

## Carla MORRI

Position: Research Fellow (formerly Confirmed Researcher at the University of Genoa)
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Personal keywords: Marine ecology; Sessile benthos; Coastal ecosystems; Biodiversity; Conservation biology.

Scientific interests in a nutshell:

The research that C. Morri has been developing in 40+ years of activity deals with several topics, strictly interconnected: i) coastal habitats of conservation priority, such as lagoons and estuaries, seagrass meadows, rocky and coralligenous reefs, coral reefs, marine caves, and others; ii) ecology of marine and estuarine Cnidaria, especially Hydrozoa (and their role in biofouling) and Anthozoa; iii) climate change and alien species invasion in habitats of conservation interest; iv) importance of natural history in ecological research; v) taxonomic sufficiency, with focus on the genus level; vi) community typology and zonation, temporal drifts (diachronic analyses); vii) interaction between biodiversity and bioconstruction in marine and brackishwater ecosystems; viii) criteria for the evaluation of ecological status of marine ecosystems, at different integration levels (individual, population, community, seascape), and recognition of early warning signs of environmental alteration.

## **Condensed research sentence:**

Diversity and conservation of marine and brackish-water habitats. Biology and ecology of benthic organisms and communities. Bioconstructions in aquatic ecosystems. Impact of alien species.

## **Selected publications:**

- MORRI C., Montefalcone M., Gatti G., Vassallo P., Paoli C., Bianchi C.N., 2019. An alien invader is the cause of homogenization in the recipient ecosystem: a simulation-like approach. *Diversity*, 11: 146. DOI:10.3390/d11090146
- MORRI C., Bianchi C.N., Di Camillo C.G., Ducarme F., Allison W.R., Bavestrello G., 2017. Global climate change and regional biotic responses: two hydrozoan tales. *Marine Biology Research*, 13 (5): 573-586. DOI:10.1080/17451000.2017.1283419
- MORRI C., Montefalcone M., Lasagna R., Gatti G., Rovere A., Parravicini V., Baldelli G., Colantoni P., Bianchi C.N., 2015. Through bleaching and tsunami: coral reef recovery in the Maldives. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 98: 188-200. DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2015.06.050
- MORRI C., Aliani S., Bianchi C.N., 2010. Reef status in the Rasfari region (North Malé Atoll, Maldives) five years before the mass mortality event of 1998. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*, 86 (2): 258–264. DOI:10.1016/j.ecss.2009.11.021
- MORRI C., Bianchi C.N., Cocito S., Peirano A., De Biasi A.M., Aliani S., Pansini M., Boyer M., Ferdeghini F., Pestarino M., Dando P., 1999. Biodiversity of marine sessile epifauna at an Aegean island subject to hydrothermal activity: Milos, Eastern Mediterranean Sea. *Marine Biology*, 135 (4): 729-739. DOI: 10.1007/s002270050674