Alessandra Minissale

Double PhD in Sociology and Legal Studies

Uppsala University
Department of Sociology
Engelska parken,
Thunbergsvägen 3H
Box 624
751 26 Uppsala
Email: alessandra.minissale@uu.se
Personal Home Page: https://katalog.uu.se/profile/?id=N18-2114
Tel: +39 3381808227

Current and previous academic appointments – degrees

Jun 2024 – Dec 2027	Post-Doc, Uppsala University, Dep. of Sociology. Principal Investigator - Vetenskapsrådet (Swedish Research Council) - Justice Outside the Court: An Ethnography of Emotions in Commercial Mediation
Oct 2023 – Jun 2024	Researcher – Uppsala University
Feb 2020 – Feb 2022	Research Assistant, Justemotions project funded by the European Research Council (ERC), European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (757625), Uppsala University – Department of Sociology.
Nov 2019 – Sept 2023	PhD candidate in Legal Studies, Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna University, School of Law (in co-tutelle with Uppsala University).
Oct 2018 – Sept 2023	PhD candidate in Sociology, Department of Sociology, Uppsala University. Justemotions project
May 2016 – Sept 2018	Teaching Assistant in Civil Procedural Law, Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna University, School of Law (in collaboration with Professor Elena Zucconi Galli Fonseca).
May 6, 2016	MA. in Law with the highest score 110/110 *cum laude*, Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna University, School of Law (2011-2016).

Academic Affiliations

February 2027	Visiting Fellow, School of Communication, Society, and Culture, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. Invited by: Professor Kate Rossmanith.
October 2026 – ongoing	Honorary teaching fellow in "Criminal Sociology" (Course code 02129), First cycle degree programme (L) in Social Work; "Victimology and Restorative Justice (course code B6469), Second cycle degree programme (LM) in Sociology and Social Work; and "Applied Criminology" (Course code 45198), Second cycle degree programme (LM) in Criminology for Investigation and Security, Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna University, Italy.
Jan – Jun 2026	Academic Visitor within the project "Justice Outside the Court" at the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (CSLS). Supervisor: Professor Linda Mulcahy
Oct 2025 – ongoing	Affiliated Researcher, CIRViS, Bologna University
Mar 2020 – ongoing	Associate Researcher Institute of Legal Informatics and Judicial Systems,

	National Research Council of Italy (IGSG-CNR), Bologna.
Feb 2024	Visiting Researcher - Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies of Law (CIS)- Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen. Advisor. Associate Professor Louise Victoria Johansen
Apr – Jun 2023	Recognised Student at the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (CSLS). Advisor: Professor Bettina Lange.

Awards

2023 **Best Paper Award** - 10th Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association (RN11), Hamburg, August 31-Sempteber 2, 2022. "Scrutinising Gut Feelings: Emotional Reflexive Practices in Italian Courts".

Grants

2027 The Nordic Research Council for Criminology (NSfK) Travel Grant (Eur 1.569,00) Pilot Study *EMORE – The Emotional Institutionalisation of Restorative Justice: Mapping Regimes of Harm and Repair*. One Month (February 2027) Research Stay at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

2024-2027 Vetenskapsrådet (Swedish Research Council) SEK 3.450.000,00 (Eur 312.764.75) International Postdoc Grant, project *Justice Outside the Court: An Ethnography of Emotions in Commercial Mediation*. Host Departments: Institute of Legal Informatics and Judicial Systems-National Research Council of Italy (Bologna), Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (Oxford University)

2024-2025 SYLFF (The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund) SEK 350.000 per year (Eur 32.176,00) Postdoc project *The Emotional Dimension of Commercial Conflicts: An Ethnographic Study of Commercial Mediation in Italy and England* - Declined

Reviewer for International Scientific Journals

International Journal for Court Administration; Behavioral Sciences; Frontiers in Sociology; Emotions and Society; Oñati Socio-Legal Series.

