

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Anna Meroni

Politecnico di Milano, Department of Design, School of Design

Via Durando 10, 20158 Milano, Italia

Email Address: anna.meroni@polimi.it



CURRENT POSITION

Full Professor in Design at the Department of Design of Politecnico di Milano
Deputy Dean of the School of Design of Politecnico di Milano.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT POSITIONS

Former International Coordinator of the DESIS Network Association and honorary member of its International Coordination Committee.

Member of the Ph.D. board of the program Service Design for Public Sector University, at University Sapienza, Roma.

External member of the Research Committee of the Libera Università di Bolzano

Visiting professor in universities in Italy and abroad.

Ph.D. supervisor.

RESEARCH FIELD

My research's focus is on service and strategic design for sustainability to foster social innovation, participation, and place development.

With my team, we have developed a specific expertise in co-design strategies, methods and tools and originated the concept of community-centred design. I work transversally on new entrepreneurship, place making, public services, and urban commons. Specific fields of application are food systems and collaborative living.

I'm principal investigator of national and international research projects, chair of conferences, author of several publications, member of different scientific boards and visiting lecturer in international universities.

From 2016 to 2021 I served as head of the international Master of Science in Product Service System Design, at the School of Design.

From 2013 to 2019 I have coordinated the POLIMI-DESIS Lab, the Milan based research laboratory of the DESIS-Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability Network, which I have co-founded and served as international coordinator from 2013 to 2016.

WORK EXPERIENCE

From 2022 **Deputy Dean of the School of Design of School of Design - Politecnico di Milano**
Politecnico di Milano <https://www.design.polimi.it/it>

▪ Curriculum development, scientific direction and scientific networking

From 2024 **Member of the Board of the PhD program in Service Design for the Public Sector**
Sapienza Università - Roma https://phd.uniroma1.it/web/SERVICE-DESIGN-FOR-PUBLIC-SECTOR_nD3972_EN.aspx

▪ Scientific advice, mentorship.

From 2020 **Full Professor of Design - Politecnico di Milano - Design Department**
Politecnico di Milano <https://www.design.polimi.it/it>

From 2016 to 2021 **Head of the international Master of Science in Product Service System Design - PSSD, School of Design - Politecnico di Milano**
Politecnico di Milano <https://www.pssd.polimi.it/>

▪ Curriculum development and scientific direction

From 2013 to 2019 **Coordinator of the POLIMI-DESIS Lab**
Milan based research laboratory of the DESIS-Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability-Network <https://www.desis.polimi.it>

▪ Scientific coordination

From 2013 to 2016

International coordinator of the DESIS Network AssociationDesign for Social Innovation and Sustainability - <https://www.desisnetwork.org/>

- Scientific connection and network development

From 2012 to 2018

Director of the Specialising Master in “Housing Sociale e Collaborativo”

POLI.design, via Durando 10, 20158 Milano

- Curriculum development and scientific direction

From 2005 to 2019

Member of the PhD board of the Doctorate Program in Design

Politecnico di Milano, Department of Design

- Scientific advice and curriculum development. PhD candidate's supervision (on-going). Teaching.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

From 1997 to 2000 - XII Cycle

Ph.D. in Design

Politecnico di Milano - Italy

1996

Degree in Architecture

Politecnico di Milano, Facoltà di Architettura, Italy

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue

Italian

Other languages

English - (C2 level, understanding, speaking, writing)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications and main indexes

Total number of publications in peer-review journals, conferences and books in the last 15 years: 78

Disciplinary sector of Design: CEAR-08

Google Scholar Page: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pgjkXpIAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

ORCID: 0000-0002-8946-2361

Relevant publications
(selection)

Corubolo, M. and Meroni A. (2024) Transitioning Design-Orienting Scenarios for Food Systems: A Design Contribution to Explore Sustainable Solutions and Steer Action, in SUSTAINABILITY, vol 16:21, pp 1 - 23, DOI: 10.3390/su16219598

Fassi, D. and Meroni, A. (2023). 'SOSpesa' - Service Design Leveraging Neighborhood Solidarity Networks to Tackle Food Poverty, Food Surplus, and Sustainability of Local Commerce. Strategic Design Research Journal. Volume 16, number 01, January - April 2023. 59- 74. DOI: 10.4013/sdrj.2023.161.06.

