



L-Università  
ta' Malta

# RAĠEL FUQ L-IRĠIEL

## TEACH IN: MASCULINITIES IN MALTESE CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

20 November 2024

Event Speakers

**EQUITY OFFICE**  
Gender Equality &  
Sexual Diversity  
Committee



# Featuring

## ***Participants***

Mr Roderick Vassallo

Ms Andrea Catania

Dr Jonathan Borg

Dr Daniel Vella

Dr Immanuel Mifsud

Dr Christopher Bezzina

Mr Aleksandar Dimitrijevic

## ***Sketch***

***Il-Qawl Iqul għar-Raġel Cool***

Mr Bradley Cachia

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## ***Moderator***

Prof Paulann Grech

\*We would like to thank Prof Michael Spagnol for his continuous support and assistance.



# Participants



## Mr Roderick Vassallo

Mr Roderick Vassallo is the Vice-Principal at the Junior College of the University of Malta, responsible for student affairs. He is a scientist by profession, an educator by vocation, and trained actor. He is committed to promoting social justice through education. Vassallo serves on four University of Malta committees: Access Disability Support, Race and Ethnic Affairs, Equity, and as Co-chair of the Gender Equality & Sexual Diversity Committee. He chairs the Student Wellbeing & Support Committee.



## Ms Andrea Catania

Ms Andrea Catania is a Psychology graduate, currently undergoing a Master's degree to specialise in psychological research. She currently works in the field of children's rights and wellbeing. Andrea has been a researcher on various projects, and her research interests include gender stereotypes and masculinity in the religious sphere.



## Dr Jonathan Borg

Dr Jonathan Borg is a member of the Department for Inclusion and Access to Learning at the Faculty of Education, University of Malta. Jonathan is a Primary School teacher by profession and is also responsible for the coordination of a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Degree in Facilitating Inclusive Education.



## Dr Daniel Vella

Dr Daniel Vella is the Director of the Institute of Digital Games. He is the co-author of *Virtual Existentialism* (Palgrave 2020), and he writes on subjectivity, identity, aesthetics and place in games. He is also active as a narrative designer for games, and his debut novel is due to be published in 2025.



## Dr Immanuel Mifsud

Dr Immanuel Mifsud, a multi-award-winning author and lecturer in Maltese literature at the Faculty of Arts, explores themes of the body, sexuality, and gender. His works have been translated into various languages. In 2014, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Merit for his literary contributions in Malta and abroad.



## Dr Christopher Bezzina

Dr Christopher Bezzina is the author of "Reclaiming Men's Spirituality." He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and a Master of Arts in Spirituality from the University of Malta. In 2022, he completed his doctoral research in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Glasgow. Currently, Dr. Bezzina serves as a Mental Health Social Worker within the Psychiatry Liaison Unit, Mater Dei and the broader community.



## Mr Aleksandar Dimitrijevic

Mr Dimitrijevic is co-founder and the chair of Men Against Violence, a Maltese NGO that works on engaging men and boys in violence prevention and work towards gender equality. He has been also elected for the second term as a member of the steering committee of Men Engage Europe, an umbrella organisation for more than 100 NGOs across Europe who, in some way, work on involving men and boys on Gender Equality, Violence prevention and similar issues. On a personal level, he is a stay-at-home dad, father of three and researcher into origins of misogyny, masculinities and movements of men.



# Sketch



Mr Bradley Cachia

Mr Bradley Cachia is currently in his final year reading for a B.A. (Hons) in Maltese with Communication Studies at the University of Malta. He is also a performing and literary artist. Bradley works in media and communications and serves as the Vice President of Għaqda tal-Malti - Università.

# Moderator



Prof Paulann Grech

Prof Paulann Grech is an associate professor with the Department of Mental Health at the University of Malta. She is involved in research projects and mental health awareness initiatives related to community engagement, mental health advocacy, critical psychiatry, narrative work, service user involvement and approaches to understanding and managing mental distress.





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