Paola Mollo - cv

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

June 2022 – July 2025 **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow (Global Fellowship)**. Project: POSTURE. Posture and bodily movements in the Bible and biblical religions. University Sapienza of Rome, Pontifical Biblical Institute of Rome, Ludwig-Maximilian Universität of Munich.

Mar. 2021 – May 2022 **Postdoctoral Fellow** of the research project: "Greek-Latin translations and the text of the Bible" (project PRIN - *CHANGE*: *Contact and History in Ancient Grammar of Europe*), directed by prof. Marina Benedetti. University for Foreigners of Siena (Italy).

Oct. 2018 – May 2023 **Translator** (Biblical Hebrew to Italian) of the Books of Joshua and Judges. Project: BIR (Bibbia Italiana della Riforma), new translation. Biblical Society in Italy.

August 2018 **National Scientific Qualification** (ASN - "Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale") for Associate Professor position in Hebrew Studies.

Apr. 2018 – Nov. 2020 **Postdoctoral Fellow** of the individual research project "Representing leaders in the Book of Judges: analysis of ideological discourse in Biblical history writing". Supervisor: R.G. Kratz. Faculty of Theology, Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen (Germany).

2016 **Translator** (German to Italian) of lemmas from the *Theologisches Wörterbuch zu den Qumrantexten* (Kohlhammer), Paideia, Brescia.

TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Sept. 2025 - Aug. 2028 **Dean of the Faculty** of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Pontifical Biblical Institute – Gregorian University (Vatican City)

Oct. 2023 – Today **Associate professor** of Biblical Hebrew Language. Faculty of Ancient Near Eastern Studies. Pontifical Biblical Institute – Gregorian University (Vatican City)

Mar. 2024 – June 2026 **Adjunct professor** of Biblical Hebrew Language and Literature. Faculty of Humanities. Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)

Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2023 **Adjunct professor** of Biblical Hebrew Language. Faculty of Ancient Near Eastern Studies. Pontifical Biblical Institute (Vatican City)

March – June 2022 **Adjunct professor** of Biblical Hebrew Language and Literature. Faculty of Humanities. Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)

2016 – Today **Adjunct professor** of Classical civilization; Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology and History; Semitic Philology; Hebrew literature. Faculty of Humanities, eCampus University (Italy)

2014 – 2016 **Teaching assistant** in Classical Philology. Faculty of Humanities. eCampus University (Italy)

EDUCATION

2011 – 2014 **PhD in Hebrew Studies**. Doctoral program in History, Oriental studies and History of Arts. Title: *La dôr biblica ed il tema del ricambio generazionale: studio lessicologico e letterario di un tòpos*. Supervisor: P.G. Borbone. Faculty of Humanities. University of Pisa (Italy).

2006 – 2012 **Postgraduate courses**: Biblical Hebrew, Phoenician and NWS languages, Biblical Aramaic, Syriac, Biblical exegesis, historical criticism, narrative criticism. Pontifical Biblical Institute (Vatican City).

2006 – 2010 **MA in Cultures and Societies of the Mediterranean and the East** *summa cum laude*. Specialization: Hebrew. Supervisor: A. Catastini. Faculty of Humanities. Sapienza University of Rome (Italy).

2003 – 2006 **BA in Ancient Near Eastern and Classical Antiquities** *summa cum laude*. Specialization: Hebrew. Supervisor: E. Jucci. Faculty of Humanities. University of Pavia (Italy)

1996 – 2006 **MA / Diploma in Piano performance** (ten-year Program). Conservatory of Music "A. Vivaldi", Alessandria (Italy).

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

September 2011 **ULPAN** - Intensive one-month Modern Hebrew language course (level A1 CEFR). Hebrew University, Jerusalem (Israel).

2008 – 2009 Six-month **ERASMUS Student Exchange Program**. Intensive German language courses (levels A1–C1 CEFR) and MA dissertation research on the Book of Judges and Deuteronomistic History. Supervisor: M. Oeming. Faculty of Theology. Rupert-Karl-Universität, Heidelberg (Germany).

