

About

Alessia Usai is a Civil Engineer and PhD in Technologies for the preservation of the architectural and environmental heritage. She researches at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture, University of Cagliari (IT). Her research investigates urban planning and urban regeneration policies according to the creative city principles and the approach outlined by the European Landscape Convention with a focus on cultural heritage management and valorisation. She is author of thirty publications of international and national relevance, including the peer-reviewed book "The creative city. Cultural policies and urban regeneration between conservation and development" (Peter Lang PIE Publishing). The original and innovative approach of her PhD thesis has been awarded with the 2015 ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Policy and Cultural Management. She is a first signer and an early member of the platform *W.I.S.E.4All - Women for Innovative Society in Europe*.

Research and Professional Experience

25/09/2018 - 25/12/2018: Research Fellow (*Borsista di Ricerca*) at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR) of the University of Cagliari (Supervisor: Prof. A.M. Colavitti)

06/10/2017 - 06/05/2018: Research Fellow (*Borsista di Ricerca*) at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR) of the University of Cagliari (Supervisor: Prof. A.M. Colavitti)

24/05/2016 - 24/05/2017: Research Fellow (*Assegnista di Ricerca*) at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR) of the University of Cagliari. (Supervisor: Prof. A. Sanna)

18/05/2015- 24/09/2015: Research Assistant (*Contrattista*) at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR) of the University of Cagliari (Supervisor: Prof. A.M. Colavitti)

10/2013 - 12/2013: Internship at the Cardiff Metropolitan University (UK) (Supervisor: Prof. Nick Clifton, Department of Creative Leadership and Enterprise Centre, Cardiff UK)

02/2011 - 04/2011: Research Assistant (*Contrattista*) at the Department of Architecture of the University of Cagliari (Supervisors: Prof. E. Abis, Prof. A. Sanna, and Prof. A.M. Colavitti)

Education

29/05/2015: PhD in Technologies for the preservation of the architectural and environmental heritage, thesis title: "*The creative city. Cultural policies and urban regeneration between conservation and development*", University of Cagliari IT (Supervisor: Prof. A.M. Colavitti).

08/06/2010 - 12/06/2010: Weekend Master on European Project Planning 2007/2013 held in Cagliari (IT) and focused on EU Structural Funds, Project Cycle Management, SWOT and GOPP Analysis.

26/04/2010: MSc degree in Civil Engineering, thesis title: "The transformation of the Mediterranean city; Innovative aspects of the recovery", University of Cagliari IT (Supervisor: Prof. A.M. Colavitti)

05/12/2007: BSc degree in Technology for the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage.

Teaching activities

03/2019 - 05/2019: Professor of the Course “The Creative City. Methods and instruments in support of urban policies” (20 hours) for Master and Bachelor students of the Faculty of Engineer and Architecture, University of Cagliari

02/2019: Invited Lecturer at the Institut d'Aménagement de Tourisme et d'Urbanisme (IATU), University Bordeaux Montaigne, Bordeaux, France, 3-24 February 2019

09/2018: Invited Lecturer within the Design Workshop "AAE_PAVILLON - ARCHITECTURE, ARTS, EDUCATION", 15-21 September 2018, Faculty of Architecture of the Polytechnic University of Poznan, Poland

05/2018 - 06/2018: Professor of the Course “The Creative City. Methods and instruments in support of urban policies” (20 hours) for Master and Bachelor students of the Faculty of Engineer and Architecture, University of Cagliari

01/2018: Lecturer on “URBAN PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: European Programming. Issues and challenges for local planning on green building and energy efficiency” (4 hours) within the MSc on Green building and energy efficiency, University of Cagliari.

