GG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Table of contents

For Davide and Marco

In memory of Davide: an oak tree in our garden

Last December, during the traditional Christmas Wishes ceremony at the Tor Vergata University Botanical Garden, the community came together to remember our friend and colleague Davide.

On that occasion, an oak tree was planted as a lasting tribute to his presence in our lives and within the University. The tree, generously donated by the Botanical Garden, was not chosen at random. "Oak" was the nickname Davide's friends had given him—strong, steady, and always ready to support others.

The variety planted is one not yet present in the Botanical Garden's collection, which is among the richest in the world. With this gesture, Davide's memory becomes part of that legacy, making the collection even more unique and meaningful.

Remembering Marco: forever part of the GG family

Marco was one of those people you don't forget. That's what his lifelong friends and fellow Global Governance students say about him.

He was smiling and kind, always ready to lend a hand. Though his GG journey had just begun, he dedicated himself to student life with passion: from student politics to supporting events like the COP simulation. He truly cared, and it showed.

To honor his memory, GG students gathered at Tor Vergata to remember him, to share stories, and celebrate the person he was. Now, as the Alumni community, we want to do the same: he will always be part of this community, and he will be deeply missed.

News

On Track with Innovation:
A GG Alumni Chat with FS Italy's CEO

On March 24, the GG Alumni community had the pleasure of meeting Eng. Stefano Antonio Donnarumma, CEO of Ferrovie dello Stato (FS), Italy's national railway company. Mr. Donnarumma shared FS's new five-year strategic plan, focused on one big goal: transforming the future of mobility. At the heart of it? Sustainable travel. FS is set to boost energy efficiency, cut environmental impact, and integrate transport systems through modern infrastructure and cutting-edge digital tech.

The event was not just insightful — it was truly inspiring. Donnarumma also reminded us that vision starts with values: *Humilitas, Honestas, Humanitas*. Timeless principles to steer the mobility revolution with heart and purpose.

Support GG's Graduation

Join the effort to preserve the GG Graduation Ceremony at Villa Mondragone

We've got some important (and time-sensitive!) news: this year's Graduation Ceremony at Villa Mondragone **is at risk** due to a lack of funds. This beautiful tradition, which sets Global Governance apart, could come to a halt — and that's something none of us want to see.

But true to GG spirit, the current students aren't backing down. They've launched a **fundraising campaign to save the ceremony** — and impressively, it's not just the GG3s leading the charge. GG1s and GG2s are in too, showing how strong the bond across generations still is.

Now it's our turn. As alumni it's time to step in and help. Every little bit counts. Together, we can hit the €6000 target and keep the tradition going for future generations.

The deadline to donate is May 10th, and July is approaching fast!
Don't forget: set the "tip amount" to 0% — otherwise, part of your donation goes to the platform.

___DONATE HERE___

Let's make sure Villa Mondragone stays part of the GG journey.
One small act, one big impact.

Get to know our Alumni

What was your academic path after Global Governance?

After completing Global Governance, I moved to Berlin to study a master of Data Science for Public Policy at the Hertie School. The reason I did it was because I followed some electives during GG that allowed me to enter the world of data and statistics.

I understood the power and potential of applying these tools to real world problems and social sciences in general, and I absolutely wanted to be part of this world and be able to use them. It was very hard but also very rewarding.

Studying in Germany allowed me to enter in a research institute focused on climate change, the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, as a 'working student', where I had the chance to follow super interesting projects and learn advanced methods from the realm of climate econometrics while studying.

Laura Menicacci
Italy
GGG 2021

I tried to apply these methods in my master thesis, which was very hard but very rewarding. I managed to present twice the ongoing developments of what had become a broader research project at academic conferences as I continued working on it as a research assistant for a short period after completing my studies. I am currently employed at the OECD in the Environment Directorate, following a project called the 'Inclusive Forum for Carbon Mitigation Approaches'.

