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Prior to her political engagement, she had worked as a consultant for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the European Commission and several regional and national European governments on the topics of innovation and economic development.

She has been a columnist for Italian newspaper La Stampa and has published three books: *Talento da Sventare* (Einaudi, 2008), *Un Futuro a Colori* (Rizzoli, 2014) and *La Grande Ignoranza* (Rizzoli, 2019).

In 2010 she was nominated Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and in 2012 Young European Leader by Friends of Europe.