05/2017: Invited Lecturer within the Workshop “TERRITORIAL IDENTITY AND DEVELOPMENT”, 26 May 2017, Faculty of Geography of the Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj – Napoca, Romania

05/2017 - 06/2017: Professor of the Course “Design with Nature. Nature, environment and landscape in Urban Planning” (20 hours) for Master and Bachelor students of the Faculty of Engineer and Architecture, University of Cagliari

2015 - 2017: Tutor of the Urban Planning Laboratory in the BSc Course in Architecture Sciences, Faculty of Engineer and Architecture, University of Cagliari (Responsible of the Course: Prof. A.M. Colavitti).

2010 - 2017: Tutor of the Urban Planning Fundamentals Course in the BSc Course in Architecture Sciences, Faculty of Engineer and Architecture, University of Cagliari (Responsible of the Course: Prof. A.M. Colavitti).

12/2014: Scientific support and mentoring within the Master's Thesis Laboratory entitled "Methods and procedures for the planning of historic centres" (Responsible: Prof. E. Abis, Prof. A.M. Colavitti).

Participation in research projects

2017 - today, Municipalities of Villasor and Dorgali: adaption of the existing planning instruments according to Sardinia Regional Landscape Plan (Scientists in charge of the Project: Prof. A. Sanna, Prof. A.M. Colavitti);

2017 - today, Research project “Military architecture in small islands” within the EU Project “ISOS - ISole Sostenibili: Réseau d'îles pour le développement durable et la préservation des patrimoines”, (INTERREG V-A) IT-FR - Italy-France (Maritime) (Scientist in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti, Prof. D.R. Fiorino);

2018 - Research project "Building the future of territory: planning and design for sustainable and resilient Communities" - Programme Canaletto. Bilateral exchange of scientists Italy - Poland, , Scientists in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti, Prof. Maciej Janowski (*project under evaluation*). Collaboration in drafting the project proposal and in the coordination of the consortium;

2018 - Research Project " Aree interne e modello bioregionalista: dalla pianificazione tradizionale al nuovo progetto locale" Autonomous Region of Sardinia, Development and Cohesion Fund 2014 - 2020, Scientists in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti (*project under evaluation*). Collaboration in drafting the project proposal and in the coordination of the consortium;

2017 - Research project "THE SHOW MUST GO ON: NEW MARKETS FOR ANCIENT (AMPHI)THEATRES - ENI CBC MED Programme, Scientists in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti, Prof. L. Mundula (*Project positively evaluated but not funded*). Collaboration in drafting the project proposal and in the coordination of the consortium;

2016 - Research project "Landscape planning and historic building heritage: definition of a methodological framework and guidelines for the adaptation of Recovery Plans for historical centres to the Regional Landscape Plan in Sardinia" (Scientist in charge of the Project: Prof. A. Sanna);

2015 - Research project "Cultural Districts in Sardinia Region. A toolkit for the Cultural Heritage and Landscape Governance" (Scientist in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti), financed by the Bank of Sardinia Foundation (Italian: *Fondazione Banco di Sardegna*);

2015 - European Research project "Landscape governance in Europe: common values to build a common European planning platform" - Horizon 2020, Call H2020-REFLECTIVE-SOCIETY-2015, Topic: REFLECTIVE-3-2015, Type of Action: RIA, Proposal number: 692827, Proposal Acronym: E_PLAt, Scientist in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti (*Project positively evaluated but not funded*). Collaboration in drafting the project proposal and in the coordination of the consortium;

2012 - Municipalities of Castiadas and Dolianova: adaption of the existing planning instruments according to Sardinia Regional Landscape Plan (Scientist in charge of the Project: Prof. A.M. Colavitti);

2011 - "Program for the restructuring and rationalization of Sulcis-Iglesiente's port system" and "Study for the restoration of mining harbours of Iglesias coasts" (Scientists in charge of the Research Project: Prof. E. Abis, Prof. A. Sanna, and Prof. A.M. Colavitti);

2011 - International research project funded by the Heritage & Landscape Royal Society of Edinburg (Scientists in charge of the Research Project: Prof. A. M. Colavitti, Prof. P. Van Dommelen);

2010 - Two-years research project "Cagliari: Procedures and models for the integrated enhancement of the historic urban landscape. Guidelines for the application of the HUL Recommendation that UNESCO will take over in 2011". Regional Law 7 August 2007. (Scientists in charge of the Research: Prof. E. Abis, Prof. A.M. Colavitti).

