



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Diachronic webfare: transgenerationality**

**Reference Person:** Andina Tiziana (tiziana.andina@unito.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Turin (UniTo)

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**Research Keywords:** Transgenerationality

Society

Justice

**Reference ERCs:** SH5\_10 Ethics; social and political philosophy

SH3\_8 Population dynamics; households, family and fertility

SH2\_7 Environmental and climate change, societal impact and policy

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 4: Quality Education, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

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### **Description of the research topic**

The world in which we live is neither determined nor unified: technological progress, emerging complications, and ecological and health crises are increasingly forcing us to reconsider the terms of our existence, and especially our relations with natural and social reality as a whole.

It is now clear that many social practices implemented through information technologies create value: the so-called documедial capital, i.E. The value of the data generated by processing and sharing the traces we produce using the web. Documедial capital is increasingly exploited by digital platforms but is rarely conceptualised or capitalised for the benefit of the community or future generations, i.E. As webfare. An integration between the theory of transgenerationality and the theory of documедial capital therefore seems promising for identifying economic resources that policy makers can use to support the implementation of transgenerational policies aimed at social and environmental sustainability.

Within this framework, the project's research hypothesis is that societies are transgenerational devices, i.E. They are complex artefacts created by human beings with a view to a purpose. They enable the capitalisation of knowledge and resources by transferring them over time between generations. Some particularly urgent problems of the current historical phase, such as the climate and environmental crisis or the sustainability of national public debts and welfare systems, highlight what Gramsci already pointed out in his reflection



on the southern question, namely how the exploitation of the north by the south (for Gramsci it was Italy, but the discourse can be applied to the north and south of the world) was linked as much to the dynamics of industry and the production system as to the exploitation of the territory. They also make it clear that 'the preservation of time' is at least as urgent as that of space, hence the recent updates to the Italian Constitution with reference to future generations on issues such as the environment and welfare. We invite original proposals that address these issues, given the crucial problems opened up by transgenerationality and the impact that new technologies have on welfare systems: the nature of the transgenerational pact, the notion of future and past generations, the nature of transgenerational emotions, the formulation of criteria for intra- and intergenerational justice, the ways in which they are transferred to the social and political spheres, and the evolution that new technologies have brought about in the ways in which transgenerational relations are managed.

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### **Research team and environment**

The research activity will take place within the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences (DFE) of the University of Turin (UniTo), which is one of the largest and highest ranked universities in Italy (it has been classified by QS Subject Ranking in 2022 as the top Department of Philosophy in Italy and among the top 100 in the world). Awarded Excellence funding from the Italian Ministry of University, the DFE offers an innovative and interdisciplinary approach in teaching and research. Academic staff members include prominent scholars in philosophy, education, semiotics, communication studies and sociology. Key areas in these fields are studied with reference to both their historical development and influence on contemporary culture.

The researcher will also have the opportunity to collaborate with research centres involving the Department, such as CIRCe, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Communication (<https://www.Circe.Unito.It/en/>), which brings together semioticians and scholars from various fields developing interdisciplinary analyses and promoting theoretical and empirical research on communication and culture; Labont – Centre for Ontology ([www.Labont.It](http://www.Labont.It)), an interdepartmental research centre specialised in ontologies; and Scienza Nuova (<http://www.Scienzanuovainstitute.Com>), a research centre involving researchers from the University of Turin and Turin Polytechnic, which aims to develop researches with a strong interdisciplinary character in which the social transformations produced by digital technologies are addressed through collaboration between the humanities and technology.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Ernst & Young Business School*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

- Basic knowledge in philosophy: metaphysics, ontology, social and political philosophy.
- Knowledge in the humanities, especially in semiotics and philosophy
- Predisposition for interdisciplinary research
- Research and information management



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- Self-management and interpersonal skills

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***Type of scholarship and obligations***

*The type of this scholarship is: Dottorati Innovativi (Innovative PhD course). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Institutions and governance of climate change**

**Reference Person:** Beretta Ilaria (ilaria.beretta@unicatt.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

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**Research Keywords:** Institutions

Interdisciplinarity

European Green Deal

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_7 Political systems and institutions, governance S

H3\_2 Environmental change and society

SH3\_1 Environment, resources and sustainability

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 13: Climate Action, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong  
Institutions

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### **Description of the research topic**

The PhD program in 'Institutions and governance of climate change' focuses on the central role that institutions must play at all administrative and territorial levels in the transition to a sustainable and resilient society in front of climate change. Faced with the threat of increasing global risks, from health and environmental risks to financial and geo-political risks, the PhD program point to the creation of new administrative and business cultures based on a systemic interdisciplinary vision, which can drive innovative governance approaches and methods. The PHD in 'Institutions and governance of climate change' aims at generating the interdisciplinary skills (socio-economic, legal, political, administrative, methodological) that are essential to manage complexity and to adopt integrated perspectives for the governance of transformations related to climate change and sustainability. The PhD has a specific focus on the 'sustainable transition' led by the European Green Deal of the European Commission, which pursues climate neutrality by 2050, and to its implementation through the different levels of government and through the involvement of the actors from industry and finance.

