

ENN REPORT EUROPEAN NONVIOLENCE NETWORK

REPORT BY THE COORDINATORS

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Our Network was funded by UACES to “create a platform for an engaged and impactful discussion on the potential of nonviolence in XXI Century Europe” (we quote from our application). Concretely, we achieved this goal by publishing papers in different format (not just the classic academic format), engaging with podcasts and blogs, and taking advantage of opportunities that emerged during the course of the project, like the establishment of a new journal dedicated to Pacifism and Nonviolence – its email group has become de facto the hub for our discussions on the topic of nonviolence, thus making unnecessary an ENN, dedicated email group platform.

In the original application we talked about a high-level dialogue to be hosted by the EUI in Florence. Instead, we finished the project with an international conference where activists, university researchers, and students interacted in different ways, from the classic presentation of papers to poster-sessions and reflections on human bodies as instantiations of power and emotions triggered by nonviolence.

Below we detail the highlights of our project, in reverse chronological order, starting from the international conference and its legacy.

1. **Creating** a network that blends academic expertise with the experience of activism. This has led us to the final 12 February 2024 conference at our School of Transnational Governance, where university researchers discussed case studies and testimonies for the world of activism. Often during our final event was – we are fond of saying – “more than a conference”. On 12 February we ‘reversed the gaze’ so to speak, with academics learning from activists rather than university-based researchers providing an academic commentary of episodes and campaigns. The ENN final conference “**Nonviolence as democratic innovation**” had 50 participants from different parts of Italy and Europe and it was organised in collaboration with the Transnational Democracy Interdisciplinary Research Cluster of the European University Institute. It involved our post-graduate students and the whole of our institution, with an activity called “Activists take over the School of Transnational Governance” described in the attached programme. Thanks to the conference, a network was consolidated, some new interactions took place, and the exchange of experience and reflections carried on, certainly until today if not in the future. For example, some of the connections made possible by the conference were instrumental in bringing some activists back to Florence for the Alternative State of the Union in May 2024, whilst other participants took part in the May 2024 students’ movement about Peace

in the Middle East in Florence shaping the style of action of the encampment with initiatives of nonviolent creativity.

2. **Networking** is a legacy of the conference, but also our networking presence was boosted by the creation of an email group created by the Journal of Pacifism and Nonviolence and, inside the European University Institute, the presence of the Transnational Democracy in the 21st Century activity cluster. It is not incidental that the final event was organized together with the intellectual support of JPN and the TD21 cluster;
3. **Disseminating** original research carried out in Europe with our Master Students as beneficiaries – for example with the presentation of Prof Kati Rantala (13 Dec 2023) on stakeholders who are regularly missed by formal consultation in the formulation of new legislation.
4. **Promoting** panels at academic institutions, UACES conferences and at the European Consortium for Political Research, privileging contacts with young scholars and policy-makers (a good example is our UACES conference 2021 panel with Karma Terang and Marco Perduca among others).
5. **Writing** up our own research findings for book chapters and articles;
6. **Contributing** to specialised training, with lectures and sessions for Masters Students and the Policy Leaders Fellowship program at the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute, Florence; Interaction with the PLF has allowed us to tap into a worldwide network of policy-shaping individuals, and
7. The wider **participation** to public life with podcasts and talks on nonviolence at political events such as the [Eumans Congress](#) in Warsaw.

An important change occurred when our Policy Leader Fellow **Virginia Fiume**, who stayed at the EUI in residency for ten months during this academic year with her applied project on nonviolence, decided to contribute to our project. Virginia has provided original ideas, energy and an additional networking dimensions, liaising with activities in Germany, Spain, the UK and across Italy. Virginia is currently working on a policy analysis working paper titled “Nonviolence as democratic innovation” to be published before the end of the year in the STG Collection. We are very grateful to Virginia, who has worked on the ENN in 2023 and 2024 without compensation. No ENN budget was used to compensate Virginia, who received the PLF scholarship throughout the last nine months.