Membership in scientific committees/panels/boards, scientific reviewing activities

2018 - today Member of the Editorial Board of the *Regional and Urban Planning Journal* (ISSN Print: 2575-1689, ISSN Online: 2575-1697)

2017 - today Peer-reviewer for the following MDPI journals: Applied Sciences, Sustainability, Infrastructures, Energies, Buildings, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

2017 - Discussant and chairwoman of the roundtable "Toward a Just-Creative City", Launch Event of the platform *WISE4ALL – Women for Innovative Society in Europe* at the European Parliament, 26 September 2017, Brussels

2017 - Member of the Scientific Committee of the platform *W.I.S.E.4All - Women for Innovative Society in Europe* by S-Com (more details at: <http://www.scom.eu/portfolio/wise4all/>);

Prizes, awards and fellowships

2018 - The peer-reviewed book "*Il distretto culturale evoluto, Beni culturali e pianificazione del territorio nella sfida futura*" ranked 3rd in the 2018 Literature Prize of the National Institute of Urbanism (INU), books section

2018 - Best paper of under-40 researcher of the workshop 1.2 "The bio-regional paradigm for the re-embedding of human settlement", XXI National Conference of the Italian Society of Urbanists (SIU), Florence 7-8 June 2018

2015 - ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Policy and Cultural Management for the original and innovative approach of the PhD Thesis (more details at: <http://www.encatc.org/en/award/winners/2015/>);

2015 - PhD Research selected as "best practice" by the Authority of Sardinia Region for the Regional Operative Program European Social Funds 2007/2013 - Objective on regional competitiveness and occupation, Line IV - Human Resources, Activity I.3 (more details at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jz1IIT7s58>);

2014 - Attendance Scholarship granted by the Regional Studies Association (RSA) for the 12th European Weeks of Regions and Cities (6-8 October 2014, Brussels) for the quality of the paper presented.

Professional qualifications

2016 - Title of "Cultore della materia" in Urban Planning (ICAR/20), issued by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture, University of Cagliari (Consiglio di Dipartimento n. 15 del 03/11/2016);

2016 - Title of Assistant Conservator of cultural heritage / technician of restoration, issued by the Italian Ministry of Culture (MIBACT-DG-38 ER REP 03/23/2016);

2014 - Qualification of Safety Coordinator during design and execution of mobile and temporary worksites, issued by the Order of Engineers of the Province of Cagliari (IT);

2011- Qualification to practice as Civil Engineer in Italy and in the European Union (Register of Engineers of the Province of Cagliari (IT), Inscription n. 7639).

Languages

Italian (mother tongue);

English C1 level

German A1 level

Publications*

**Please, consider that Urban Planning (PIANIFICAZIONE E PROGETTAZIONE URBANISTICA E TERRITORIALE - Settore concorsuale 08/F1) is a non-bibliometric area in the Italian research system (D.M. Miur n.120/2016). For the complete list: <https://iris.unica.it/>.*

2019

Colavitti A.M., Usai A. (2019), Applying the HUL approach to walled towns of Mediterranean seaport cities. Lessons and guidelines through the experience of four UNESCO walled towns, *Journal of Place Management and Development*, DOI 10.1108/JPMD-03-2018-0025

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (2019). La valutazione e valorizzazione dei servizi ecosistemici nelle politiche rurali per i paesaggi agricoli storici. L'esperienza sarda, in AGel, (2019), *L'apporto della geografia tra rivoluzioni e riforme*, Atti del XXXII Congresso geografico italiano, Roma: Associazione dei Geografi Italiani (AGel) ISBN 9788894264128