Koskinen, I. and Meroni, A (2024) Convivial aesthetic in social innovation: a nested framework from three projects in Milano, in CODESIGN, pp 1 - 18. DOI: 10.1080/15710882.2023.2269913

Selloni, D. and Meroni, A. (2023) Exploring Service Design as a Commoning Approach: The Engaging Strategy of the Service Master Planning, in SUSTAINABILITY, vol 15:22, pp 1 - 17. DOI: 10.3390/su152216067

Meroni A. and Selloni D. (2022) *Service Design for Urban Commons*, Springer Nature (<https://link.springer.com/book/9783031060366>)Meroni A., Selloni D. and Rossi M. (2018). Massive Codesign. A Proposal for a Collaborative Design Framework. FrancoAngeli International, Milano (http://ojs.francoangeli.it/_omp/index.php/oa/catalog/book/303)

Meroni A. (2021) Social innovation embracing participatory design. In F. Vacca (edited by) Fashioning social and cultural innovation, Mandragora pp. 25 - 35

Meroni A. (2019). 'Crossing the boundaries of participation, activism, paradigm change and incubation: On the edge of design for social innovation and sustainability'. Pp 76-96. In: Michel R. (Edited by), Integrative Design. Essays and projects on design research. Birkhauser, Basel

Meroni A. and Selloni D. (2018) 'Design for Social Innovators'. In: Walker S., Cassidy T., Evans M., Twigger Holroyd A. and Jung J. (edited by), *Design Roots*. Bloomsbury Academic.

Meroni A., Corubolo M. and Bartolomeo M. (2017). 'The Social Innovation Journey: Emerging challenges for service design for the incubation of social innovation.' Pp.163-181. In: Sangiorgi D. and Prendiville A. (edited by),

Designing for Service. Key Issues and New Directions. Bloomsbury Publishing

Baek J. S., Meroni A., and Manzini E. (2015). 'A socio-technical approach to design for community resilience: A framework for analysis and design goal forming', in *Design Studies*, 40, pp 60-84

Manzini E. and Meroni A. (2014) 'Catalysing social resources for sustainable changes. Social innovation and community centred design'. Pp. 362-379. in: Vezzoli C., Kohtala C. and Srinivasan A. (edited by), *Product-Service System Design for Sustainability*. Greenleaf Publishing; Sheffield

Meroni A. and Sangiorgi D. (2011, second edition 2016). *Design for Services*. Routledge, UK
(<https://www.routledge.com/Design-for-Services/Meroni-Sangiorgi/p/book/9780566089206>)

Meroni A. (edited by) (2007). *Creative Communities. People inventing sustainable ways of living*, Edizioni Poliedesign. Milano

Presentations at conferences

Conferences: Invited / key-note speaker in more than 40 international and national conferences. Paper presentation in more than 25 conferences.

General Chair and organiser of 2026 Participatory Design Conference: "Peace, Dialogue, Coexistence", Milan, 16-19 June.

General Chair and organiser of 2018 Conference 'ServDes.2018: Proof of Concept', Milan, 18-20 June; Co-chair of the track 'Learning and Practicing'. ServDes is the leading conference on Service Design and Innovation.

Conference organiser, co-chair of the Scientific Committee of 2015 Conference 'Cumulus Milano 2015: the Virtuous Circle. Design Culture and Experimentation', Milan, 3-6 June; Co-chair of the track 'Incubating and Scaling'.

Main projects (last 10 years)

2022-26 ONFOODS - Research and innovation network on food and nutrition Sustainability, Safety and Security. Working ON Foods - funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Mission 4 Component 2 Investment 1.3 - Call for proposals of Italian Ministry of University and Research funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU. Specific Task and Projects leader for Politecnico di Milano.

2022-23 SOSpesa - Neighbourhood networks for the recovery, distribution and valorisation of surplus food. Project co-financed by the Polisocial programme (corporate social responsibility programme of Politecnico di Milano). Departments: DESIGN, DIG, DEIB. Creation of a network of supportive local actors which, by mapping food flows, offers food products at reduced prices, recovers surplus food and transforms unsold food in favour of vulnerable groups. Role: investigator in charge for service design coordination.

2019-23: The School of the Neighbourhoods La Scuola dei Quartieri. Hub dell'innovazione inclusiva, Nuovi servizi in aree degradate, funded by the Municipality of Milano, PON Metro 2014-2020. A project to support the birth of social entrepreneurship through the formation of entrepreneurial skills, so to produce positive impacts on local communities in target neighbourhoods of Milano. <https://www.lasculadeiquartieri.it> Politecnico as a partner: co-design, design for social innovation, service design, design thinking Role: scientific director and principal investigator for Politecnico

2020-22: Service Design for ADIDAS, a series of 3 applied research projects commissioned by the German sportswear company with the aim of exploring scenarios of service offering focussed on sustainability. Politecnico in charge of the project: service design, design-thinking, co-design. Role: scientific director and principal investigator

2019-20: Scuola d'Innovazione Sociale (Social Innovation School), project commissioned by the Scuola Umbra di Amministrazione Pubblica aiming to develop competences of service design for social innovation within the public administration, to deliver better services with a more systemic, socially relevant and user centred approach. Politecnico in charge of the project: service design, design-thinking, co-design. Role: scientific director and principal investigator

2018-19: Rival(u)ta Rivalta - Percorso di Co-Design per la Reggia di Rivalta a Reggio Emilia, project funded by the Municipality of Reggio Emilia. Co-Design process aimed at envisioning future transformations for complex of the Ducale Palace and the Park of Reggio Emilia. An applied research project for the design and implementation of a co-design process to build, with the citizens and the city stakeholders, scenarios for future use and identity of the Reggia di Rivalta and its park. Politecnico in charge of the project: co-design, design thinking Role: scientific director and principal investigator for Politecnico.

