

Curriculum Vitæ

Last update: 10 Jan. 26

PROF. DR. RENÉ MARIO MICALLEF SJ, STD

Current post: Associate professor (“professore straordinario”) at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

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PROFILE

Citizen of the Republic of Malta, with university formation in Malta, Italy, Great Britain, France, Spain and the USA, mainly in Biology, Philosophy and Theology. Year of Birth: 1975

Religious, member of the Society of Jesus since October 1997. Roman Catholic priest and confessor since 3rd July, 2008.

Holder of Teacher’s Warrant no. 8478, issued by the Ministry of Education, Malta (April 3rd, 2003).

EDUCATION

BOSTON COLLEGE – School of Theology and Ministry, USA **2013**
S.T.D. in Moral Theology
Dissertation: *Gates Fair on All Sides. Christian Reflections on Establishing Ethical and Sustainable Border Policies and Citizenship Laws in a “Globalized” World.*
Advisor: David Hollenbach
Comprehensive doctoral exams passed in October 2010. Cumulative GPA = 4.0.
Dissertation defended in July 2013 and published online (ProQuest) in August 2013

UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA COMILLAS, Madrid, Spain **2009**
S.T.L. in Moral Theology
Dissertation: *La tradición de la ley natural y su contribución a la fundamentación transcultural y cosmopolita de la ética contemporánea.*
Advisor: Julio Luis Martínez Martínez
Honours: Degree passed with grade “sobresaliente” (summa cum laude), with Special Price of the Board (Best STL Thesis of the year 2009).

HEYTHROP COLLEGE, University of London, London, U.K.

2002

M.A. in Philosophy

Dissertation: *The Relativist and Perspectivist Challenge to MacIntyre's Meta-Ethics*

Advisor: Michael Lacewing

Honours: Degree passed "with distinction".

CENTRE SEVRES – FACULTES JESUITES DE PARIS, Paris, France

2007

S.T.B. (Canonical Bachelor's degree in Theology)

Dissertation: *La foi comme « Œuvre ». Les dimensions historique et eschatologique du péché et de la justification dans l'exégèse de Rm 8 de Juan Luis Segundo.*

Advisor: Étienne Grieu

ISTITUTO FILOSOFICO "ALOISIANUM", Padua, Italy (affiliated to the Pontifical Gregorian University)

2001

Certificate of completion of 2 years of undergraduate studies in Philosophy

Results average at the end of the 2nd year: 9.5/10

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, Msida, Malta

1997

B.Sc. in Biology and Chemistry

Dissertation: *Application of multivariate and other statistical methods to the analysis of marine communities from the Maltese Islands.*

Advisor: Patrick Schembri

Honours: Degree passed "with grade IIA" (second upper, or "magna cum laude")

LANGUAGES

Maltese – native language.

English – second "native" language (official language for secondary and higher education in Malta).

French, Spanish, Italian – can speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency.

German – intermediate level (B1+), can read and follow debates/presentations on familiar topics

Biblical Greek, Classical Latin, Biblical Hebrew – each studied for four semesters.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (POSTGRADUATE COURSES AND SEMINARS UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

Lecturer at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Faculty of Theology

Lottare per la pace, proteggere gli innocenti. La morale cristiana in un mondo di conflitti asimmetrici, droni, terrorismo e aggressioni cibernetiche (seminar)