Colavitti A.M., Usai A. (*in press*). La creatività alla scala regionale e urbana: l'impatto delle politiche pubbliche per il settore culturale e creativo nella trasformazione e riuso del paesaggio urbano in Italia, in Atti della XXI Conferenza Nazionale SIU - Società Nazionale degli Urbanisti, 7-8 giugno

2018, Firenze (IT), Planum Publisher

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (*in press*). L'esperienza bioregionalista e lo sviluppo delle aree interne. Una possibile applicazione alla regione Ogliastra, *Contesti. Città, territori, progetti*, ISSN 2035-5300

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (*in press*). Modelli di sviluppo locale per le aree interne: l'esperienza sarda, in Atti della XXI Conferenza Nazionale SIU - Società Nazionale degli Urbanisti, 7-8 giugno 2018, Firenze (IT), Planum Publisher

Usai A. (*in press*). Le politiche pubbliche per la cultura e la creatività nella città storica: una questione di rappresentanza, in ADI Cagliari, ADI Sassari - Associazione dottorandi e dottori di ricerca italiani, Ed., *Ricerca in vetrina 2018*, Franco Angeli, Milano, ISBN 9788891772152 ISBN online 9788891783806

2018

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (2018). Locus amoenus. *Pianificare il patrimonio culturale per una nuova geografia dello sviluppo*. Firenze: Altralinea ISBN 9788898743872

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (2018). Towards an integrated assessment of the cultural ecosystem services in the policy making for urban ecosystems: lessons from the spatial and economic planning for landscape and cultural heritage in Tuscany and Apulia (IT), in *Planning Practice and Research*, 33(4), pp. 441-473, DOI: 10.1080/02697459.2018.1510275

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (2018). Planning the wetlands in a conflictual Era. The Santa Gilla & Molentargius compendia cases– study (Sardinia, Italy), in *Acta Technica Napocensis: Civil Engineering & Architecture*, 61(3), pp.231-252, ISSN 1221-5848

Clifton N., Usai A. (2018). Non-state nations; structure, rescaling, and the role of territorial policy communities, illustrated by the cases of Wales and Sardinia, in *Environment & Planning C: Politics & Space*, DOI:10.1177/2399654418815695

Pes F., Usai A. (2018). La bioregione dalla teoria alla pratica: ricerche e riflessioni sull'esperienza cagliaritano, in *Urbanistica Informazioni*, vol. 278, n.1, pp.91-96, ISSN 0392-5005

Usai A. (2018). Spazi creativi e trasformazione della città storica. L'esperienza del quartiere storico di Villanova a Cagliari, in *Urbanistica Informazioni*, vol. 278, n.1, pp.294-299, ISSN 0392-5005

2017

Usai A. (2017). Le “mutazioni” del territorio storico. Patrimonio culturale ed economia creativa nella dimensione locale. Il caso sardo, in *Scienze del Territorio - Rivista di Studi Territorialisti*, vol.5, ISSN 2384-8774

Usai A. (2017). Review of the book “Privati del patrimonio”, in *Scienze del Territorio - Rivista di Studi Territorialisti*, vol.5, ISSN 2384-8774

Havadi-Naghi K.X., Usai A. (2017). New approaches to historic territory: ecosystem services assessment in policies for the historic rural landscapes, in *Scienze del Territorio - Rivista di Studi Territorialisti*, vol.5, ISSN 2384-8774

Colavitti A.M., Usai A. (2017). Le mura urbane: da sistemi difensivi a nuove polarità del paesaggio urbano storico? Le esperienze di uso e riuso nella città di Cagliari City walls: from defence systems to new polarities of the historic urban landscape? Experiences of use and reuse in Cagliari, in Fiorino D.R., Damiani G., eds., *MILITARY LANDSCAPES. SCENARI PER IL FUTURO DEL PATRIMONIO MILITARE*, Milano: Skira, ISBN 978-88-572-3674-2

