Giovanni Giacalone

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# **Education**

**2014** – Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism course, International Institute for Counter-Terrorism, Herzliya, Israel

**2013** - MA in Islamic Studies at Trinity Saint David, Wales, UK ( Thesis on the development of Islamic communities in Italy)

**2008** - MA in HR Management, Alma Graduate School Bologna.

**2005** - Bachelor’s degree in Sociology, University of Bologna, Italy.

**Experience**

**Wikistrat February 2015-Currently**

Analyst for Europe Desk. My tasks are to monitor radical Islam and illegal immigration in Italy and Malta.

**Ispi April 2014-currently**

**(Istituto Studi Politica Internazionale)**

Associate researcher for Ispi’s “Terrorism Observatory”.

I participated in a project on Islamic home-grown jihadism in Italy, published by Ispi and presented at the library of the Italian parliament in April 2014.

I wrote the Balkans chapter for the book “*Italy and the Jihadist threat. Which foreign policies?*”

My task is to monitor radical Islam in Italy, Malta and the Balkans. I wrote several reports on Bosnia, Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia.

**Itstime January 2015-currently**

**(Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues and Managing emergencies)**

Analyst for Islamic radicalism in Italy, the Balkans and Northern Caucasus.

I am also closely following the potential infiltration of jihadists through illegal flows of immigrants from North Africa.

**Serbianna April 2015-currently**

**(Serbian think-tank on political violence and organized crime)**

I monitor the links between radical Islam in Italy and the Balkans

**Rimse January 2014-currently**

**(Radical Islam Monitor South-East Europe)**

Analyst for radical Islam in the western Balkans and potential links with Italy

**European Foundation for Democracy** **January 2014-February 2015**

Analyst for radical Islam in Italy

**Diritto di Critica Februray 2012-2015**

**An online newspaper based in Rome which deals with Italian and foreign affairs.**

I’m part of the editing team where I work as writer, sociologist and expert responsible for Middle East and Islamic issues. I’m also the inside man for all that relates to Islamic community affairs in Italy.

I conduct crossed analysis from various news sources in different languages in order to obtain the best, most accurate and detailed scenario and from there I summarize the content in order to give the reader a full but synthesized view of a certain issue.

My objective is to always provide a wide range scenario which doesn’t just stick to details but it helps the reader to understand the issue from a wider perspective.

**AIS Independent Research fellow September 2010-currently**

[**http://www.sociologiadellareligione.it/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=209&Itemid=52**](http://www.sociologiadellareligione.it/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=209&Itemid=52)

I’m a sociologist member of the “religion” department of Associazione Italiana Sociologia

**Rivista Sufismo November 2009-December 2010**

**An Islamic philosophy and arts magazine**

Responsibilities

I worked as writer in the editing staff, I took care of translating the material from our English and Spanish language sources in order to have a large database. Conducting interviews, developing links and contacts abroad as well as with the international communities living in Italy.

I was also in charge of developing an online English version of the magazine.

**Free-lance translator March 2008-November 2009**

### Responsibilities

I worked on my own by searching for new clients and translating material related to sociology, religion, tourism and documentations for immigrants living in Italy.

#### Hoel Consulting SRL September 2007-January 2008

**A recruitment company which deals with profile search, formation and business consultancy**

I worked as a recruitment consultant, I initially took care of recording resumes in the database and screening them with the objective of supporting the other consultants in finding suitable profiles for the on-going researches. I later moved on to manage researches and interviews for the lower profiles and giving feedbacks to the companies.

I also conducted language tests for those profiles that required it and I kept contacts with abroad personnel and clients.

##### Other employment

Tutoring students in Sociology , martial arts instructor

**Personal website**

[www.giovannigiacalone.net](http://www.giovannigiacalone.net)

AIS (Associazione Italiana Sociologia) <http://www.sociologiadellareligione.it/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=209&Itemid=52>

##### Language skills

Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (good), Arabic (basic)

#### Hobbies:

swimming, martial arts, travelling, reading

**References: available on request**

**Additional information:**

I am an occasional consultant on Islamic radicalism for Italian newspapers such as “Il Giornale”, “Corriere della Sera” and “Il Foglio”. I have written articles on Islamic extremism for Pravda.ru, Moscow Times.

I have been interviewed on several occasions by “Radio24” and “Skynews”.

In 2013, for a short period of time, I also took care of monitoring the activity of Latin American street gangs in the Milan metropolitan area.

**Publications**

Giacalone G. “*La guerra al terrorismo in Russia*” in “*Rinascita di un Impero: la Russia di Vladimir Putin*” (Circolo Proudhon, 2015)

Giacalone G, Prefazione al “*Libro verde di Gheddafi*”, (Circolo Proudhon, 2015)

Giacalone G, “*Sufismo e nuovi media in Italia. Così le confraternite sufi utilizzano la tecnologia per abbattere le barriere*” in “*La religione popolare nella società post-secolare*”, a cura di Berzano, Castagnaro, Pace (Brossura)

Giacalone G, “I pericoli di una Spirale Balcanica””, in “L’Italia e la minaccia jihadista. Quale politica estera?”, Varvelli A., Torelli S., (Ispi 2015)

**Ispi Analysis and Commentaries**

“La rete jihadista albanese e le ripercussioni italiane”, Luglio 2015

“Honor is Jihad, il nuovo video dell’Isis sui Balcani”, Giugno 2015

“Bosnia, Albania, Kosovo: il jihad nei Balcani”, Ottobre 2014

“Scontro tra etnie e infiltrazioni jihadiste nella polveriera macedone”, Luglio 2014

“Il jihadismo nei Balcani: i nuovi focolai bosniaci”, Luglio 2014

**Conferences:**

Grozny, April 2015, “*Islamic Extremism in Europe: The Mulsim Brotherhood in Italy*”. Organized by the Chechen Ministry of Youth, the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies and the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Chechnya.

Barcelona, 7-29 November 2013, V Grecs Islam Transnacional, “*Considerazioni su rappresentatività e dissenso all’interno delle comunità islamiche italiane*”.

Padova, 20 Ottobre 2012, La religione popolare nella società post-secolare, “*Sufismo e nuovi media in Italia. Così le confraternite sufi utilizzano la tecnologia per abbattere le barriere*.”