

I have been carrying out research in an international environment for the last three years in the framework of a PhD programme at the European University Institute in Florence. I started my university education with a Degree in Law (2005), which I then complemented with a Postgraduate diploma in Public Law (2006), a Master in Law (2007), and a Postgraduate diploma in Linguistics (2008). This multidisciplinary background enabled me to engage in the complex doctoral research topic of **Semantic Web technologies for the law: representation of legal knowledge through legal ontologies**. My doctoral research has enabled me to gain knowledge on the characteristics, as well as the opportunities, risks and challenges of the Information Society paradigm with regard to the legal milieu. I thus count with a solid theoretical background in different research areas, such as **legal knowledge management, e-government, legal information retrieval, Artificial Intelligence and Law, forensic linguistics and legal language, and human rights and new technologies**.

Beyond my theoretical knowledge, my participation in several research projects has provided me with useful **experiences in the domain**. I have done research for the construction of ontological and lexical legal resources (DALOS, CASELEX projects); for the introduction of ICT in Parliament (Uruguayan Senate); I have acquired experience in legal ethnography by interviewing legal practitioners on their use of ICTs (in the framework of the SEKT project); and I have gained teaching and tutoring experience during the Legislative XML Summer School 2009 (EUI, Florence).

All these experiences have helped me to develop a very practical approach that relies on the social shaping on technology, which is based on the observation of reality, the identification of problems (analytical skills) and the suggestion of suitable solutions (means-ends reasoning ability) that ensure the targeted design and implementation of IT tools.

Moreover, I have a **strong personal inclination for interdisciplinarity** and I thus like to approach research areas as complex problems that require insights from different specialised domains. In this line, both my **doctoral research** and my **parallel research activity** have been highly interdisciplinary. With regard to the former, the topic of my doctoral research required me to autodidactically gain knowledge on very technical domains that would complement my background in Law and Linguistics, such as Knowledge Engineering and more specifically Semantic Web technologies. With regard to the latter, my publications and contributions to research projects have been the result of dialogue and exchanges with people with very different backgrounds. Indeed, an important part of the research I have undertaken has been carried out in collaboration with multidisciplinary groups composed of legal experts, knowledge engineers, computer scientists and linguists (such as the Institute of Law and Technology of the Autonomous University of Barcelona; the ITTIG – Italian National Research Centre, in Florence; or the CIRSFID- University of Bologna).

This has helped me to develop abilities to propose creative solutions when **dealing with very diverse research domains at the same time**, such as Law, Linguistics, Semantic Web technologies and institutional knowledge management, and to look effectively for the complementary knowledge needed to address concrete research problems, such as the management of multilingualism in institutional settings or the improvement of information retrieval functionalities.

Apart from the research skills developed during my PhD and my participation in the aforementioned projects, I have developed capacities to work in a multicultural environment, to undertake team work and set priorities when working on several issues at the same time. Indeed, during my doctoral research I have undertaken as well the tasks of co-organisation of the Information Society Working Group at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, the

organisation of a Conference on *The Future of Law and Technology* (EUI on 28th-29th October 2009) in connection with the group, and the edition of a volume gathering the contributions to the conference.

For all the above reasons and for my open-minded and multidisciplinary attitude (like my Postgraduate in Linguistics and Cognitive Science and my enthusiasm for languages show); for my personal inclination to look for unlimited opportunities to learn and progress, my strong motivation for undertaking new challenges and adapting to the most various situations and for my great enjoyment of experiences in international and multicultural environments, I believe to be a good candidate open to new proposals. My interests range from work at International Organisations, research groups, teaching positions at University and work in private firms, in areas related to my expertise but not limited to them, since I am always ready to explore new domains and contribute with my already acquired knowledge.

I am looking forward to be one of your possible candidates.

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