

Valeria Giannotta

Valeria Giannotta is an Italian academic expert in International Relations with a specific focus on Turkish Politics and the enlarged Mediterranean. She is the Scientific Director of Türkiye Observatory of CeSPI (Center for International Political Studies); she is President of the Study Center U.C.O. I (Union of Honorary Consuls in Italy) and Board of ConfProfessionisti Apri International. She studied Political Science and International Relations at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan campus, where she graduated with full marks cum laude and where she obtained a PhD in Institutions and Politics. Since 2009, she has been active in Türkiye as researcher at the Department of International Relations of Boğaziçi Üniversitesi (Bosphorus University). In Ankara she was a visiting researcher at ATAUM (European Union Research and Application Center) of Ankara University, and at the CES (Centre of European Studies) of the Middle East Technical University. She has been a lecturer at Yildirim Beyazıt University in Ankara and at Hasan Kalyoncu University in Gaziantep. In 2012 she became assistant professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations of Sabahattin Zaim University in Istanbul, where she served until 2014 when she became a member of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of Türk Hava Kurumu University in Ankara. She currently lectures in International Relations and Contemporary issues at postgraduate training courses in Accord University, Mogadishu, Somalia, created under the UN Impact Program; and at the Italian University Unicusano, where she teaches Turkish politics. She is author of several articles presented at national and international conferences; as an expert she regularly takes part in high-level strategic meetings and gives her contribution to both Italian and international media. Among the others, she has participated in international conferences and forums organized by the Republic of Türkiye, Directorate of Communication both in Türkiye and abroad (Rome, Paris, Hague, New Delhi); by TRT World (TRT WORLD FORUM); by the Presidency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Shusha Forum). Recently, she gave her contribution to "2024 edition Walking Together in Seoul 2024" organized by Hankuk University Centre of Foreign Studies. Valeria Giannotta also collaborates with magazines, newspapers and television news outlets both in Italy and abroad. As a guest of TRT WORLD, she participates in several special coverages. She is a columnist for the Turkish newspaper Daily Sabah and for the Turkish press agency Anadolu Agency. She is also the producer of the cultural program, with a focus on bilateral relations with Italy, "Direzione Türkiye" of the Turkish state channel TRT in Italian. She is a member of the Board of Directors of CeSPI (Center for International Politics); of the scientific committee of EIEAD - European Institute for Eurasian Dialogue. She is Senior Advisor for International Relations and 'Ambassador for Turkey' of Alma Impact, a training and consultancy company based in Switzerland. She is also head of the Europe Desk and of international relations of the National Union of Liberal Psychologists. Her book, "Erdoğan and his Party. AKP between reformism and conservatism" - Castelvechhi, 2018 - was considered one of the best essays of 2018 and for this she received the Cerruglio Special Prize in May 2018. As acknowledgment of her efforts and commitment in strengthening the bilateral relations, in 2014 she accompanied, as a member of the official protocol, the 11th President of the Republic of Türkiye, Abdullah Gül, on a visit to Italy before the end of his mandate. For the objectivity of her analysis and commitment in supporting Italian diplomacy in Turkey, Valeria Giannotta was awarded the title of Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy by the Presidency of the Italian Republic in 2017.