PUBLICATIONS (*peer-reviewed, § periodicals with the highest ranking [Italian "Fascia A"])

Books

1. 2026 *Dire oltre le parole. La linguistica del discorso nella lingua ebraica* (San Paolo Edizioni)

2. 2025 *Guida all'approfondimento dell'ebraico biblico* (co-authored with G. Deiana; Torino: Claudiana)

3. 2016 *The motif of generational change in the Old Testament: a literary and lexicological study* with a foreword by J.L. Ska (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press)

4. 2015 *An intratextual analysis of the mirroring birth stories of Samson and Samuel: explaining the narrative logic of literary montage* with a foreword by Won W. Lee (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press)

Curatorship

1. 2020 R.G. Kratz, *Israele storico e biblico. Storia, tradizione, archivi* edited by Paola Mollo (Rome: GBPress)

Articles in international scientific journals

1. 2025*§ "Sante Pagnini's translation of the Bible: a story of textual fluidity", in *Henoch Journal* (accepted for publication)

2. 2021*§ "Esili ed esodi: la Bibbia come romanzo di migrazione", in *Symbolon* 12 (2021)

3. 2020*§ "Empathy in Biblical Hebrew. The functioning of the reciprocal verbs *pg*' and *pgš* ('to meet')", in *Cristianesimo nella storia* 41 (2/2020)

4. 2018 "Saul contro Davide: spunti per una lettura 'psicologica' di 1 Samuele 18-20", *Protestantesimo* 73 (1/2018): 19-26

5. 2017*§ "The *dôr* of Hezekiah and the shepherd's tent. Analysis of a metaphor (Isa 38:12)", *Henoch Journal* 39 (2/2017): 331-350

6. 2014*§ "Did it please God to kill them? Literary comparison between the birth accounts of Samson and Samuel", *Henoch Journal* 36 (1/2014): 86-105

7. 2013*§ "Is 51,9a: interpretazione problematica del testo ebraico. Studio sulle traduzioni greche e sulla Peshitta", *Studi Classici e Orientali* 59 (2013): 23-34

Chapters in collective volumes

1. 2025* "Lost (and Gained) in Translation: Syntactic Features of Relative Clauses in Septuagint Greek", (co-authored with L. Tronci), in *Subordination and Insubordination in Post-Classical Greek*, edited by K. Bentein, E. Cattafi, E. La Roi (Berlin/Boston, De Gruyter, 2025)

2. 2025* "Relative Clauses in Septuagint Greek: Some Preliminary Remarks", (co-authored with L. Tronci), in *Advances in Ancient Greek Linguistics*, edited by J. de la Villa, A. Striano and R. Verano (De Gruyter, 2025; 515-534)

3. 2024* "Legitimate or legitimised defence? Signs of a political debate within the Book of Judges", in *Cultural Hegemony in Second Temple Judaism: Texts, Ideologies, and Struggles for Power*, edited by B. Rossi and D. Verde (Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium, Peeters, 2024)

4. 2022* "Phoenician-Punic: features and relations with Hebrew", in *Israel and Phoenicia* (*HeBAI* - Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel, 11.2)

5. 2018 "Il 'biglietto da visita' dei Giudici di Israele. Strategie linguistiche e ideologia", in *I libri "storici" dell'Antico Testamento. Seminario per studiosi di Sacra Scrittura*, Roma 22-26 gennaio 2018 (e-biblicum 4, Rome: GBPress, 2018): 187-207

6. 2018 "Sul Musarum Panagyris di Aldo Manuzio. Fonti letterarie e traduzione italiana", in *Ancora per Aldo Manuzio*, edited by A. Scarsella and M. Menato (Biblioteca di Studi Goriziani, vol. xvi, 2018): 19-29

Publications in general public journals

1. 2019 "L'alfabeto ebraico: uno stretto legame fra scrittura e lettura", in *Calligrafia*, rubrica di Charta 163 (Nova Charta Editori, 2019): 13

