

Special thanks to the journalists and researchers who contributed to east 26.
Their profiles are listed below.

ALESSANDRO ARDUINO is an economist and China expert who specializes in cross-cultural themes, crisis management and negotiation. He is the author of *Cina: sotto il cielo una famiglia*.

CLAUDIA ASTARITA earned a BA in political and international science and holds a Masters in international affairs from Milan's Institute for International Political Studies, ISPI and is now working toward her doctorate at the Center for Asian Studies of Hong Kong University. She is also a research associate at the French Center for Research on Contemporary China in Hong Kong. She contributes to the Italian website *Panorama.it*.

CRISTINA BOMBELLI is president of Wise Growth, a consultancy firm active in China and focused on diversity management. She is also a lecturer at Milan's Bicocca University and the author of several books, including *Cina: sotto il cielo una famiglia*, with con Alessandro Arduino e J. Gonzales.

EMILIANO BOS has been a correspondent in both war and peacetime. He has written lengthy dispatches from Africa, the Middle East, and the Balkans. He contributes to a number of newspapers, including *l'Avvenire* and works for Swiss Italian radio.

EMANUELE CONFORTIN graduated in linguistic studies and oriental studies in Venice, specializing in Indian ethnography. He also studies Hindi and Himalayan tribal traditions. He's contributed to *Il Gazzettino*, *Corriere Asia e Area 7*.

MASSIMILIANO DI PASQUALE Pasquale is a graduate of Bocconi University in Milan and has held marketing jobs in London. He's a member of AISU, the Italian Association of Ukrainian Studies, and has written for *Affari Italiani*, *Liberal*, *Vie dell'Est*, *Avvenire*, *Osservatorio dei Balcani* and the *Metropoli* section of *la Repubblica*.

LORENA DI PLACIDO is a researcher for CeMiSS (Centro Militare di Studi Strategici; Italy's Military Center for Strategic Studies). She's a member of that organization's Organizational Affairs department as well as its Central Asian regional affairs cooperation office. She also belongs to ASIAC (Associazione per lo Studio in Italia dell'Asia Centrale e del Caucaso) and is the author of foreign policy articles for the online publication *L'Occidentale*.

RITA FATIGUSO works for the Italian business daily *Il Sole24 Ore*, where she writes about industrial relations and the problems of globalization with an emphasis on Eastern Europe and China. She was awarded the Marco Biagi Prize in 2003 and has written *Le navi delle false griffe* (edizioni Il Sole 24Ore) and *Oltre la Muraglia*.

GIAMPIETRO GARIONI Garioni is a financial consultant with a focus on the internationalizing of businesses. He's a lecturer in economics and the techniques of international exchange at the International Commerce Masters program of the University of Padua.

ALESSANDRA GARUSI is a photojournalist who specializes in the Middle East and Far East. She has worked for a number of Italian and international magazines, including *L'Indipendente*, *D-La Repubblica delle Donne*, *Anna*, *The Tablet* and *Peace Reporter*. In 1994, he was London correspondent for *L'Europeo* magazine and *Il Giornale* newspaper.

MARINA GERSONY is a journalist, essayist and director. She worked for Italian state television RAI with the late Enzo Biagi and also with *Tg3*. Her work has appeared in a number of publications, including *Panorama* and *Il Giornale*. She has published *Europa low cost* and *Ci siamo* with O. Bitjoka.

LEV GUDKOV heads the nongovernmental Levada Center in Moscow, which conducts public opinion polls and sociological studies. He is among Russia's most eminent social scientists and is the author of a number of notable books.

FRANCESCA LANCINI is a journalist who specializes in international affairs with an emphasis on southern studies. Her focus has been on central and southeast Asia. She's also worked for *Peace Reporter* and a number of Italian publications.

CARLOTTA MAGNANINI has been published in *Marie Claire*, *la Repubblica* and *l'Espresso* (on the *Scarpette grosse* blog). She covers society and social trends and has published two novel-guides to new millennium trends (compulsive shopping and the marriage industry).

