



*Dr Irene Villa*

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Irene Villa earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Physics from the University of Milan in 2006 and 2008, graduating with highest honors, and completed her PhD in Materials Science with a European Doctorate (PCAM) in 2015 at the University of Milano-Bicocca. She has held research and postdoctoral positions at Milano-Bicocca, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, and the Czech Academy of Sciences, where she was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow and led the HANSOME project; she is currently a Tenure Track Researcher at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on the design and structural tuning of luminescent nanomaterials, particularly scintillating nano-oxides and heterostructures, for applications in medical imaging, radiation detection, and advanced diagnostic and therapeutic technologies. She has received prestigious awards including the Angelo Della Riccia Research Fellowship and a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship, obtained the Italian National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in 2022, and serves as Principal Investigator of the PNRR-funded MINERVA project on advanced scintillating heterostructures for medical imaging. Throughout her career, she has published widely, established international collaborations, and contributed to teaching, supervision, peer review, and scientific organization, supporting the translation of luminescent nanomaterials into biomedical applications.