Editorial Board

2026 – ongoing Section Editor *International Journal for Court Administration*
2025 – ongoing Member of the Scientific Committee Italian Journal *Cura e Giustizia*

Publications

2027 Bergman Blix, S., & **Minissale, A**. "Shadowing". In Hakan Hyden, Petr Scharff Smith, and Ulrike Schultz (eds) *Encyclopaedia of the Sociology of Law*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Minissale, A., Johansen, L.V. "Researching Victims' Emotions in Court: Ethnographic Insights from Italy and Denmark". In Robyn Holder, Verónica Michel, and Alice Bosma (eds), *Research Handbook on Victims, Rights, and Justice. Research Handbooks in Law and Society series.* Edward Elgar Publishing.

2026 **Minissale, A.** "Emotions in the Criminal Courtroom: Passion, Reason, and the Search for Justice. A Conversation with Susan Bandes". *Cura e Giustizia*, December issue.

Minissale, A., Sette, R. "Restorative Justice and the Role of Community in *All Your Faces:* A Film Analysis". *Frontiers in Sociology, Sociology of Law,* Special issue *The Role of Community in Restorative Justice*. Carl Milofsky and Ram Cnaan (eds). Front. Sociol. 11:1947491. DOI: 10.3389/fsoc.2026.1947491

Minissale, A. "Time to Say Goodbye: Letting Go of Access to Courts and Prosecution Offices" (March 11), Blog-post, IN-Court Network "Mapping Access" series.

Minissale, A., "To trust or not to trust?" Emotional dynamics in Italian Commercial Mediations. (accepted, forthcoming in the Winter issue) *Journal of Law and Society.*

Minissale, A. "Managing Feelings, Making Deals: The Emotion Work of Italian Commercial Mediators" (Forthcoming) *Oñati Socio-Legal Series.* doi:10.35295/OSLS.IISL.2644.

2025 **Minissale, A.**, "Il lato nascosto della giustizia: emozioni e decisioni". *Cura e Giustizia* 1(1-2), pp. 135-152. DOI: 10.4454/vaw9ck89

Minissale, A. & Bergman Blix, S., "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt: The Emotive- Cognitive Evaluation of Intent and Credibility". *International Journal of Law in Context* 21:691-710. DOI: 10.1017/S174455232510013X

Bergman Blix, S. & **Minissale, A. "**The Emotion Regulation of Performance Work". In Jim Diefendorff, Karen Niven, Nai-Wen Chi, and Rebecca J Erickson (eds) *Handbook of Emotion Regulation at Work*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

2024 Contini, F., **Minissale, A.**, & Bergman Blix, S., "Artificial Intelligence and real decisions: predictive systems and generative AI vs emotive-cognitive legal deliberations". *Frontiers in Sociology*, 9:1417766. Special Issue "Constructing Objectivity: Emotions in Legal Decision-making". DOI: 10.3389/fsoc.2024.1417766/

2024 **Minissale, A., "**Scrutinising Gut Feelings: Emotional Reflexive Practices in Italian Courts". *Emotions and Society* 6(1):7-25. DOI: 10.1332/26316897Y2023D000000010

2023 **Minissale, A.,** *Emotions in Legal Decisions: The Construction of Objective Narratives in Italian Criminal Trials*. PhD dissertation [monograph], Uppsala University. urn:nbn:se:uu:diva-500753

Nordquist, C., **Minissale, A.** & Bergman Blix, S., "Emotional community and estrangement in the Covid-19 pandemic: A collaborative auto-ethnographic approach". In Marci Cottingham, Rebecca J Erickson, and Matthew Lee (eds.), *Transcending Crisis: Emotions, Carework, and Human Flourishing*, London: Routledge.
DOI: 10.4324/9781003260332-8

2022 **Bergman Blix, S. & Minissale A., "**(Dis)passionate Law Stories: The emotional processes of encoding narratives in court". *Journal of Law and Society* 49(2):245-262. DOI: 10.1111/jols.12355

2022 **Minissale A**., "Il percorso emotivo-cognitivo verso la decisione oggettiva". *Rivista Trimestrale di Diritto e Procedura Civile,* 2022(3):785-806.

