



Massimiliano (Max) Curcio is currently a senior postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Light Activated Nanostructures, a joint research unit between the University of Bologna and the Italian National Research Council (CNR-ISOF). He graduated from the University of Naples "Federico II" in 2013 working on sugar-based ligands for asymmetric catalysis and subsequently undertook a research stay at the Italian National Research Council (CNR-IPCB) to experience applied self-healing materials. In 2014, he was awarded a PhD studentship at the University of Edinburgh within the Centre for Doctoral Training in Critical Resources Catalysis (CRITICAT-CDT)

to develop redox-active ligands for small molecule activation working with Prof. Jason Love. During his doctoral studies, he was awarded a prestigious ScotCHEM PECRE grant to carry out multiple internships at the University of St Andrews (Prof. Steven Nolan) and at the Technical University of Munich (Dr Alexander Pöthig) to foster and corroborate his interest in *N*-Heterocyclic carbene compounds. Following his PhD graduation, in 2019 Max decided to widen his knowledge beyond the fields of molecular inorganic chemistry and catalysis and joined the Credi group at the University of Bologna as a postdoctoral fellow to tackle the development of artificial molecular machines.