



MADDALENA DONZELLI

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PROFILE

Experienced and driven Scientific Officer with a strong background of managing international projects, while providing support to strategic and operational planning within research-performing institutes and research-related organisations. Passionate, self-motivated individual with a proven track record of working collaboratively with scientists, research managers, policy- and decision-makers at national, European and global levels. Experience as direct assistant to the Chair and Executive Board of European and global research-strategy organisations. Effective communication, exceptional organization, attention to detail and proven ability to exercise a high level of confidentiality, discretion and diplomacy. Determined for a suitable position in a research organisation where she can fulfil her potential.

EXPERIENCE

- 2015-present **Scientific Officer**
[H2020 StR-ESFRI projects, Department of Physics, University of Milano – UniMi](#)
Management of EU-funded projects to support the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) to implement the programme regarding investment opportunities on world-class Research Infrastructures and their strategic planning at European and international level
- 2010-2015 **Senior Research Scientist**
[Drug Discovery Programme, European Institute of Oncology – DDP-IEO, Milano](#)
Strategic support to the programme and management of activities for the implementation of research projects aimed at the identification of candidate targets for novel molecules with antineoplastic activities
- 2005-2010 **Research Scientist**
[Pier Paolo Di Fiore’s Laboratory, FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology – IFOM, Milano](#)
Management of research projects on Notch-signaling pathway and its regulation in cancer diseases
- 1999-2004 **Post-doctoral Researcher**
[Giulio Francesco Draetta’s Laboratory, European Institute of Oncology – IEO, Milano](#)
Management of research programmes on cell-division cycle and its regulation in cancer diseases
- 1995-1998 **PhD Researcher**
[Anna Ivana Scovassi’s Laboratory, Istituto di Genetica Molecolare – IGM-CNR, Pavia](#)
Support to the implementation of research projects on apoptosis-related mechanisms in cancer diseases

EDUCATION

- 2020-present **Management of Research Infrastructures Executive Master, second level**
[University of Milano-Bicocca](#)
Attending the third edition
- 2013-2014 **Journalism and Institutional Communication of Science Master, first level**
[University of Ferrara](#)
Full marks and honours
- 1995-1998 **Applied Genetics Specialization**
[University of Pavia](#)
Full marks
- 1989-1995 **Biological Sciences MSc**
[University of Pavia](#)
Full marks and honours



SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Author of 24 articles published on peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Web of Science: H-Index=18, citations>2.000

ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4045-0802>

SCOPUS AUTHOR ID: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6701320614>

Web of Science ResearcherID: <https://publons.com/researcher/4008626/maddalena-donzelli/>

INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY PAPERS

Editor of 8 strategic publications for the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures.

- December 2021 **Strategy Report on Research Infrastructures – ESFRI Roadmap 2021**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, December 2021
[ESFRI Roadmap 2021](#)
- March 2020 **Making Science happen – ESFRI White Paper 2020**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, March 2020
[ESFRI White Paper 2020](#)
- June 2019 **Guidelines on cost estimation of Research Infrastructures**
StR-ESFRI Study, June 2019
[Cost estimation of Research Infrastructures](#)
- August 2018 **Strategy Report on Research Infrastructures – ESFRI Roadmap 2018**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, August 2018
[ESFRI Roadmap 2018](#)
- January 2018 **Innovation-oriented cooperation of Research Infrastructures – ESFRI Scripta Vol. 3**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, January 2018
[ESFRI Scripta Vol. 3](#)
- October 2017 **Long-Term Sustainability of Research Infrastructures – ESFRI Scripta Vol. 2**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, October 2017
[ESFRI Scripta Vol. 2](#)
- September 2016 **Neutron scattering facilities in Europe – ESFRI Scripta Vol. 1**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, September 2016
[ESFRI Scripta Vol. 1](#)
- March 2016 **Strategy Report on Research Infrastructures – ESFRI Roadmap 2016**
European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, March 2016
[ESFRI Roadmap 2016](#)