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### **Research team and environment**

Università Cattolica is one the largest non-state universities in Europe, with more than 41.000 students enrolled and 1.293 professors and researchers in 5 campuses (Milan, Brescia, Piacenza, Cremona and Rome). The professional academic staff helps students to connect learning and desired career path. The range of campus facilities and services ensures that every student has access to all of the support, information and mentoring they need.



Università Cattolica offers 98 courses for 1st and 2nd level laurea degrees and 147 post-graduate masters, as well as 17 doctoral schools with 21 PhD programs in the ten disciplinary areas in which Cattolica is active. At present, the research portfolio includes more than 300 active projects getting funds from competitive calls. In 2014–2019, Cattolica has been partner or leader in 58 Horizon 2020 projects, including 14 MSCA and 2 ERC grants in humanities and social sciences. Università Cattolica pursues multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to scientific research, in particular aiming at a synthesis between the responsible use of methodologies of empirical sciences and speculative knowledge. The research team for the PhD program includes political scientists, sociologists, economists, and research methodologists. Part of the research team is affiliated to ASA – Alta Scuola per l' 'Ambiente', a postgraduate school that Università Cattolica created 13 years ago to gather competencies on the environment existing in different faculties and departments.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Comune di Brescia, Brescia*

### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Skills required: strong motivation, flexibility, resourcefulness; no specific disciplinary backgrounds will be excluded; previous research and work experiences on environment/climate change /sustainability will be preferred

### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

The type of this scholarship is: *Pubblica Amministrazione (Public Administration)*. This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Shaping sustainable identities through literature and art.**

**Reference Person:** Bolchi Elisa (elisa.bolchi@unife.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Univeristy of Ferrara

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**Research Keywords:** Sustainable identities

Awareness and understanding of climate crisis

Literary and rhetorical devices

**Reference ERCs:** SH5\_2 Theory and history of literature, comparative literature

SH7\_5 Sustainability sciences, environment and resources

SH7\_6 Environmental and climate change, societal impact and policy

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 4: Quality Education, GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action

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### **Description of the research topic**

Fear, alarm, anxiety, anguish and even panic are feelings engendered by climate change, often leading to denial. The three forms of denial described by Stanley Cohen in 'States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering' (2000) apply well also to the reactions of individuals and institutions to climate change. The first form, literal denial, is the outright rejection that something happened or is happening – this is often the position of those who have economic or political interests in denying climate change and maintaining the status quo. The second position is that of interpretive denial, mostly a defence mechanism in which people interpret facts in ways that distort their meaning or importance. The third and most common attitude toward climate change is implicatory denial, which is when people acknowledge that the problem exists but deny or minimise their moral implications, thinking that they cannot make any difference. While it is hard, when not impossible, to establish a dialogue with the first type of denialists, it is crucial to raise awareness of climate change in those showing an attitude of interpretive or implicatory denial. As these are often positions based on negative feelings, denial cannot be overcome only through scientific data and techniques of persuasion.

This research project will investigate how literature can play a crucial role not only in raising awareness about (un)sustainability and the climate crisis, but also in reflecting on and dealing with its repercussions, such as climate refugees; the interactions between the environment and human, other-than-human and AI; inequality and diversity. Works of literature and/or art, including but not limited to works based on utopian/dystopian and apocalyptic narratives, will



be selected as case studies to understand whether rhetorical devices such as irony and humour or literary devices such as pastiche and rewriting can provoke ecological thinking.

The method of investigation will involve the general public – schools and/or firms – through workshops, lectures, and interviews aimed at understanding if and how literature, by raising awareness, can help shape sustainable identities and thus allow people to face the challenges of ecological transition and innovation.