2. 2018 "Breve storia della scrittura ebraica", in *Calligrafia*, rubrica di Charta 159 (Nova Charta Editori, 2018): 15

Book reviews

1. 2020 Review of V. Mäkipelto, *Uncovering Ancient Editing. Documented Evidence of Changes in Joshua 24 and Related Texts*, *Biblica* 101/2 (2020)

2. 2019 Review of L. Niesiolowski-Spanò, C. Peri, J. West, *Finding myth and history in the Bible. Scholarship, scholars and errors*, *Henoch Journal* 41/2 (2019)

3. 2019 Review of P.R. Davies, *Rethinking Biblical scholarship. Changing perspectives 4, RBL (04/2019)*

4. 2017 *Review of C. Martone, Scritti di Qumran 1*, *Review of Biblical Literature* (03/2017)

5. 2016 Review of G. Garbini, *Dio della terra, dio del cielo. Dalle religioni semitiche al giudaismo e al cristianesimo*, *Review of Biblical Literature* (04/2016)

6. 2014 Review of S.A. Ashmon, *Birth annunciations in the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East: a literary analysis of the forms and functions of the heavenly foretelling of the destiny of a special child*, *Review of Biblical Literature* (08/2014)

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS (*invited)

2026* "God in Motion and at Rest", international conference *Discourses about the Divine: Language about Transcendence, Language transcending Borders*, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, 22-23 April

2025* "Language of the Body: Motion and Posture in Biblical Hebrew", expert meeting *Cognitive Linguistic Approaches to Biblical Hebrew*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 7 November

2025* "Studio semantico dei verbi di postura e movimento in ebraico biblico", seminar held at the Summer School *Lingue dell'Oriente Cristiano*, Salesian Pontifical University, Rome, 7-18 July

2025* "Dialogue as a Tool for Inclusion and Growth: The Model of the Biblical Ruth", international conference *Community, Dialogue, Identity*, Greek-Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Prešov, 6-7 March 2025

2024* "The BHQ Job and the study of Hebrew", presentation of the volume *Job* (BHQ), edited by R. Althann, 12 November 2024, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

2024* "Semantics and Syntax of yšb ('to sit') in Biblical Hebrew", conference *Motion and Posture in the Bible: Language, Translation, Reception and Effects*, Pontifical Biblical Institute and Sapienza University, 8-10 May 2024

2024* "La tradizione scribale masoretica", *Glosse* – Seminario per i Dottorandi, Università Sapienza di Roma

2023* "Review of the Hebrew Side of *The Baker Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*, ed. Tremper Longman III and Mark L. Strauss (Baker Books, 2023)", Biblical Lexicography Review Session, SBL Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX

2023 "Figurative Extension and Grammaticalization Patterns of Posture Verbs in Biblical Hebrew", Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew Session, SBL Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX

2023 "People 'moving' through life: on the metaphorical use of motion and posture verbs to express ways of life in Psalms and Wisdom Literature", EABS (European Association of Biblical Studies) Meeting, Siracusa

2023* "Motion and posture verbs describing human conduct in Psalms: A study of the Latin translation by Sante Pagnini". Conference "From Jewish Lexicographers to Christian Hebraists: David Qimḥi's *Sefer ha-Shorashim*", École française de Rome - Biblioteca dell'Ebraismo Italiano Tullia Zevi, 27-28 June 2023

2023* "Linguistica e critica testuale: quando un campo illumina l'altro". Seminario di aggiornamento "Testi e versioni dell'AT: dalla critica testuale alla critica letteraria". Pontifical Biblical Institute, 23-27 January 2023

2022* "'And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech": Assimilation, Diversity and Language Consciousness in the Hebrew Bible". Symposium "Hebrew as a Treasure of Human Heritage: Past, Present and Future", UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, 15 November 2022

2022* "'Pleonastic' (resumptive) pronoun in relative clauses in Biblical Greek". *ICAGL* (International Conference of Ancient Greek Linguistics), Universidad Autonoma de Madrid