2019 **Minissale A**., "La tutela del credito professionale dell'avvocato: la decisione delle sezioni unite", *Rivista Trimestrale di Diritto e Procedura Civile*, 2019(2): 723-741;

Work in progress

Minissale, A. *Emotions in Commercial Mediation: Navigating Conflicts and Feelings.* Book under contract with Routledge Studies in the Sociology of Emotions book series.

Minissale, A., Nordquist, C., "Studying emotions in the digital space: challenges and opportunities of virtual fieldwork". Submitted. *Qualitative Research, under review.*

Grossi, R., Minissale, A., Nordquist, C.Y., Rossmanith, K., and Hanan, E. (eds) "Epistemic Emotions In and Around the Law" Special Issue, Frontiers in Sociology of law and Sociology of Emotions (currently accepting papers, ongoing).

Minissale, A. 'The Emotional Life of Commercial Mediation', *Giustizia Consensuale.*

Minisslae, A., 'In the Shadow of the Court: Mediation, Institutional Distrust, and the Making of Consensual Justice'.

Invited lectures, seminars, and workshops

2027 "Inside the Mediation Room: What Emotions Do in Commercial Disputes. Findings from a Comparative Sociological Study". International Academy of Mediators (IAM) Annual Conference, Rome, May 6-8. Invited by President of IAM, Claude Amar.

"Emotions and Legal Conflicts Across Cultures: The Case of Commercial Mediation". Research Seminar, Law School, Macquarie University, Sydney, February 10. Invited by Dr Mareike Riedel.

2026 "Leveraging Emotions in Commercial Mediation". International Academy of Mediators (IAM) Workshop, Paris, October 2-4. Invited by President of IAM, Claude Amar.

"Between Settlement and Justice: Commercial Mediation as a Site of Neo-Emotions". "Neo-Emotions: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Feelings and Change" One day workshop at the Institute for Advanced Study, University Alliance Ruhr, Essen, Germany. Invited by Professor Kathryn Temple.

"Decidere con giudizio e con le emozioni" Lecture for the Summer School Avv. Giovanni Valcavi "Behavioral Law and Economics", IV edition, Varese, July 3, invited by Professor Francesco Vella.

"Access, Culture and Digital Adaptation in Commercial Mediation Research" Empirical Legal Research Network Festival 2026, Edinburgh Law School, 19 - 26 June. Invited by Dr. Josephine Greenbrook.

"Emotions in English Commercial Mediation" Lecture for the Legal Profession Research Group, Leeds University, UK. April 28. Invited by Professor Alex Batesmith and Hilary Sommerlad.

"Negotiation and Emotions". Lecture within the course "International Business Negotiation", Bologna University, Department of Legal Studies, Italy, April 10. Invited by Professor Angela Maria Felicetti. (Online)

"Commercial Mediation and Emotions". Lecture within the course "Dispute Resolution Minor", The Hague University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands, January 9. Invited by Professor Barbara Warwas. (Online).

2025 "Commercial Mediation and Emotions". Lecture within the course "Negotiation and Mediation", Bologna University, Department of Legal Studies, Italy, April 1 and October 21. Invited by Professor Elena Gabellini.

"Il ruolo delle emozioni nell'esperienza giuridica: la ricerca Justemotions". Lecture within the course B6469 Victimology and Restorative Justice", Bologna University, Department of Sociology, Italy, October 1. Invited by Professor Raffaella Sette.

"Judges and their emotions". Lecture within the course "Fundamentals of Public Law", Tilburg University, Department of Public Law and Governance, Netherlands, March 20. Invited by Dr. Irene Miano. (Online).

