

CV VERONICA MARGHERITA COCCO

Veronica Margherita Cocco is Associate Professor of Social Psychology at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (since 2024). She obtained her Master's Degree in Clinical and Social Intervention Psychology in 2020 at the University of Parma. In 2023, she completed her PhD in Psychology at the University of Parma, carrying out part of her activities as a Visiting Researcher at the University of Greenwich (UK). Following the work conducted during her PhD, she was awarded the SPSP Student Publication Award (2023) for the paper: "Mobilizing or Sedative Effects? A Narrative Review of the Association between Intergroup Contact and Collective Action among Advantaged and Disadvantaged Groups."

Subsequently, she carried out research activities at the University of Verona as a research fellow for the PRIN PNRR 2022 PASSION project (sPort to promote solidArity and wellneSS among children and yOuNgsters), focused on the use of sport to promote solidarity and well-being among children and adolescents.

She is currently:

Member of the Executive Committee of the Italian Association of Psychology (AIP) for the 2022–2025 term and affiliated with several scientific associations in the field, including the European Association of Social Psychology (EASP).

Member of the Third Mission Commission of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, within the Department of Surgical, Medical, Dental and Morphological Sciences with Transplant, Oncological and Regenerative Medicine Interest (since 2025).

Advisor for incoming orientation for the Bachelor's Degree in Psychological Sciences and Techniques at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (since 2024).

Coordinator of the project "Quasi Amici" for the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, in collaboration with the association Il Tesoro Nascosto (quasiamici.org): a project aimed at promoting meaningful friendships between young people with and without disabilities (since 2020).

Member of the Editorial Board of the following scientific journals: *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology* (since 2020), *TPM - Testing, Psychometrics, Methodology in Applied Psychology* (since 2023), *British Journal of Social Psychology* (since 2024). In these roles, she has served as Guest Editor for special issues on topics related to social inclusion and the promotion of social change.

Coordinator of numerous national and international interventions and projects aimed at the inclusion of disadvantaged groups, also in the sports sector, in collaboration with UEFA and national football federations. In these contexts, sport has been used as a social tool functional to the promotion of a more equitable and inclusive society.

Her teaching and research activities in the field of social psychology mainly focus on group processes and intergroup relations, with a strong interest in promoting social inclusion and equality. In particular, prejudice reduction, bullying prevention, and the promotion of social change in favor of equity. She has contributed to the field by publishing numerous scientific articles in international journals and collaborating with several national and international research laboratories.

These interests have also been applied in the field of the university's third mission, with a strong commitment to knowledge transfer and the promotion of socially impactful activities, aimed at addressing the major challenges of contemporary society.

July 17, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francesca..." followed by a stylized surname.