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### **Research team and environment**

The selected student will work at the Department of Humanistic Studies of the University of Ferrara. The main responsible of the project will be Doctor Elisa Bolchi, a member of the Scientific Board of the PhD Programme in Environmental Sustainability and Wellbeing. Members of the team have a strong expertise in English literature, literary ecology, ecolinguistics, and the digital humanities. The research environment is strongly interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, and international thanks to the activities of the PhD programme in Environmental Sustainability and Wellbeing (<http://www.Unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/corsi/riforma/environmental-sustainability-and-wellbeing>), coordinated by Prof. Paola Spinozzi, an expert in literary ecology and utopia who will also act as co-supervisor.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Candidates should be able to reflect and work on literatures and the arts as systems of knowledge and representation; they should also have familiarity with theory, critique, and history of literatures from a comparative and transnational perspective. A general knowledge of crucial issues such as ecological thought, cultures of sustainability, interconnectivity, speculative fiction and climate narratives is highly appreciated.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Ricerca PNRR (PNRR Research). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*





*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The neuro-cognitive bases of sustainable decision-making**

**Reference Person:** Canessa Nicola (nicola.canessa@iusspavia.it)

**Host University/Institute:** IUSS Pavia

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**Research Keywords:** Sustainable decision-making

Cognitive modulators of decision-making

Neuroscience of decision-making

**Reference ERCs:** LS5\_9 Neural basis of cognition

SH4\_7 Reasoning, decision-making; intelligence

SH1\_7 Behavioural economics; experimental economics; neuro-economics

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being, GOAL 4: Quality Education, GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

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### **Description of the research topic**

This project first aims to develop and validate novel tools for assessing the disposition towards sustainable (vs. Selfish) decision-making, using both explicit measures such as questionnaires and implicit measures such as the implicit association test, as well as metrics of choice-related brain activity resulting from neurophysiological response such as electroencephalography (EEG) and/or functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). Once validated against simpler and well-established measures of sustainability such as the Fish-game, the developed tools will be used to investigate whether, and to what extent, a sustainable decision-making aptitude can be modulated by different experimental manipulations. These will include, for instance, the cognitive framing of the decisional problem and its outcomes (e.g. In terms of gains vs. Losses), the perception of emotional cues, and the degree of realism of its presentation (e.g., by comparing choices elicited by immersive virtual-reality vs. A standard experimental setup with stimuli presented on a PC-screen). Again, the effects of these experimental manipulations will be assessed both at the behavioral level and in terms of neurophysiological brain response, using an innovative immersive-EEG experimental setup. This project is expected to result in distinct outputs, including deliverables (i.e., tools for measuring a sustainable decision-making aptitude) and scientific articles reporting their applications in neuro-cognitive settings. Overall, these outcomes are expected to help refining the available socio-cognitive models of sustainable choice, thus paving the way to further multidisciplinary extensions of the inquiry on the cognitive precursors of sustainable decision-making in different contexts.

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### Research team and environment

This project will benefit from the recently-developed IUSS-Maugeri Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory, that takes a multidisciplinary approach to investigate the neural bases of healthy or pathological human behavior with several research techniques applied to different populations. The lab is equipped with most of the techniques that are used in cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience to investigate cognitive functioning and its neurophysiological bases, including neuroimaging, non-invasive brain stimulation, eye-tracking, and immersive virtual reality. The Lab is run by researchers based at the IUSS School (Nicola Canessa, Giulia Mattavelli) in collaboration with external researchers. The members of the laboratory, and their collaborators, are specialized in all phases of research in cognitive and clinical neuroscience, from the definition of the experimental design to the collection and analysis of data.

Selected examples of the activities performed at the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory in the field of Neuroeconomics:

Altered striatal-opercular intrinsic connectivity reflects decreased aversion to losses in alcohol use disorder. [Doi.Org/10.1016/j.Neuropsychologia.2022.108258](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.Neuropsychologia.2022.108258)

High-definition transcranial direct current stimulation of the dorsal anterior cingulate cortex modulates decision-making and executive control. [Doi.Org/10.1007/s00429-022-02456-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00429-022-02456-3)

Risk perception and behaviour during the COVID-19 pandemic: Predicting variables of compliance with lockdown measures. [Doi:10.1371/journal.Pone.0262319](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.Pone.0262319)

Increased decision latency in alcohol use disorder reflects altered resting-state synchrony in the anterior salience network. [Doi: 10.1038/s41598-021-99211-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-99211-1).

Psychological precursors of individual differences in COVID-19 lockdown adherence: Moderated-moderation by personality and moral cognition measures. [Https://doi.Org/10.1016/j.Paid.2021.111090](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.Paid.2021.111090), November 1 2021

Posterior fronto-medial atrophy reflects decreased loss aversion, but not executive impairment, in alcohol use disorder. [Doi: 10.1111/adb.13088](https://doi.org/10.1111/adb.13088).