EU-FUNDED PROJECTS

- 2022-2026 **GA101058092** – HEU INFRA-2021-DEV-01 Coordination and Support Action
Support to Reinforce the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures, StR-ESFRI3
Total EC Funding: € 2.500.000. UMIL budget: € 398.725
- 2021-2025 **GA101008503** – H2020 INFRASUPP-02-2020 Coordination and Support Action
Strengthening the human capital of research infrastructures (RItrainPlus)
Total EC Funding: € 2.000.000. UMIL budget: € 149.623,75
- 2019-2022 **GA823711** – H2020 INFRASUPP-01-2018-2019 Coordination and Support Action
Support to Reinforce the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures, StR-ESFRI2
Total EC Funding: € 1.499.864,80. UMIL budget: € 293.917
- 2015-2019 **GA654213** – H2020-INFRASUPP-2014-2 Coordination and Support Action
Support to Reinforce the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures, StR-ESFRI
Total EC Funding: € 1.999.983,75. UMIL budget: € 671.625



SKILLS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Management of research support projects

I am a partner member – for the University of Milano – of the European Union funded Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects – StR-ESFRI, StR-ESFRI2 and StR-ESFRI3 – that aim to reinforce the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures. Within this role, I led the support to the ESFRI Forum and managed the delivery of the ESFRI Roadmap updates in 2016, 2018 and 2021. These activities require a high level of drive and enthusiasm and focus on achieving challenging and time-pressured goals, along with strong project management and people engagement skills.

My role consists of the operational management of the project workflow from launch of the call for new proposals of Research Infrastructure to presentation of the Roadmap update to target audiences. I coordinate the process timeline and identify key milestones to keep project scheduling on track, monitoring the progress of activities and meeting tight deadlines to ensure the delivery of the Roadmap. Main point is the engagement with senior stakeholders responsible for setting the procedure and methodology and performing the peer-review evaluation of new proposals from RIs and assessment of existing ESFRI RIs. Coordination and mutual interaction among various parties, as well as harmonization with and across internal drafting groups for scientific and strategic content of the Roadmap are also key responsibilities of my project management activity to accomplish projects objectives.

I oversee the development, release and maintenance – with respect to content management, user engagement and training – of a digital database platform (The Monitoring System, MoS) that underpins the process allowing monitoring the effectiveness of proposal application and the assessment of project performance. I provide timely contribution to the delivery of supporting documentation – application forms and guidelines for applicants and internal/external experts, evaluation reports from reviewers' panels – arrangement for interviews with projects' principal investigators, ranking of proposals, drafting of recommendations and correspondence with RIs.

I provide input for the production of dissemination materials, news press releases and logistics of events organized to deliver ESFRI outcomes and achievements to a variety of audiences using a wide selection of channels and tools, for example the presentation of the Roadmap publication at national, European and international level.

Support to senior stakeholders

I have been the direct assistant to the ESFRI Chair – Prof. Giorgio Rossi from the Department of Physics at the University of Milano between 2016-2018 – providing overall support to ESFRI to implement its mandate, to monitor procedures and guidelines, to arrange internal and external meetings and subsequent follow-up, also liaising with the ESFRI Secretariat provided by the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission (DG-RTD). During this period, I also supported Prof. Giorgio Rossi in his activity as Italian representative – and covering the role of Chair in 2017 – of the Group of Senior Officials on Global Research Infrastructures (GSO) reporting to the G7+5 Science Ministers and in his role of Italian delegate of the Governing Board of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). The role of Giorgio Rossi is very high-profile and my role required high international mobility, effective communication, exceptional organization, strict attention to detail and a proven ability to exercise a high level of confidentiality, discretion, diplomacy.