2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025

	<i>Come usare la Bibbia nella riflessione morale e sociale?</i>	2015, 2017, 2019, 2022*, 2024*
	<i>Introduzione alla Teologia morale (seminar)</i>	2013*, 2014*, 2015*, 2016, 2018*, 2022, 2024
	<i>Teologia Morale Fondamentale (yearly course for undergraduates)</i>	2015-2016*, 2018-
	<i>La tradizione della legge naturale in dialogo con l'etica contemporanea [more recently: "Il Discorso pubblico del teologo moralista. Concetti di 'natura' e piste per il dialogo con le filosofie odierne"] (course)</i>	2014, 2016, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2025
	<i>Etica delle politiche dell'immigrazione (course)</i>	2013, 2016, 2018*, 2020*, 2022
	Seminario comprensivo (per il baccalaureato in teologia): Prospettiva Morale – parte I + II (year-long seminar)	2024-25: 2025-26
	Spiritualità ed etica dell'accoglienza (course)	2024*
	Evangelii gaudium: <i>facciamoci interrogare dal testo</i> (course)	2014*
	<i>Fare teologia oggi A / B (course)</i>	2016*, 2018*, 2019*
	<i>Il ministero ordinato tra crisi e speranze: sfide e prospettive (course)</i>	2017*
	<i>Settimana propedeutica per gli studenti di licenza in teologia morale (methodology course)</i>	2015-2019*
Lecturer at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Faculty of Social Sciences	<i>Il futuro dei diritti umani (coordination of a series of conferences)</i>	2018-2019*
	<i>I rifugiati: una sfida per la Chiesa e per la società (course)</i>	2019*
	<i>Filosofia e teologia della pace (course)</i>	2014
Lecturer at the Accademia Alfonsiana (Pontifical Lateran University)	<i>Etica delle politiche per l'immigrazione (course)</i>	2020; 2022
	<i>Ethics, Religion and International Politics (undergraduate course taught by Erik Owens)</i>	2011*

Teaching assistant at Boston College	<i>Introduction to Catholic Social Ethics</i> (course taught by Thomas Massaro)	2011*
Lecturer at St. Aloysius' College Sixth Form (Malta)	<i>Ancient Greek Philosophy</i> (course)	2002-2004
Pastoral assistant and religious formation co-ordinator at Collège-Lycée Franklin – Saint Louis de Gonzague, Paris, France	Coordinated the development of a series of workshops providing religious education to the students. Organized extracurricular chaplaincy activities and provided spiritual accompaniment.	2004-2007
Tutor at Centro “Pueblos Unidos”, Madrid, Spain	Collaborated in a project providing formal and non-formal afterschool education to immigrant children (ages 12-15)	2007-2008
Volunteer teacher at Jesuit Refugee Service, Kampala, Uganda	Taught English grammar to refugees, mainly from South Sudan and the DR Congo	2017

(* In collaboration with other lecturers; cross-disciplinary methodology; years without asterisk indicate a course 100% taught by the undersigned)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Specialization coordinator at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Faculty of Theology	Coordinator of postgraduate programmes in Moral Theology at the Department of Moral Theology and Spiritual Theology (Faculty of Theology, Pontifical Gregorian University)	2024-
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OTHER WORK PLACEMENTS AND MINISTRY

Ecclesiastical assistant	Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation: Roman Group	2016-2017
Volunteer Spanish-language chaplain	Massachusetts Correctional Institution, Norfolk (MA): Catholic Volunteer Programme	2009-2013
Member of the Chaplaincy Team	San Massimo University Chaplaincy, Padua, Italy (Catholic Chaplaincy at the University of Padua)	1999-2001
Catechist	St. Ignatius' Parish, Stamford Hill, London, U.K.	2001-2002

Teacher and organizer of non-formal education programmes	Paulo Freire Institute, Zejtun, Malta	1997-1997, 2004
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EVENTS ORGANIZED AND HOSTED

