásy světa* Jaroslava Seiferta” (Memories as Images for All Senses. *All the Beauties of the World* by Jaroslav Seifert)  
*Annual Student Conference*  
Institute of Czech Literature – Academy of Czech Sciences, Olomouc

## Linguistic Skills

Language	Comprehension	Writing	Speaking
<b>Czech</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<b>Russian</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<b>German</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<b>English</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<b>French</b>	Excellent	Very Good	Excellent
<b>Polish</b>	Very good	Good	Good
<b>Ukrainian</b>	Good	Good	Good
<b>Italian</b>	Mother language	Mother language	Mother Language

## Other activities

**2024 – now** Co-organiser and promoter of the Italian Census of Young Slavist – with Marta Riparante (Bulgarian Academy of Science) and Federico Piccolo (University of Palermo).

**2024 – now** Member of the Italian Young Slavists Collective, which aims to create a fruitful network between students and PhD students involved into Slavic Studies with an interdisciplinary and international perspective.

In the last years I have been involved in some Italian web journals which aim to propagate knowledge about Central and East Europe:

- **2021 – now** Director of the Italian web journal *Andergraund Rivista*
  - Reviews of books and films, interviews (with Jachym Topol, Joanna Stingray, Phila Primus, Antonio Lukič, Georgi Gospodinov, Katarina Kucbelová, Szántó T. Gábor, Tereza Semotamová, Michal Viewegh etc.), and translations from Russian, Czech and German.
- **2021 – now** Contributor free-lance for the web magazine *Meridiano 13*
  - Reviews of books and films, interviews.
- **2020 – 2023** Contributor free-lance for the web magazine *Estranei*
  - Articles and reviews.
- **2020 – 2021** Contributor free-lance for the web magazine *EastJournal*