

**Massimiliano Pezzi** is Associate Professor of History of Eastern Europe at the Bari University “Aldo Moro”.

He carried out researches in the following archives: Archivo Histórico Nacional, Madrid; Arxiu Historic de la Ciutat Barcelona; Archives du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères and CARAN (Centre d'Accueil et de Recherches des Archives Nationales), Paris; “Propaganda Fide”, Rome; Secret Archive, Vatican State; Italian State Archives (Bari, Campobasso, Catanzaro, Cosenza, Florence, Foggia, Genoa, Matera, Messina, Milan, Naples, Potenza, Prato, Reggio Calabria, Rome, Taranto, Turin, Trieste and Venice); National Archives, London (Kew Gardens); archive of Ludolf family by Società Napoletana di Storia Patria, Naples and the Državni Arhiv, Dubrovnik.

He cooperates with the initiatives and the international research projects with scholars of Rome University “La Sapienza” and “Italian Centre of Eastern Europe Studies” (CESEO) at Genoa University.

Freelance and historian of the “Questione Silana”, he is in charge of the series “La Sila” wherein he published some volumes and he edited the reprint of some rare nineteenth-century pamphlets.

He cooperates and is member of several scientific journals and directs the series “Europa Ottomana” – with Gaetano Platania – for the publishing house “Orizzonti Meridionali”.

At present he is working on the role of the information and of the postal service between Constantinople and Europe; the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Ragusa, Russia and the Italian States in the 18<sup>th</sup> century; the reconstruction of the social, economical, political and institutional changes of the Ottoman Empire between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century.

He has already printed several essays and volumes about these topics.