Half-day Symposium at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>A Pilgrim of Hope: An Academic Symposium on The Legacy of Dorothy Day</i>	26/11/2025
International Conference at the Pontifical Urbaniana university, Rome	<i>Refugee & Migrant Education: Pathways for Hope, Understanding, and Meaningful Integration</i> (as part of the Refugee and Migrant Education Network logistics team)	6-8/11/2024
International Conference at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>Initiatives in Refugee and Migrant Education</i> (as part of the Refugee and Migrant Education Network logistics team)	26-28/10/2022
International Conference at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>Transitioning to Integral Ecology? Transdisciplinary Approaches for the Grounding and Implementation for a Holistic Worldview</i> (as part of the <i>Laudato si'</i> Observatory core team)	06-08/06/2022
International Conference at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>The Role of Religion in Eradicating Modern Slavery</i> (in collaboration with the Walk Free team at Minderoo)	25-26/02/2022
Seminar at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>The Amazon and Beyond: Integral Ecology, Multiple Vulnerabilities and Youthful Commitments</i> (as part of the <i>Laudato si'</i> Observatory core team)	18-19/10/2019
Half-day seminar at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>Immigrati: accoglienza e imprenditoria</i> (in collaboration with the Centro Studi e Ricerca IDOS)	11/05/2018
International Conference at Manhattan College, New York	<i>Global Initiatives in Refugee and Migrant Education</i> (as part of the Refugee and Migrant Education Network leadership team)	15-17/11/2018
International Conference at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>Refugees and Migrants in a Globalized World: Responsibility and Responses of Universities</i> (as part of the International Federation of Catholic Universities conference committee)	01-04/11/2017

Half-day seminar at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>L'insostenibile leggerezza della percezione: L'urgenza di un approccio etico al fenomeno della mobilità umana</i> (in collaboration with the Scalabrini International Migration Institute)	27/04/2016
Seminar with viewing of documentary at the Pontifical Gregorian university, Rome	<i>Las Patronas: L'impegno sociale come testimonianza di fede</i> (in collaboration with Mexican human rights activists)	13/05/2014

MEMBERSHIP IN ACADEMIC TEAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Laudato si' Observatory at the Pontifical Gregorian University	<i>Core team: member</i>	2018-
Refugee and Migrant Education Network	<i>Leadership team and founding committee: member</i>	2017-
Pontifical Gregorian University and Politecnico di Milano	<i>Italian Social Housing Interuniversity Research Team: coordinator</i>	2019-
Paulist Press	<i>Theology at the Frontiers: book series board member</i>	2017-
Paulist Press	<i>Theology at the Frontiers: book series board chair</i>	2025-

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Associazione Teologica Italiana per lo Studio della Morale (Italy)
 Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church (International)
 Society of Christian Ethics (USA, formerly)
 Malta Chamber of Scientists (Malta, formerly)

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS & THESES

Micallef, René M. 2024. *Strangers in the Bible: Loved but not Embraced?* Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press. 368p.

D'Ambrosio, Rocco and René M. Micallef (ed.). 2020. *Diritti umani: un'eredità viva. Piccolo lessico per l'etica pubblica*. Roma: Gregorian & Biblical Press. 298p.

Micallef, René M. 2013. *Gates Fair on All Sides. Christian Reflections on Establishing Ethical and Sustainable Border Policies and Citizenship Laws in a "Globalised" World*. (UMI/ProQuest Online Dissertation Service: ID 3592980: <http://dissexpress.umi.com/dxweb/results.html?QryTxt=&By=&Title=&pubnum=3592980>). 621p.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES & BOOK SECTIONS (THEOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY, SOCIAL SCIENCES)

Azétsop, Jacquineau, René M. Micallef, Diego I. Meza, and Paul Tang Abomo. 'Hervé Carrier's Thought on Tertiary Education Applied to Contemporary Pontifical Universities in Rome'. *Gregorianum* 100, no. 4 (2019): 889-916

Conversi, Paolo, Fernando De la Iglesia Viguristi, and René M. Micallef. 'Quello che sta accadendo alla nostra casa'. In *Approfondimenti e riflessioni sulla Laudato si'*, edited by Emilia Palladino, 11–35. Roma: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2017.

Micallef, René M. 'Tra Caino il vagabondo omicida e Caino il fondatore di città. Fraternità e immigrazione nel discorso politico di Papa Francesco'. *Gregorianum* 96, no. 1 (2015): 99–121.