"Negotiation and Emotions". Lecture within the course "International Business Negotiation", Bologna University, Department of Legal Studies, Italy, March 20. Invited by Professor Angela Maria Felicetti.

"Epistemic emotions in the evaluation of credibility and intent". Presentation at Law and Society-CNR42 Online Seminar Series, March 19. Invited by Professor Renata Grossi. (Online).

2024 "Decisioni giuridiche: emozioni ed AI, la ricercar Justemotions". Lecture within the course "Judiciary Regulation System", Bologna University, Italy, Second cycle degree programme (LM) in Politics Administration and Organization November 26. Invited by Professor Daniela Cavallini.

"Caring in oral examinations: Italian judges and prosecutors use of empathy and sympathy cues in criminal trials". One-day symposium on 'Care' and 'Love' in Public Services: Place, Ethics and Potential. Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, UK, September 24. Invited by Doctor Ali K. Wigzell.

"Decisioni giuridiche ed emozioni". Italian Sociological Association (AIS) annual conference "Emozioni e ragioni nella societá neoliberista", Section specialized in Sociology of Law, Lecce, Italy, September 19. Invited by the board.

"Il ruolo delle emozioni nella decisione giudiziale: un punto di vista sociologico". Doctoral Lecture at UNICUSANO, Rome, Italy, July 3. Invited by Professor Giovanni D'Alessandro. (Online).

"Emotions in Legal Decisions: The Construction of Objective Narratives in Italian Criminal Trials". Research seminar at University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law, Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies of Law (CIS), Denmark, February 7. Invited by Professor Louise V. Johansen.

2023 "Emotions in Legal Decisions: The Construction of Objective Narratives in Italian Criminal Trials". Emotion Seminar at Gothenburg University (EMOGU), Sweden, September 22. Invited by Professor Åsa Wettergren.

"Justice and Emotions" – Laboratorio Permanente Professione Mediatore (*Laboratory for Professional Mediators*) University of Florence, Department of Legal Studies, Italy. Training Programme in Mediation accredited by the Italian Ministry of Justice. July 6. Invited by Professor Paola Lucarelli.

"Emotions in Legal Decisions: The Construction of Objective Narratives in Italian Criminal Trials" - 'Regulation and Governance' cluster event, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford University, UK, June 7. Invited by the board.

"Emozioni e Arbitrato". Milan Chamber of Arbitration, Italian Association for Arbitration, Bologna University, Roma Tre University, Unidroit (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law); Rome, Italy, May 23. Invited by the board.

Conference/Workshop paper

2026 **Minissale, A. "**The emotion work of commercial mediators". European Sociological Association (ESA) Conference, Warsaw, August 25-30.

Minissale, A., ""To trust or not to trust?" Emotional dynamics in Italian Commercial Mediations", and Roundtable: "Discussing research, methods and data in law and emotion". Law and Society Annual Conference, San Francisco, May 26-31.

Minissale, A., ""To trust or not to trust?" The epistemic and moral dimensions of distrust in Commercial Mediation". Socio Legal Studies Association (SLSA) Annual Conference, University of Sussex, Brighton, April 1.

2025 **Minissale, A., "**From Distrust to Solidarity: Emotional dynamics in Italian Commercial Mediations". European Sociological Association, RN11-Sociology of Emotions, Mid-term Conference, Belfast, August 27-30.

2024 **Minissale, A**., and Bergman Blix, S., "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt: The Emotive-Cognitive Evaluation of Credibility and Intent". European Sociological Association (ESA) Conference, Porto, August 27-30.

Minissale, A. "Scrutinizing Gut Feelings. Emotional Reflexive Practices in Italian Courts". Law and Society (LSA) Annual Conference, Denver, USA. June 6-9.

Minissale, A., and Bergman Blix, S. "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt: The Emotive-Cognitive Evaluation of Credibility and Intent". Sociologidagarna, Gothenburg, Sweden, March 13-15.

