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Massimiliano Spotti is a linguist ethnographer. He holds a Bachelor of Education (HONS) from the University of Oxford and an Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics from the University of London. Since 2002, he has been affiliated to Babylon, Centre for the Studies of the Multicultural Society at Tilburg University, The Netherlands. There, he has also defended in 2007, a doctorate on the construction of immigrant minority pupils' identities in multicultural primary school classrooms both in the Netherlands and Flanders. At present, he also covers the post of researcher at the Dept. of Languages, University of Jyväskylä, within the Finland Distinguished Professor Scheme (Fi.Di.Pro) sponsored by the Finnish Academy of Science.

His research activities have not only dealt with the study of multicultural (primary) school classrooms interactions. They also deal with language testing, migration and citizenship (on which he has edited, together with Guus Extra and Piet van Avermaet, a volume entitled Language Testing, Migration and Citizenship published by Continuum – London). Most recently under the patronage of the European Commission and the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTTS, Seville), he has co-authored a study on the drives and barriers of the implementation and use of ICT in the learning of the language of the host country for (newly arrived) adult migrants to the Netherlands and Sweden.