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### Suggested skills for this research topic

Preferred qualifications include

- Masters degree in Psychology or Economics
- Previous experience with design and/or performance of studies in cognitive psychology and/or cognitive neuroscience
- Previous experience with the fields of behavioural economics and/or psychology of decision-making



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- Familiarity with psychological experiment software (e.G. Presentation, E-Prime, etc.)
  - Strong motivation towards research in challenging environments

Good capability to work in a team and interest for multidisciplinary research are essential, along with a good knowledge of English language, both spoken and written.

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Governing Sustainable Development and Climate Change: Theories and Regulation**

**Reference Person:** Chiti Edoardo (edoardo.chiti@santannapisa.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

**Research Keywords:** Law and regulation

Public policies

Ecological transition

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_9 Global and transnational governance, international studies

SH2\_7 Political systems and institutions, governance

SH3\_2 Environmental change and society

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

### **Description of the research topic**

We welcome projects addressing legal issues concerning the theories and regulation of sustainable development and climate change. In particular, we encourage ambitious submissions based on wide ranging theoretical foundations and relying on a plurality of approaches, including international law, constitutional law, transnational regulation, legal analysis of regional and national policies and remedies; further relevant fields of research include the impact of climate change on fundamental rights, the transition to agri-food sustainability, the legal issues related to the use of AI protocols and insurance mechanisms. We encourage interdisciplinary research projects, directed to the advancement of legal knowledge and research, but capable of benefiting from and possibly contributing to other disciplines, including philosophy.

### **Research team and environment**

The research will be carried out in the intellectually stimulating and highly engaging academic environment of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies and in the wider network of the scholars and institutions participating in the PhD Curriculum in 'Theories, Institutions and Culture'. At the Sant'Anna School, the research will be developed within the Institute of Law, Politics and Development (DIRPOLIS). The Institute conducts innovative research in the fields of law, political science, development economics, moral and political philosophy. Its multidisciplinary approach allows for a comprehensive representation of complex legal,



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political, social and economic phenomena. Its manifold projects and activities on environmental-related issues, carried out within a cooperation network gathering a number of scholars from various European and non-European universities, promote high level scientific researches in the field of climate change and sustainable development.

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**Suggested skills for this research topic**

Candidates are expected to have a robust legal background, a strong attitude for critical thinking and team-working skills.

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The Transformation of Work**

**Reference Person:** Ferraris Maurizio (maurizio.ferraris@unito.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Turin (UniTo)

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**Research Keywords:** Work

Digital transformation

Economic sustainability

**Reference ERCs:** SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production

SH2\_10 Communication networks, media, information society

SH5\_12 Computational modelling and digitisation in the cultural sphere

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

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### **Description of the research topic**

Fear, much more than hope, is what characterizes the postcolonial world we are entering after two years of pandemic. As the Antivax movement shows, this fear has much less to do with the disease than with a widespread sense of irrelevance, whereby humanity feels it is being progressively replaced by machines. In fact, the Web is neither a spying machine nor a machine for social surveillance. Instead, it is a machine for recording human behavior and capitalizing on it via advertising, profiling, and, increasingly, automation. Automating means teaching a machine to behave like a human. And those who wrongly fear being spied on by their devices are in fact (since they keep using them) contributing to the creation of the machines that will eventually make them useless in their role as homo faber. Above all, this increases the enormous surplus value gained by the platforms, which, unlike users, own the data the latter produce, and can invest, resell, and reuse them; with no risk of shortage, because data, unlike oil, can never run out and will be increasingly useful and abundant in an economy that is more and more about collecting and managing data. The creation of a Webfare system, i.e. Digital welfare, starts from this vision and proposes a solution that has not been pursued so far because it has not even been conceived. There can be no going back, nor is it desirable to do so. What is necessary is to make the main international political organizations aware of the need to shift legislative intervention from the protection of privacy to the taxation of the surplus value gained by platforms. But these processes take time and, above all, knowledge. Reducing time and increasing knowledge requires an intervention capable of both providing timely relief to the needs of humanity and generating



the cognitive and conceptual apparatus to allow the political world to negotiate with platforms, going beyond simple taxation, so as to kickstart a virtuous circle that will restore hope where there is only fear. Although the Web economy corporations (unlike oil companies) no longer profit from the decomposition of dinosaurs that have been dead for millions of years, but from the activity of living humans, the latter are compared to dead dinosaurs whenever data is defined as the "new oil". Despite their role as data producers and recipients of services, users are thus excluded from sharing in the profits of this documedia capital (born from the intersection between the production of documents and the new media) - a capital that is much more performative than financial capital, because, in addition to advertising profits, it generates consumer profiling and process automation.