Colavitti A. M., Usai A. (2017), Tutela e valorizzazione dei beni culturali e paesaggistici in ambito urbano: il ruolo del sistema vincolistico nell'azione pubblica. L'esperienza sarda, in Atti della XX Conferenza Nazionale SIU - Società Italiana degli Urbanisti, 12-14 giugno 2017, Roma (IT),

Planum Publisher, ISBN 9788899237127

Colavitti A.M., Usai A. (2017). Use and re-use of city walls. from defence systems to new polarities of the historic urban landscape? The experiences of Cagliari City in Sardinia (IT) | Uso e riuso delle città murate: dai sistemi di difesa alle nuove polarità del paesaggio storico urbano. Il caso di Cagliari (Sardegna), in Fiorino D.R., ed., *MILITARY LANDSCAPES. SCENARI PER IL FUTURO DEL PATRIMONIO MILITARE*, Proceedings of the International Conference “Military Landscapes. Future for military heritage”, paper n. 013, Isola de La Maddalena, 21-24 Giugno 2017, Milano: Skira, ISBN 9788857237329

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai A. (2017). La valutazione dei servizi ecosistemici nelle politiche rurali per i paesaggi agricoli storici. L'esperienza sarda, in AGel (2017), *Programma e Abstract / Programme and Abstracts*, XXXII Congresso geografico italiano “L'apporto della geografia tra rivoluzioni e riforme”, Bologna: Associazione dei Geografi Italiani (AGel), ISBN 9788894264104

2016

Usai A. (2016). *Il distretto culturale evoluto, Beni culturali e pianificazione del territorio nella sfida futura*, Firenze: Altralinea Edizioni ISBN 9788898743568

Usai A. (2016). *The Creative City: Cultural Policies and Urban Regeneration Between Conservation and Development*. Brussels: P.I.E. Peter Lang ISBN 978-2-8076-0192-5

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2016). How cultural and creative industries are redefining policies for the historic urban landscape. The experience of Cagliari City as ECoC 2019's finalist and Italian Capitals of Culture 2015, in Proceedings of the 7th ENCATC Conference, 5- 7th October 2016, Valencia (Spain). Brussels: ENCATC, ISBN 9789299003657

Colavitti A.M., Serra S., Usai, A. (2016). Demanio militare e “beni comuni”: regolazione dei rapporti interistituzionali e coinvolgimento della società civile nei processi di valorizzazione della Regione Sardegna, in *Memorie geografiche*, nuova serie, Vol. 14, ISBN 9788890892622

2015

Usai A. (2015). Il distretto culturale evoluto: una “rete di reti” per il rinnovamento delle politiche urbane, in *Urbanistica Informazioni*, 263(7), pp.48-53, ISSN 0392-5005

Usai A. (2015). La Città Murata come paesaggio urbano storico patrimonio dell'UNESCO. Elementi utili per la definizione di un piano di gestione per il quartiere storico di Castello, in Abis E. (a cura di), *Paesaggio storico urbano. Progetto e qualità per il castello di Cagliari*, Roma: Gangemi ISBN 9788849231328

Usai, A. (2015). *La città creative. Politiche culturali e rigenerazione urbana tra conservazione e sviluppo*, Tesi di Dottorato in Tecnologie per la conservazione dei beni architettonici e ambientali, XXVII ciclo, Università degli Studi di Cagliari

Petzold, W., Usai, A. et al. (2015). Future research on European Union Cohesion Policy: a Master Class during the OPEN DAYS 2014, in *Regional Studies Regional Science*, 2(1), pp. 184-203, , DOI: 10.1080/21681376.2015.1013151

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2015). Partnership building strategy in place branding as a tool to improve cultural heritage district's design. The experience of UNESCO's mining heritage district in Sardinia (Italy), in *Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development*, 2(2015), pp.151 – 175, DOI: 10.1108/JCHMSD-02-2014-0007