2017-18: Vivi Calusca, project funded by Fondazione Cariplo - Progetti Territoriali. Vivi Calusca is an applied research project aiming at designing and implementing co-design actions for the engagement of the inhabitants of the vast condominium of Vicolo Calusca 10 - Milano into collaborative initiatives and services to take care of the place and the community. Politecnico as a partner: co-design, service design Role: scientific director.

2016-18: SAME Supporting Action for Migrant Entrepreneurship, project funded by the JP Morgan Chase Foundation. SAME is an action conducted with RENA, and Make a Cube3 with the aim of mapping and studying cases of migrant

entrepreneurship and policies/actions in support of it in different European countries. Final output of the project is a reflection on these initiatives and a Policy Forum organised in Milano to discuss with policy makers and experts in order to see how to replicate the best practices in a systemic way. Poli.design - Politecnico di Milano as a partner: design for social innovation, service design Role: scientific director and principal investigator for Poli.design

2015-18: CIMULACT Citizen And Multi-Actor Consultation on HORIZON 2020", EC funded project, H 2020. Project no: 665948. CIMULACT is a 30 -month project having the main objective of adding to the relevance and accountability of European research and innovation - Horizon 2020 as well as national - by engaging citizens and stakeholders in co-creation of research agendas based on real and validated societal visions, needs and demands. <http://www.cimulact.eu/>. Politecnico as a partner: co-design, design for social innovation and sustainability, scenario building. Role: scientific director principal investigator for Politecnico.

Honours and awards

2024 Selection ADI Index for Compasso d'Oro - for the project: "La Scuola dei Quartieri" (designer in a team with: Marta Corubolo, Daniela Selloni, Chiara Galeazzi, Marta Corubolo, Chiara Galeazzi, Anna Meroni, Daniela Selloni, Ilaria Pais, Alberto Muscari Tomajoli, Silveria Mobilio Rodriguez, Lara Luppi, Gabriella Bartolomeo, Rossella Sacco, Silvia Larghi, Annibale D'Elia, Eleonora Cozzi, Davide Bazzini, Serena Pelagallo, Claudio Calvaresi),

2024 Selection ADI Index for Compasso d'Oro - for the project: "SOSpesa - Equità e ripresa dietro l'angolo" (designer in a team with: Davide Fassi, Giulia Bartezzaghi, Stefano Quaglia, Murizio Magarini, Davide Scazzoli, Francesco Vergani, Irene Bassi, Valentina Ferreri, Paola Garrone).

2019 Selected participant in the exhibition "XXII Triennale di Milano - Broken Nature", at the Triennale di Milano, Padiglione Italia, "4 Elements / Taking care", Italy. Presentation of the outcomes of the research project "Rivaluta Rivalta". March-September 2019

2018 Selection ADI Index for Compasso d'Oro - Designer (in a team) of the 'Exhibition NUB - New Urban Body. Esperienze di Generazione Urbana'. Team: Giordana Ferri, Stefano Guidarini, Paolo Cottino, Claudio Calvaresi

2014 Selection ADI Index for Compasso d'Oro - Promoter at Politecnico di Milano of the research project 'Cittadini Creativi - Creative Citizens', by D. Selloni.

2008 Premio Compasso d'Oro ADI - XXI Edizione - Special Mention - Researcher (in a team) pf the Research project EMUDE - Emerging User Demands for Sustainable Solutions, Team: E. Manzini with L. Collina, A. Meroni, P. Ciuccarelli - Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento INDACO

2009 Honorary Research Fellow at Institute for Contemporary Arts, Lancaster University, ImaginationLancaster

2010 Post Doctoral Research Fellow in Environmental Studies at the Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts and The Tishman Enviroment and Design Centre, Parsons - The New School for Design, New York, USA

Memberships and managerial activities

Over the last 15 years I have been member of 13 advisory boards, scientific committees and editorial boards.

2018-19: member of the scientific board of experts nominated by Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities (MIBAC), for the study and definition of public policies in support of Design. The board has defined scenarios and options to create a national Design Policy.

I serve as a reviewer of 7 scientific journals and of several books.

2022-ongoing: Deputy Dean of the School of Design, Politecnico di Milano

2024-ongoing: Member of the board of the Doctorate Program in Design for Public Sector, University Sapienza, Roma

2016-21: Head of the Master of Science in Product Service System Design at Politecnico di Milano, School of Design

2013-19: Coordinator of the POLIMI-DESIS Lab: Milan based research lab and co-founder of the DESIS-Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability Network

2005-19: Member of the board of the Doctorate Program in Design, Politecnico di Milano

2013-16: International Coordinator of the DESIS Network Association (Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability)

Date: Jan 2025

Signature