———. 'Weapons Having Uncontainable Effects in Vatican II and in the Age of Cyberwarfare'. *Gregorianum* 97, no. 3 (2016): 517–41.

Micallef, René M. 'Das katholische Sozialdenken zur Mobilität der Menschen im 20. und 21. Jahrhundert: Kontinuität und Aggiornamento'. In *Aggiornamento - damals und heute: Perspektiven für die Zukunft*, edited by Annette Schavan and Hans Zollner, 86–121. Freiburg i.B.: Herder Verlag, 2017.

———. 'Laudato si' e la sua metodologia: un critico ascolto delle scienze empiriche?' In *Laudato si'. Linee di lettura interdisciplinari per la cura della casa comune*, edited by Humberto Miguel Yáñez, 13–48. Rome: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2017.

———. 'Laudato si' si basa su una vera scienza? Trasmettere un messaggio etico nell'era della manipolazione e della polarizzazione commerciale dell'opinione pubblica'. In *Laudato si'. Linee di lettura interdisciplinari per la cura della casa comune*, edited by Humberto Miguel Yáñez, 141–70. Rome: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2017.

———. 'Malta and Its European Neighbours as Havens for Migrants'. *Melita Theologica* 67, no. 1 (2017): 11–35.

———. 'Il Nuovo della multiculturalità: Le isole culturali e le tensioni generazionali nelle famiglie migranti o "miste"'. In *La Famiglia a cinquant'anni da 'Humanae vitae'*, edited by Emilia Palladino and Humberto Miguel Yáñez, 75–97. Roma: Studium, 2018.

———. 'Migrazione "Cattiva"? Migrazione di "Gente Cattiva"? Introduzione al Dossier "La sfida dell'immigrazione Irregolare"'. *Gregorianum* 99, no. 4 (2018): 811–26.

———. 'Terrorism and Migration. Two "New" Chapters in a Social Ethics Textbook'. *Archivio Teologico Torinese*, no. 2 (2019): 69–90.

———. "Pace. Una prospettiva cosmopolita e cattolica", in *Diritti umani: un'eredità viva. Piccolo lessico per l'etica pubblica*, edited by Rocco D'Ambrosio and René M. Micallef, Roma: Gregorian & Biblical Press 2020, 247-271.

———. 'The Method Informing Laudato si' and its Critical Dialogue with the Empirical Sciences'. In *Foundations of Integral Ecology*, edited by Jacquineau Azétsop and Paolo Conversi, 433–476. Rome: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2022.

———. 'Pensare la vulnerabilità umana come elemento strutturante della morale'. *Urbaniana University Journal* 75, no. 2 (2022): 45-73.

———. ‘Le radici storiche e teologiche della nozione di asilo’. *Archivio Teologico Torinese* 29 (2023): 255-275.

———. ‘Abitare insieme il Mediterraneo. Spunti per una riflessione teologica’. In *Il Diritto d’Asilo. Report 2023. Liberi di scegliere se migrare o restare?*, edited by Mariacristina Molfetta and Chiara Marchetti. Tau, 2023.

———. ‘Christian Perspectives on The Contemporary Forms of Exploitation And Slavery’. In *The Palgrave Handbook of Modern Slavery*, edited by Maria Krambia Kapardis, Colin Clark, Ajwang’ Warria, and Michel Dion. Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.

———. ‘The Particular Vulnerability of Migrant Minors: Ethical Reflections’. In *Ethical Issues in Life and Ministry: Conference Proceedings*. Jnana Deepa Institute of Philosophy and Theology & Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (ISPCK), 2024.

———. ‘Integral Ecology: The Interdependence of Faith and Science in a Context of Fact Distortion and Manipulated Interpretations’. In *Hochschule und Weltinnenpolitik: Eine Festschrift für Ulrich Bartosch*, edited by Agnieszka Maluga, Rudolf Speth, Birgit Röder, and Christiane Bartosch. Verlag Julius Klinkhardt, 2025.