2023 Contini, F., **Minissale, A.,** & Bergman Blix, S. ""Real" emotions and artificial intelligence: exploring the intersections between the promise of predictive justice and the judicial construction of objectivity"". Justemotions Symposium, Näsby Castle, Sweden, Sept. 6-8.

Minissale, A. & Bergman Blix, S. "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt: Evaluating the Emotionality of Credibility and Intent". 'Law in Context', Early Career Workshop organized by The International Journal of Law in Context, the Centre for Socio- Legal Studies at the University of Oxford, and the Law in Societies Cluster at Wolfson College. Oxford, June 19-20.

Minissale, A. "The Hidden side of Justice. Exploring emotional labour underlying judicial and prosecutorial decision-making". Judicial Administration Research (JAR) Inaugural Conference – Rome, May 25-26.

Minissale, A. "Scrutinising Gut Feelings: Emotional Reflexive Practices in Italian Courts". Socio-Legal Studies Association Annual Conference, Derry-Londonderry, Ulster University, April 4-6. Granted bursary from the Socio-Legal Studies Association.

2022 **Minissale, A.** "The Hidden side of Justice. Exploring emotional labour underlying judicial and prosecutorial decision-making". International Association of Procedural Law (IAPL) Colloquium, Brescia, October 6-8.

Minissale, A. "Scrutinising Gut Feelings: Emotional Reflexive Practices in Italian Courts". 10th Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association (RN11), Hamburg, August 31-Sempteber 2.

Minissale, A. & Bergman Blix, S. "Beyond A Reasonable Doubt: Evaluating the Emotionality of Credibility and Intent". Law and Society Association (LSA) Global Meeting, Lisbon, July 13-16.

Minissale, A. "Justemotions. Il ruolo delle emozioni nel giudicare" in collaboration with Scuola Superiore della Magistratura, Scuola Superiore di Studi Giuridici, Alma mater Studiorum, Bologna University; Bologna, May 20.

Minissale, A. "Passionate Storytellers: Legal Pathos and the Ideals sustaining Legal Narratives" at Sociologidagarna, Sverige Sociologförbund, Uppsala, March 16.

2021 **Minissale, A.** & Bergman Blix, S. "Legal encoding as emotion management: analysing narrative transformation in court", at Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, May 27-30. Hold virtually due to Covid-19.

Minissale, A. & Bergman Blix, S. "(Dis)Passionate Law Stories: The Emotional Processes of encoding narrative in court", at European Sociological Association (ESA) Annual Conference, Barcelona, August 31- September 3. Hold virtually due to Covid-19.

Conference organization

2027 ESA-RN11 Midterm conference, Paris, conference organisation

2026 ESA-RN11 Conference in Warsaw, program committee.

Law and Society annual Meeting, San Francisco, May 26-31, CRN 42 program committee together with Professor Renata Grossi.

2025 ESA-RN11 Midterm conference, Belfast, conference organisation.

2024 Co-organizer International Conference "Group Conflict Resolution", in collaboration with Scuola Superiore di Studi Giuridici, Alma mater Studiorum, Bologna University; Bologna, October 10-11.

2022 Co-Organizer and Presenter. Symposium "Justemotions. Il ruolo delle emozioni nel giudicare" in collaboration with Italian Supreme School of the Judiciary, Scuola Superiore di Studi Giuridici, Alma mater Studiorum, Bologna University; Bologna, May 20. Symposium for Italian judges and prosecutors.

2020 Co-Organizer and Translator. Workshop "Le emozioni nell'esperienza giuridica: International perspectives on the role of emotions in the Judiciary" in collaboration with Italian Supreme School of the Judiciary and Bologna Bar Association; part of the Ph.D. program in Legal Studies, Alma mater Studiorum, Bologna University; Bologna, March 6. postponed due to Covid-19

2019 Co-organizer and moderator. Workshop "Law & Emotions: Empathy, Objectivity, and Remorse". Uppsala University, May 13-14.