ENN Activities:

- Final event Nonviolence as Democratic Innovation (School of Transnational Governance, EUI) 12 Feb 2024
- Talk on Missing stakeholders, Prof Kati Rantala, Helsinki, , School of Transnational Governance, EUI, 12 December 2023
- Paper presentation at the European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions of Workshops with a paper on Onlife Nonviolence: A new research agenda. Baldoli, Hermanin and Radaelli, 18 and 19 April 2022. The paper was later published at STG Policy Paper.
- Presence on the School of Transnational Governance website
- Creation of a policy game on civil disobedience for free end-of-life decisions in the context of the [P Cube project](#). This is not a project acknowledging the ENN but definitively it was participation in ENN that stimulated Radaelli and Fiume to develop this game, acting in this case as members of the organization Science for Democracy.
- Baldoli and Radaelli contributed to the world-wide initiative to increase the awareness of the G20 on values, with a chapter on nonviolence. This was for us a major networking activity,

expanding our contacts to countries like Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, etc. Our chapter on Building Integrity with Nonviolence is the result of the interaction with this network. It can be found here <https://www.values20.org/> The full report was presented by the V20 sherpa to the Italian Deputy Minister charged with the G20 external relations (Benedetto della Vedova) and an in presence gathering in Rome where Hermanin was present.

- Article: From protest to project: Nonviolent cultural revolution in the XXI century. By Roberto Baldoli, in *New Political Science* 2022.
- Presentation to the Policy Leaders Fellows on *Nonviolence and Negotiation*. Baldoli and Radaelli, School of Transnational Governance, EUI, Florence, 21 Feb 2022
- Book Chapter: *Diritto alla scienza e precauzione* by Baldoli and Radaelli, in Giulia Perrone and Marco Perduca, *Così San Tutte*, Fandango Libri, ISBN: 9788860447906, 2022
- Book Chapter: *A nonviolent narrative for European integration? Contrasting populist and nonviolent narratives* by Baldoli and Radaelli, in MD Jones and L Shanahan M McBeth (Eds.) *The Science of Stories Episode 2* (working title) University of Montana Press. Summer 2022. In press.
- Participation to the EUMANS first Congress in Warsaw with a talk by Radaelli on nonviolence and the war in Ukraine, video 11-12 March 2022. Fiume was present physically at the event as co-President of EUMANS.
- Online get-together with researchers and activists interested in the ENN. Monday 20 September 2021, 14h30-16h00
- UACES Conference 2021: Panel on Nonviolence for a Diverse European Union: Gender, Artificial Intelligence and Integrity. Paper by Baldoli and Radaelli on Nonviolence and Integrity. Panel chaired by Costanza Hermanin. 6 September 2021
- Presentation: *Nonviolence, negotiation and transnational policy: what does nonviolent resistance bargain for, how and why?*, by Baldoli and Radaelli, this morning session was part of the MA course 'Negotiating International Transformations' led by Professor Kalypso Nicolaidis – slides here (STG/EUI 8th March 2021)
- Article: *Foundations of Regulatory Choice: Precaution, Innovation ... and Nonviolence?* By Baldoli and Radaelli, Special issue: The Limits of EUrope: (Dis-)Integration, (Anti-)Political, (Mis-)Trust, (Non-)Science, and (Mis-)Communication. Revisiting the legitimization of EUropean politics beyond populism and technocracy, Journal of Contemporary European Research 17(2): 186-204. Link August 2021
- Presentation: *Testing Europe's Democratic Legitimacy In The Covid-19 Crisis*, by Baldoli and Radaelli (Robert Schuman Centre EUI, 16 February 2021)
- Presentation: Radaelli's Contribution to the event organised by Partito Radicale for ML King Day 2021 (available here)
- Podcast: Corona-Virus: the role of nonviolence By Baldoli and Radaelli (In Italian, with Marco Perduca – May 2020)
- Blog post: Nonviolence and COVID-19: A force already more powerful? By Baldoli and Radaelli, (published by CANVAS – Centre for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies – 31 March 2020)
- Book Chapter: Evidence-based policy and the precautionary principle: Friends or foes? In: *The Freedom of Scientific Research* (MUP 2020)
- Presentation: 'Foundations of Regulatory Choice: Precaution, Innovation and ...Nonviolence?' By Baldoli and Radaelli (UACES Virtual Conference 2020).
- Presentation: 'Populist and Nonviolent Narratives of the EU', by Baldoli and Radaelli (UACES, 2019).
- Blog post on the Pope and Nonviolence: The Pope's Buona Novella is Nonviolence (in Italian)