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2015). Un nuovo modello territoriale di sviluppo per un territorio in transizione. La bioregione urbana sarda, in Atti della XVIII Conferenza Nazionale SIU -Società Italiana degli Urbanisti, 11-13 giugno 2015, Venezia (IT), Planum Publisher, ISBN 9788899237042

2014

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2014). Federalismo demaniale e autonomie locali: gli strumenti per

regolare i rapporti interistituzionali nel trasferimento dei beni costieri appartenenti al ministero della Difesa, in *Aedon*, n.2/2014, ISSN 1127-1345

Colavitti, A.M. and Trincas, M. and Usai, A. (2014). Distinctive and Innovative Regions: Urban Resilient Communities and Regional Policies. The Sardinia Case Study, in Proceedings of the RSA European Conference, 15 - 18th June 2014, Izmir (Turkey). London: Routledge, ISBN 9781897721476

Colavitti, A.M. and Serra, S. and Usai, A. (2014). Le città metropolitane come motori dello sviluppo: le risposte della pianificazione territoriale di area vasta alle recenti riforme istituzionali ed amministrative, in Atti della XVII Conferenza SIU - Società Italiana degli Urbanisti, 15-16 maggio 2014, Milano (IT), Planum Publisher, ISBN 9788899237004

2013

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2013). *Creatività e place-based development*: buone pratiche e strumenti di rigenerazione creativa per la competitività territoriale, in Colavitti, A. M., *Governance del territorio, Beni Culturali, piano urbanistico. Buone pratiche per la valorizzazione e la competitività*, Firenze: Alinea, ISBN 9788860554383

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2013). La rigenerazione urbana e la trasformazione dello spazio pubblico: quale ruolo per i beni culturali e paesaggistici?, in *Urbanistica Informazioni*, ISSN 2239-4222

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2013). La valorizzazione dei beni immobili pubblici del demanio culturale tra rischi e opportunità. La proposta di un modello di gestione, in *Planum - The Journal of Urbanism*, n.27, vol.2/2013, ISSN 1723-0993

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2013). Le politiche urbane in Italia e in Europa: dalle sperimentazioni dell'ultimo ventennio alla programmazione 2007-2013, in Colavitti, A. M., (2013). *Governance del territorio, Beni Culturali, piano urbanistico. Buone pratiche per la valorizzazione e la competitività*, Firenze: Alinea, ISBN 9788860554383

Colavitti, A.M. and Serra, S. and Usai, A. (2013). Debating the Landscape. The Role of Landscape Regional Planning Between Local Community Identity Project and Institutional Landscape Idea, in Proceedings of the RSA Winter Conference, Friday 22nd November 2013, London Bloomsbury (UK). London: Routledge, ISBN 9781897721-45-2

Colavitti, A.M. and Serra, S. and Usai, A. (2013). Regional planning and territorial competitiveness: the role of Identity Heritage. The case of the Sardinian Region, in CORP – Competence Center of Urban and Regional Planning, Ed., *Real Corp 2013: Planning Times*, 18th International Conference on Urban Planning and Regional Development in the Information Society, 20-23 May 2013, Rome (IT)- Schwechat (A): CORP, ISBN 9783950311051

2012

Colavitti, A.M. and Usai, A. (2012). Creative city and local development: guidelines for creative practices and regeneration urban planning, in proceedings of the RSA Winter Conference, Friday 23rd November 2012, London Bloomsbury (UK), London: Routledge, ISBN 9781897721438

2009

Usai, A. (2009). Project fiche "Fantagilla", in Girot, C. and Siddi, C., eds., *Santa Gilla. Una laguna nel paesaggio metropolitano di Cagliari, un esperimento per un nuovo approccio al paesaggio*, Rome: Gangemi Editore, ISBN 8849217471

Cagliari, 06/04/2019

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