My duties ranged from daily activities – agenda planning, calendar management, correspondence and documents editing and archiving – to full-term tasks – Forum Plenary, Executive Board, Working Groups meetings' management and events' organisation, accompanying documentation's delivery, presentations' provision, note-taking, follow-up on meeting outcomes and briefing to ESFRI members and bodies. I provide timely contribution to the delivery of supporting documentation for internal use, guidelines and manuals as well as public reports for policy- and decision-makers at ministerial level, both verbally and in writing (in English).

Communication and interpersonal skills, content development and editorial review

I have a long history of working in international multicultural and interdisciplinary environments, demonstrating good interpersonal skills and an ability to operate independently as well as part of a team. I engage with a broad range of stakeholders at multiple levels – project members, academic colleagues, researchers, managers, internal and external experts, policy- and decision-makers at ministerial level – for effective communication to achieve common goals.



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I have strong written communication skills demonstrated by experience in developing material for user communications and for dissemination to a variety of audiences. I contributed to the production of guides and manuals as well as reports for high-level stakeholders and committees for internal and external use. I am indeed the editorial manager responsible for data gathering, content development, editing review, graphical design and copywriting of several strategic and scientific publications for the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures including three ESFRI Roadmap updates – 2016, 2018 and 2021 –, two ESFRI Annual Reports, three ESFRI Scripta series volumes, the ESFRI White Paper 2020 as well as the GSO Report 2017 to G7 Science Ministers and the StR-ESFRI Study commissioned to CSIL on 'Cost estimation of Research Infrastructures'.

I have excellent oral communication skills and a proven record of delivering presentations, workshops and training sessions to a variety of audiences, including project partners and senior colleagues, as attested by the high number of meetings, workshops and dedicated events I participated in with the role of organiser and also as invited speaker. I am experienced in news press releases and logistics of events as well as in social media and dedicated applications for networking and for website content management.

Management of research projects

I have a deep knowledge of the biological mechanisms leading to cancer diseases and a long-lasting professional experience in cancer research, first at the Institute of Molecular Genetics of the National Research Council of Italy in Pavia and subsequently at the European Institute of Oncology and at the FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology in Milano. This is where I first studied the regulation of the mammalian cell-division cycle and signal transduction in preclinical cancer models and subsequently participated in a translational research programme to identify new drugs with antineoplastic activity. I acquired the skills to understand scientific principles and concepts and gained the tools to deepen knowledge on specific topics when necessary. Above all, I have learned how to administer a research project – from design to realisation – for successful delivery of its results as demonstrated by many scientific publications. I am the first, last and corresponding author of 24 articles published in peer-reviewed scientific journals with high-impact factor (Web of Science: H-Index=18, citations>2.000).

Scouting and proposal preparation for funding opportunities in research and innovation

I have an advanced awareness of the principal funding schemes for research and innovation projects at national, European and international level with in-depth understanding of EU opportunities under past Horizon 2020 and current Horizon Europe Framework Programmes.

I have been engaged in the H2020-funded StR-ESFRI project and provided contribution for the preparation of the follow-up projects, StR-ESFRI2 and StR-ESFRI3. I collaborate effectively with consortium's partners for running the activities, including procurement of goods, services, or works from external sources, often via a tendering or competitive bidding process (e.g. external graphic design and printing agencies). I contribute to the drafting of technical and scientific project reports, and liaise with the university administrative office for pre-award and post-award reporting.

On the same topic, I am coordinating the UniMi activities in the H2020-funded project about training of operators and managers of Research Infrastructures (RItrainPlus). The project, that brings together 16 European partners, has been awarded a 4-year grant with a budget of 2 Million € and is coordinated by the University of Milano-Bicocca.

Other

I am fluent in spoken and written English, being a key member of an international consortium bringing together representatives from five different countries and supporting high-level international expert groups.

I am a proficient user of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat) which I apply to customise products for specific targets and audiences.

I am promoting the activities and mission of a climate change activist via social media as well as carrying out digital communication and fund-raising campaigns for a non-profit association.