Born in Modena, Italy, in 1955.

After an experience as a bank employee complemented with a passion for politics, he was elected mayor of Fanano (Modena).

Mayor of Fanano from 1980 to 1990.

From 1990 to 1999, was appointed assessor of the Province of Modena, with a delegation for welfare, tourism, culture, volunteering, environment, territorial planning.

From 1994 to 1999, held the position of vice-president of the Province of Modena.

In 2000, was elected to Legislative Assembly of Emilia-Romagna's Regional Authority.

In 2009, was named Regional Minister with a delegation for Territorial development, and Cooperation with Provinces and Municipalities.

Since 2010, he is a Regional Minister with a delegation for Economic Development, green economy, housing.