

Michele Calamaio

Investigative Journalist | Multimedia Producer | Media Specialist | Filmmaker | Fact-checker

Portfolio | LinkedIn, Twitter

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EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY – GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM New York, U.S.A. | 08/2024 – 05/2025  
Master of Science, Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism Fellow – Fulbright scholar & Lorana Sullivan scholarship recipient.

UNIVERSITY OF VERONA Verona, Italy | 09/2017 – 06/2020  
Master's degree in Multimedia Journalism.  
o C.M. Lerici Foundation Fellowship as a Master's thesis research scholar at Mid Sweden University (Sundsvall, Sweden, 2020).  
o Short-term Global Mobility Internship as a Filmmaker & Video Editor at Filmotion Productions (Sydney, Australia, 2019).  
o Overseas Mobility in Audiovisual Journalism at the Veracruzana University (Veracruz, Mexico, 2019).  
o Erasmus+ in Journalism at the University of the Basque Country (Bilbao, Spain, 2018).  
o Short-term Global Mobility Internship as a Broadcast Producer at TV3 Network (Accra, Ghana, 2018).

UNIVERSITY OF URBINO Urbino, Italy | 09/2013 – 06/2017  
Bachelor's degree in Foreign Languages & Intercultural Business Communication.  
o Erasmus+ in Foreign Languages & Marketing at the University of Adam Mickiewicz (Poznan, Poland, 2016).

SAINT CLOUD HIGH SCHOOL Saint Cloud, USA | 08/2011 – 06/2012  
High-school exchange year through Italy's nationally-sponsored intercultural program Intercultura.

EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Freelance Multimedia Investigative Journalist Remote, Assignment-based | 01/2020 – Today
  - Euronews – Investigated the impact of the Ius Scholae law decree on the integration of Chinese-Italian second-generation migrants in Prato.
  - Are We Europe – Investigated migrants' conditions in Poland's Wędrzyn camp and EU policy response to human rights discrimination.
  - Corriere della Sera – On-the-field reporting about the Poland-Belarus border crisis and the EU's role in migration policy.
  - Revue Dessinée – Investigated the erotic rights of disabled people, sexual assistants' roles, legal barriers, and Italy's political inaction.
- ◆ Misinformation Analyst (Full-time), NEWSGUARD New York, U.S.A | 06/2025 – Today
  - Verified news websites' credibility by assessing their transparency and standards, as well as wrote debunking reports on false claims.
- ◆ Strategic Media Specialist & Web Writer (Consultancy), NATO Brussels, Belgium | 09/2023 – 07/2024
  - Developed and executed PR, media relations, and visual communication strategies to promote the mission and engage stakeholders.
- ◆ Podcast Producer (Internship), EURACTIV ITALIA Brussels, Belgium | 04/2023 – 09/2023
  - Produced and managed an EU affairs podcast, featuring expert interviews and analysis to drive audience engagement and visibility.
- ◆ Digital Media Expert (Consultancy), UNESCO-IBE Geneva, Switzerland | 11/2022 – 09/2023
  - Managed digital content, press relations, and media outreach to enhance education initiatives' impact through strategic communication.
- ◆ Financial News Reporter (Full-time), REUTERS Gdansk, Poland | 10/2021 – 09/2022
  - Researched market trends and economic data to produce financial news articles, collaborating with editors for high-quality reporting.
- ◆ Multimedia Producer (Global Internship), THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Rome, Italy | 06/2021 – 10/2021
  - Produced multimedia content to enhance news storytelling and to create compelling visuals to boost audience engagement.
- ◆ Social Media Content Producer (Blue Book Traineeship), EUROPEAN COMMISSION Brussels, Belgium | 10/2020 – 03/2021
  - Developed and executed social media strategies to create content, manage platforms, and optimize analytics for increased awareness.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- ⇒ Stars4Media Grant (EU Commission, 2020) – EU Video News: Produced a documentary on the illegal climate migration in the Mediterranean region during the COVID-19 outbreak, traveling in the Greek, Maltese, and Italian hotspots.
- ⇒ Covering Rare Disease Fellowship (National Press Foundation, 2022) – La Repubblica: In-depth scientific reporting on the medical and social impact of TMAU in Italy, a rare "rotten fish odor" disease.
- ⇒ Google News Initiative Fellowship (Google, 2022) – La Repubblica: Two-month internship as a reporter at the foreign affairs desk, covering the Russo-Ukrainian war, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and China-Taiwan relations.
- ⇒ Earth Journalism Mediterranean Media Initiative Grant (Internews, 2023) & Arena Climate Fellowship (Arena for Journalism in Europe, 2023) – Voxeurop: Reported on the environmental, economic, and political impacts of subsea cables in the Mediterranean marine ecosystem.
- ⇒ E3J in Journalism Grant (Free Press Unlimited, 2023) – The European Correspondent: Europe's first audio-cartoon investigation on MDMA's potential to treat PTSD between Italy and the Netherlands' sociopolitical frameworks.
- ⇒ Newsroom 27 Grant (EU Commission, 2024) – Green European Journal: Reported the offshore wind farms' ecological impact and sustainable solutions in the Belgian North Sea.
- ⇒ Oxford Climate Journalism Network (Reuters Institute, 2024): Engaged in a live-training program in climate change and environmental journalism.
- ⇒ Pulitzer Center Grant (Columbia University – Pulitzer Center, 2025) – Mongabay: Investigated how internal cultural fractures within Indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon are exploited by local traffickers to enable land grabbing, illegal cattle ranching, and widespread deforestation.
- ⇒ LIMENet Initiative (Media4Change, 2026): Created WeSpeakBXL, a multilingual, digital youth-led glocal newsroom covering Brussels' topics.
- ⇒ Environmental Investigative Journalism Grant (JournalismFund Europe, 2026): Traced how weak EU regulations, climate stress on seed production, and flawed self-check systems let contaminated sprouts slip through and reach consumers across Europe.
- ⇒ Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (European Commission, 2026) – Muzir: Collaborated for six months in Istanbul with Asli Alpar, a Turkish journalist and cartoonist entrepreneur, on how to build a cartoon-driven investigative storytelling model, creatively and financially.
- ⇒ Maria Leptin | EMBO Science Journalism Fellowship (EMBO, 2026) – Institute of Marine Research: Three-month research study in Norway, learning about the hidden impacts of offshore wind farms' development on ocean ecosystems, regulatory sensitivity, and industrial fishery economy.

SKILLS

- OSINT techniques, deep-web search.
- Investigative multimedia reporting.
- Data scraping and visualization.
- Filmmaking, video journalism.
- Fact-checking tools.

LANGUAGES

- English: Fluent.
- Spanish: Fluent.
- Italian: Native.
- French: Beginner.