GIOVANNI MORO is a political sociologist. He is president of FONDACA, Fondazione per la cittadinanza attiva (Foundation for an Active Citizenry) and teaches the sociology of political events at the University of Macerata's political science department. He has published a number of books, the most recent with Ilaria Tannini titled *La società civile tra eredità e sfide. Rapporto sull'Italia del Civil Society Index* in 2008. His next book is *Cittadini in Europa*.

FABIO MUCCI holds a Masters in political economy from Milan's Bocconi. He is an economist with the Foreign Bank Division of the UniCredit Group.

FERNANDO ORLANDI is an expert on the Cold War and Western ties with the Communist world in the 1950s. He has also worked on a number of international research projects. Since 1999, he's managed CSSEO (Centro Studi sulla Storia dell'Europa Orientale/Research Center for Eastern European History) in Levico Terme, Italy.

DEBORA REVOLTELLA is an economist. She was a contract lecturer at Milan's Bocconi. She runs the Foreign Banks Study Unit of the Unicredit group.

SERGIO ROMANO is distinguished contributor to Milan's *Corriere della Sera*. He has been Italian ambassador to a number of nations, including Russia. He's also the author of a number of widely praised historical and political works.

MONICA RUFFA managed the Civic Activism Department of FONDACA, "Fondazione per la cittadinanza attiva" (Foundation for an Active Citizenry). She coordinates training programs, research work, consultancies and cultural dialogue on the subject of activism and citizen assembly.

FARIAN SABAH holds a Ph.D. from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and is a lecturer on Islam and democracy at the political science department of the University of Turin. She writes for several publications, including *Il Sole24 Ore* and *La Stampa*.

GYÖRGY SCHÖPFLIN was a political science lecturer at London's Jean Monnet University College. He's a member of parliament for the Hungarian Civic Union.

PIERO SINATTI is a journalist who graduated in Russian studies from the University of Pisa. He has maintained a two-decade-long relationship with *Il Sole24 Ore*, Italy's leading financial daily. He has also written for *il manifesto*, *La Gazzetta del Popolo* and *Stampa Sera*. He has published essays and edited books on dissent in the Soviet Union and later work on the post-Soviet transition for several Italian publishing houses, including Einaudi.

VLADIMIR TISMANEANU teaches politics at the University of Maryland and is the author of a number of books, including *Reinventing Politics: Eastern Europe from Stalin to Havel* and *Fantasies of Salvation:*

Democracy, Nationalism, and Myth in Post-communist Europe.

MARIA ELENA VIGGIANO earned a degree in languages and oriental civilizations in Naples. She obtained a Masters in journalism in Milan.

VITTORIO BORELLI is the editor of east and has worked for *Quotidiano dei Lavoratori*, *Secolo XIX*, *Espansione*, *Panorama* and *Il Mondo*, which he co-edited. He's also the author of *Diario di un militante intorno a un suicidio* (Feltrinelli 1979) and *Banca padrona* (Rizzoli 2005).

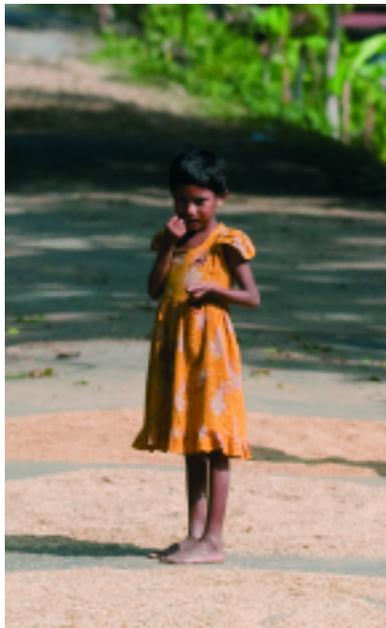
SPECIAL THANKS

Economist, Turin university lecturer and *La Stampa* opinion page contributor **Mario Deaglio**;

Israeli publisher **Yael Serez**;

Faïza Abdul-Wahab, daughter of the only Arab to have a tree dedicated in his honor in Milan's Garden of the Righteous;

geopolitical scientist **Parag Khanna**.



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