



Francesca Berini is a post-doc in the Laboratory of Microbial Biotechnology at University of Insubria, Varese in Italy. She graduated in 2011 in Industrial Biotechnology and Biocatalysis with a thesis on the heterologous expression and characterization of a protein involved in antibiotic-resistance mechanisms. In the same year, she started a Ph.D in Analysis, Protection and Management of the Biodiversity Resources, accomplished in 2014 with a thesis focused on the identification, expression, biochemical/functional characterization and application of metagenome- and genome-sourced hydrolytic enzymes. Since the beginning of 2015, she has been working as a post-doc and her current main activities concern:

(i) the production and characterization of hydrolytic enzymes (chitinases, ligninases, cellulases), and the evaluation of their applicability for industrial and environmental purposes (for instance, use of chitinases in integrated pest management strategies); (ii) the study of enzymes involved in self-resistance mechanisms in glycopeptide antibiotic producers, as well as the improvement of antibiotic production in rare actinomycetes.