———. ‘Chi ci insegnerà a camminare nella speranza? Spunti dal mondo delle migrazioni’. *Studia Moralia* 63, no. 1 (2025): 51–76.

———. ‘Les enjeux éthiques de l’intégration des étrangers: droits et vertus, politique et théologie’. In *Affronter un changement d’époque: Les Facultés aujourd’hui et demain. Colloque des 50 ans 1974-2024 Facultés Loyola Paris*, edited by Camille de Villeneuve and Stéphane Loiseau. Travaux et conférences du Centre Sèvres 216. Médiasèvres, 2025.

Venturi, Carlotta, and René M. Micallef. ‘Gli sfollati ambientali alla luce di “Laudato si’”’. In *Laudato si’. Linee di lettura interdisciplinari per la cura della casa comune*, edited by Humberto Miguel Yáñez, 193–221. Roma: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2017.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES & BOOK SECTIONS (OTHER DISCIPLINES)

Micallef, René M., and Patrick J. Schembri. ‘The Application of Multivariate Analytical Techniques to the Study of Marine Benthic Assemblages: A Review with Special Reference to the Maltese Islands’. *Xjenza* 3, no. 2 (1998): 9–28.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Micallef, René M. 2022. *Fratellanza. Una virtù politica e religiosa*. Cinisello Balsamo (Mi): San Paolo Edizioni

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES & BOOK SECTIONS

Joblin, Joseph, and René M. Micallef. ‘Réflexion Sur Un Siècle d’histoire Sociale. Entretien Avec Un Observateur’. *Gregorianum* 100, no. 4 (2019): 935–57.

Marcantonio, Chiara, Gianmaria Alessandro Ruscitti, René M. Micallef, Francesco Capograssi, Giulio Elefante, Guglielmo Gattamelata, Leonardo Gulino, et al. 'Law: The Challenge of Integration'. In *Immigration. Understanding and Proposals*, edited by Samuele Sangalli, 235–76. Roma: G&B Press, 2018.

Micallef, René M. 'Il Ritorno Del Linguaggio Profetico Sul Tema Dell'immigrazione'. In *Evangelii Gaudium: Il Testo Ci Interroga. Chiavi Di Lettura, Testimonianze e Prospettive*, edited by Humberto Miguel Yáñez, 235–47. Theologia. Roma: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2014.

———. 'Il fatto migratorio: sfida culturale nella Pontificia Università Gregoriana'. In *La sfida delle migrazioni: rischi e opportunità: Convegno internazionale, Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Roma, 27-28 ottobre 2014*, edited by Giulio Cipollone. Quaderni del Seminario Giuseppe Vedovato sull'etica nelle relazioni internazionali 5. Roma: Gangemi, 2015.

———. 'Porous Borders, Priority Rules and the Virtue of Hospitality'. In *Public Theology and the Global Common Good: The Contribution of David Hollenbach*, edited by Kevin Ahern, Meghan J. Clark, Kristin E. Heyer, and Laurie Johnston, 51–61. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2016.

———. 'Teaching About Human Mobility: How to Respond to Pope Francis' Request to Universities and NGOs'. *Jeevadhara* 47 (2017): 60–80.

———. 'Migrazioni'. In *Teologia Morale*, edited by Paolo Benanti, Francesco Compagnoni, Aristide Fumagalli, and Giannino Piana, 447–58. Dizionario San Paolo. Cinisello Balsamo (MI): San Paolo, 2019.

———. 'Malta'. In *Essere mediterranei. Fratelli e cittadini del "Mare Nostro"*, edited by Antonio Spadaro, 65–78. Milano: Ancora, 2020.

———. 'Abitare insieme il Mediterraneo. Spunti per una riflessione teologica'. In *Il Diritto d'Asilo. Report 2023*, edited by Mariacristina Molfetta and Chiara Marchetti, 359–387. Todi (PG): Tau, 2023.