This project tries to foster dialogue on climate policy cooperation and implementation for a large group of members (across OECD and beyond) by providing data on current implemented climate policies, and evidence on their effectiveness on emission reductions. I am in the team responsible for developing a climate policy database, which is standardised and comparable across countries and feeds the ex-ante models used at OECD to measure effectiveness.

What are your future professional goals?

The picture is not clear yet, I wait to discover it as I go through each step. I am mostly guided by my curiosity and I try to read signs and opportunities as they come. On the other side, I am deeply concerned about the consequences of climate change, and at the same time extremely fascinated by it, as this problem reveals and exacerbates all the existing contradictions of our problematic society and economic system.

I believe that governments are the few actors that can address the mitigation of the upcoming problems and adaptation of the existing ones, in a way that is more just than it would be otherwise. That's why I am so interested at the moment (and in the near future) in the functioning and evaluation of climate policies.

Any career advice to the new GG Alumni/Students?

Don't rush—take the time to be bored, to look around, and to understand what truly excites you. Each of us finds beauty, magic, and emotion in different things. And while it may be hard to see the magic in an Excel sheet, perhaps it's just an annoying piece of a bigger puzzle, a building block for something greater we need to create. In this moment in history and at our age, it's incredibly difficult to distinguish what we truly want from what society expect from us—what we genuinely desire for ourselves, what we want to build with our minds and our words. It takes time to sort through the constant influences we are bombarded with every day. At the same time, don't wait to be ready because you will never be.

What did you do after graduating in Global Governance?

After graduating from Global Governance in 2019 with a thesis on the role that social media bots play in the social and political scenario, I moved to Milan to attend a Master in Cyber Security: it's a joint degree provided by Politecnico di Milano and Bocconi University.

It was challenging at the beginning, because on some level it required an engineering background that I did not have, but I was able to overcome the challenges and deepen my knowledge in what is an important subject in our community today.

While studying, I also did an Internship at Spike Reply, a big consultancy company, where I was able to put into practice what I was learning and actually see also the social impact that cyber security can have in everyday life.

Silvia Marcelli
Italy
GGG 2019

Why did you choose to work in this particular field?

When I was in my second year in GG I attended a conference where an ex Professor Piga's student talked about her experiences and how she came to work in the field of cyber security, and I just fell in love with it. It's not just hackers and computer viruses, cyber security can also have a social impact and help people in distress.

How has GG contributed to your professional and personal development?

GG made me understand the importance of how you see things and approach problems and issues. Look at things from different perspectives and have diverse backgrounds to try and find innovative and sometimes challenging solutions.

When I started my professional career I did not have the necessary background that most in the cyber security field have, but I was anyway able to make my way into it, also thanks to the method and attitude that I was taught during GG.

Most importantly GG made me realize the importance of a Team and how sometimes the essential thing is to get to the result together rather than being the first one there.

Upcoming Events

Life of a Graduate

These are events organized by us to provide current GG generations with insights into **post-graduate life.**

Tailored for **all majors**, this event offers the opportunity to gain **valuable perspectives** from accomplished Alumni.

Upcoming Sessions
Location: online from 6:00-8:00 PM

- **Tuesday, May 6 | Politics**
- **Wednesday, May 7 | Economics**
- **Friday, May 9 | Science & Tech.**

If you would like to speak at one of these sessions, please let us know!

Next Alumni Events

We are looking to organize the next Alumni Event for September 2025.

We already have some **great guests** in mind, but we **value your feedback** on the topics you would like to discuss and the people you would like to discuss them with.

Date: September 2025

More information coming soon!

Share with us your GG memories!
-Academic Convocation 2017-

Contacts

We need you!

Our Alumni association newsletter will be published on a semestral basis.

Your suggestions for content in the next edition are highly valued — please feel free to reach out. We eagerly welcome **your updates, feedback, and collaboration proposals.**

Email us at: **alumni.globalgovernanceba@gmail.com**

Until next time, stay well!

Global Governance Alumni Association