2022* "Relative clauses in the Septuagint and the New Testament: Greek and/or Hebrew syntax?". *Subordination and Insubordination in Post-Classical Greek*, University of Ghent, Belgium

2021* "How to construct an enemy: discursive strategies in the cycle of Samson". EABS (European Association of Biblical Studies) Meeting, Wuppertal

2021* "Strategie discorsive nel linguaggio profetico: congiunzione, adgiunzione e intergiunzione". Giornata di Studio sull'Ebraico e l'Aramaico. Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

2019* "A conversation with… Interview with T. Römer and I. Finkelstein", SBL (Society of Biblical Literature) International Meeting, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

2019* "Empathy in Biblical Hebrew", SBL International Meeting, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

2019* "Samson and the Philistines. Study of reference and point of view", Doktorandenkolloquium, Faculty of Theology, University of Göttingen

2019* "Aspetti salienti della sintassi del Libro di Rut", Papal Theological Seminary of Southern Italy, Neaples

2019* "Profezia e linguaggio metaforico. La metafora della tenda in Isaia", Papal Theological Seminary of Southern Italy, Neaples

2018 "Repeated death-notices: redactional and/or literary technique", SBL International Meeting, Helsinki

2018* "Esili ed Esodi: la Bibbia come antecedente di motivi letterari comuni", Meeting *Mediterraneità. Una trama liquida tra continenti, letterature, culture*, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and SICL (Società Italiana di Comparatistica Letteraria)

2018* "Il 'biglietto da visita' dei Giudici di Israele. Strategie linguistiche e ideologia", *The historical books of the Old Testament*, Seminar for teachers and researchers in Sacred Scripture, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome
2017 "Representing opposing leaders in the Book of Judges", SBL International Meeting, Berlin
2016 "Generations from long ago and generations to come: from the interpretation of the expression *dōrōt* '*ōlam*(*îm*) in Isa 51:9 and Gen 9:12 to an overall definition of the time directions expressed by '*ōlam*", SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas
2014 "The *dōr* of king Hezekiah: and 'unusual' occurrence of the word *dōr* in Isa 38:12", SBL Annual Meeting, San Diego, California
2013 "God was pleased to kill: a concept behind the birth of Samson and Samuel", SBL International Meeting, St. Andrews

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

2025 – 2028 **Dean of the Faculty** of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Pontifical Biblical Institute – Gregorian University, Rome
2025 – 2028 **Elected Member of the Academic Senate**, Gregorian University, Rome
2024 **Head organizer** of the International Conference "Motion and Posture in the Bible: Language, Translation, Reception and effects", 8-10 May 2024, Pontifical Biblical Institute and Sapienza University, Rome
2023 Member of the **Organizing Committee** of the International Conference "Exegesis and Hermeneutics: Searching for a Nexus between History, Theology and Cultures/Contexts", 4-6 May 2023, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome
2023 – today Member of the **Library Committee**. Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome
2019 – 2025 Member of the **Quality Committee**. Faculty of Humanities, eCampus University (Italy)
2017 – today Member of the **Scientific Committee** of *Rivista Charta*
2019 Member of the **Organizing Committee** of the International Conference "Jesus and the Pharisees: An Interdisciplinary Reappraisal", 7-9 May 2019, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome
2019 Member of the **Local Committee**, SBL International Meeting, 1-5 July 2019, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

MEMBERSHIPS

Network OTSEM (Old Testament Studies: Epistemologies and Methods)
EABS (European Association of Biblical Studies)
SBL (Society of Biblical Literature)
Ex-Alumni of the PBI Association
Roma Sapienza Foundation

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Ancient languages: Biblical Hebrew, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Syriac, Greek, Latin
Modern Languages: Italian (native speaker), German (C1 CEFR *certificate*), English (B2 CEFR), French (B2 CEFR), Spanish (A2 CEFR), Modern Hebrew (A1 CEFR).

Rome, July 2026