EDITORIAL PROJECTS

Dossier editor: "La sfida dell'immigrazione irregolare" (published in <i>Gregorianum</i> 99, no. 4 (2018): 811-919)	2017-2018
Book co-editor: <i>Diritti umani: un'eredità viva. Piccolo lessico per l'etica pubblica</i> (forthcoming: Gregorian & Biblical Press)	2019-2020
Special issue co-editor: "Sustainable Development: The Normative Contribution of Theology" (forthcoming in <i>Religions</i> : MDPI)	2023-

PAPERS DELIVERED AT ACADEMIC CONFERENCES (EXAMPLES ONLY)

Inaugural lecture: "Abitare insieme il Mediterraneo"	14/12/2019
Event: Opening of the academic year of Studio Teologico <i>San Gregorio Agrigentino</i> (held in Agrigento, Italy)	
Paper: "La mobilità umana oggi: criteri morali per un discernimento"	28/03/2019

Conference: *Immigrazioni, oltre gli slogan. Criteri morali per discernere sul fenomeno* (held at the Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose, Turin)

Paper: "Malta and its European Neighbours as Havens for Migrants". **06/06/2016**

Symposium: *Mercy towards Immigrants: Theology and Society in Dialogue* (organized by the Faculty of Theology of the University of Malta, and held at Villa Francia Prime Minister's Residence, Lija, Malta)

Paper: "La responsabilità di proteggere le persone". **11/03/2015**

Dies Academicus: *La pace: dono di Dio, responsabilità umana, impegno cristiano* (held at the Pontifical Gregorian University)

Paper: "Il fatto migratorio: sfida culturale nella Pontificia Università Gregoriana". **28/10/2014**

International conference: *La sfida culturale delle migrazioni: rischi e opportunità*, (organized by Faculty of Social Sciences of the Pontifical Gregorian University and the "Giuseppe Vedovato" permanent seminar on Ethics in International Relations, and held at the Pontifical Gregorian University)

Paper: "Porous Borders, Priority Rules, and the Virtue of Hospitality". **9/05/2014**

International Conference: *Migration – Faith & Action: Shifting the Discourse* (held at the University of Oxford)

Paper: "Catholic Social Teaching on Migration: Strengths and Shortcomings". **23/03/2012**

Symposium: *Borders and Transnationalism: Religious Perspectives* (held at the Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, MA)

CREATIVE WRITING, WEBSITE DESIGN AND COMPUTER PROGRAMMES (EXAMPLES ONLY)

Blog contributions to *Moralia - il Regno Blog* (Italian Moral Theology Association) on social ethics and human rights (<http://www.ilregno.it/moralia/blog>) **2017-**

Qorq il-Pellegrin (The Pilgrim's Sandals) **2013**

A 324-page book on Ignatian Spirituality for young people, in Maltese and English, (including the translation of texts from various languages, and composition of original texts) edited by R. Micallef, and published online (Lulu/Google Books/Scribd)

Philosophy at Hal-Hsieb (<http://sites.google.com/site/philosophyath/>) **2002-2004**

A series of lecture notes in Ancient Greek Philosophy, in dialogue form, in Maltese.

Kant għall-Liturgija (<http://sites.google.com/site/kantghallliturgija/>) **2002-2009**

A collection of scripture-based liturgical hymns in Maltese, most of which were written and set to music by R. Micallef.

"Malta – pajjiz tal-missjoni?" **2008**

A long article, outlining the concept of “mission” in post-Vatican II Theology, published in three instalments in *Malta Missjunarja* (September, October and November issues).

Oecostat

1997

MS Windows-based statistical data analysis programme, used by researchers at the Biology Department, University of Malta, coded using Delphi (Object Pascal).

René Mario Micallef sj

Rome, 10 January 2026