2019 Co-organizer: Interdisciplinary Conference 'Undisciplined Connections: Networks and Practice of Interdisciplinary Research', with SDR-Faculty of Social Sciences; Uppsala University, May 10.

2019 Co-organizer and Translator/Moderator: Higher Seminar 'Emotions in Court: Exploring judicial management and decision-making', Faculty of Law, Bologna University, March 13.

Conference chair and discussant

2026 "From Assessment to Decision-Making: Discharge, Protection and Activation of Local Support Networks", training event *Recognition, Management and Critical Issues in Cases of Intimate Partner Violence*, Rizzoli Orthopedic Institute, Bologna, Italy, 31 October.

"JS_RN11_RN13: Unspoken Emotions of (Non)Parenthood: Despair, Loneliness and Regret" – European Sociological Association Conference, Warsaw, August 25-28.

"Knowledge of Law Through the Emotional Frame" – Law and Society Annual Conference, San Francisco, May 30.

2023 "The Judicial Decision: A Legal, Sociological and Organisational Perspective" - Judicial Administration Research (JAR) Inaugural Conference – Rome, May 25-26.

2022 "Migration, Exclusion and Emotion" – 10th Mid-term conference of the European Sociological Association-RN11, Sociology of Emotions, Hamburg, August 31-Sempteber 2, 2022.

2022 "Court and Cultural differences" – Law and Society Association (LSA) Global Meeting, Lisbon, July 13-16.

Teaching

Conversation and Communication in Social work, 7.0. c., Uppsala University Course Code: 2SC175 – Bachelor Program
2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 Course teacher/lecturer - "Legal perspectives on social interaction"

Qualitative Methods in the Social Sciences, 7.5 c., Uppsala University, Course Code: 2S099 – Master Program
2021 Course teacher/seminar leader
2022 Course teacher / seminar leader and lecturer
2023 Course teacher / seminar leader and lecturer

Qualitative Methods in the Social Sciences, 7.5 c., Uppsala University, Course SOC0003 SA24V011 – PhD Program
2024 Course teacher/lecturer on Ethnography

Reading Course in Current Sociological Research, 7.5. c., Uppsala University Course Code: 2SC133 73509 – Master Program
2023 Course teacher/supervisor in Sociology of Emotions

Civil Procedural Law (Diritto Processuale Civile), 16 c., Bologna University, Course Code: 00233 – Master Program
2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 Course teacher/lecturer - "The role of emotions in legal practice"

Supervision Master students – Digital Media and Society, specialisation within the Master's Programme in Social Sciences. Thesis. 30 c., Department of Informatics and Media & Communication Studies, Uppsala University
Course Code: 2IV117
2023-2024 Supervisor of 2 master students (40 h) and Examiner (32 h)

Membership

Swedish Sociological Association (2021- ongoing)
Italian Sociological Association (2024 – ongoing)
Law and Society Association (2021 – ongoing)
European Sociological Association (2019 – ongoing)
Socio-Legal Studies Association (2023-ongoing)
Judicial Administration Research Association (2023-ongoing)

Positions at Boards

2026 – LSA CRN 42 Conference Organisation Committee together with Ass. Prof. Renata Grossi

2026 – ongoing, Vice-Coordinator European Sociological Association- Research Network 11 (Sociology of Emotions) (previously board member 2024/2026)

2023/2025, Coordinator of Research Group Emotion-Justice-Interaction (EmoJI), Uppsala University, Departments of Sociology and Social Work.

2021/2022; 2022/2023, Doctoral representative - Board of the Department of Sociology, Uppsala University, collaborating with the Board of Supervisors (*Handledarkollegiate*)

2022/2023, Secretary of The Doctoral Council of the Social Sciences, Uppsala University (*Samhällsvetenskapliga doktorandrådet* - SDR)