We need to create a Webfare that would provide the social, economic, and cultural conditions for a transition from the homo faber of the last ten thousand years to the homo sapiens of the new economy, in which humans are not valued for their physical strength and executive patience, but for their intelligence, their culture, and their humanity.

In this framework, we invite original proposals dealing with such issues, also in view of the labour transformations required by the energy transition and digital transformation.

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### **Research team and environment**

The research activity will take place within the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences (DFE) of the University of Turin (UniTo), which is one of the largest and highest ranked universities in Italy. Awarded Excellence funding from the Italian Ministry of University, the DFE offers an innovative and interdisciplinary approach in teaching and research. Academic staff members include prominent scholars in philosophy, education, semiotics, communication studies, and sociology. Key areas in these fields are studied with reference to both their historical development and influence on contemporary culture.

The researcher will also have the opportunity to collaborate with research centres as Labont – Centre for Ontology ([www.Labont.it](http://www.Labont.it)), an interdepartmental research centre specialised in ontologies; and Scienza Nuova (<http://www.Scienzanuovainstitute.Com>), a research centre involving researchers from the University and Turin Polytechnic, which aims to develop researches with a strong interdisciplinary character in which the social transformations produced by digital technologies are addressed through collaboration between the humanities and technology.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Ernst & Young Business School*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

- , Äc Knowledge in the humanities, especially in theoretical or political philosophy
- , Äc Predisposition for interdisciplinary research
- , Äc Research and information management



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, ÄÇ Self-management and interpersonal skills

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**Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Synchronic Webfare and Sustainability**

**Reference Person:** Ferraris Maurizio (maurizio.ferraris@unito.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Turin (UniTo)

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**Research Keywords:** Sustainability

Welfare

Wealth

**Reference ERCs:** SH5\_12 Computational modelling and digitisation in the cultural sphere

SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations

SH1\_3 Development economics; structural change; political economy of development

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 4: Quality Education, GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality

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### **Description of the research topic**

The sustainability of welfare systems today seems to be put at risk for demographic reasons and labour transformation, as well as for the large investments required by the energy transition. Webfare, a digital welfare, must pass through education, which would teach us to find new names and new forms, more tolerant and just, to the human needs for security, identity and projection into the future that in the past have been recognised in those old names.

The project aims to at least partially correct the new forms of inequality, for social purposes, what is both the strength and the limitation of big commercial platforms. A platform is nothing more than an apparatus for obtaining results from data, which can be of two types: semantic or syntactic. This will be possible through the development of Webfare, i.e., a new form of welfare based on the great value derived from the Web.

Semantic data (SQL, structured query language: structured in such a way that it can be searched) is generally found in small or medium-sized platforms: businesses, healthcare companies, banks, libraries, universities. A healthcare provider, for example, records its patients' personal data, their pathologies and therapies; and every time one types in one's name on the website, the information is retrieved and, if necessary, enriched with new data (the same goes for the works of a certain author in a library catalogue, a students' tests and grades in a university filing system, or the invoices issued by a company). Such data is very



clear but necessarily limited, because it has to make sense in order to be recorded, and requires human intervention.

A completely different matter is syntactic data (no SQL in computer jargon), which consists of very long reports of data collected with the logic of Borges' Chinese Encyclopaedia. Now, in a classification of animals marked as "belonging to the emperor", "painted with a very fine brush" or "having broken a vase", the only thing that's clear is that the classification is illogical. Instead, when one has billions of data referring to the geolocation, biorhythms, behaviours and emotions of millions of people, one can discover unthinkable associations – and, for example, find that there is a correlation between smoking and long highway stops.

Syntactic data make up the capital of the biggest commercial platforms, which obtain them from users by means of 30-page long contracts that no one ever reads, whose clauses ensure that their data can be used, and above all correlated, with an enormous quantity of other data. Their value is obvious, for the reasons we have mentioned, but, on closer inspection, their use is sub-optimal, because their exploitation is in the hands of algorithms.

In this framework, we invite original proposals dealing with such issues, also in view of the new forms of capital that are made possible by the intensive exploitation of data by platforms that produce virtual wealth by exploiting energy and environmental resources. This exploitation requires not only mitigation policies but also economic and social strategies to redistribute the wealth produced.

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### **Research team and environment**

The research activity will take place within the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences (DFE) of the University of Turin (UniTo), which is one of the largest and highest ranked universities in Italy. Awarded Excellence funding from the Italian Ministry of University, the DFE offers an innovative and interdisciplinary approach in teaching and research. Academic staff members include prominent scholars in philosophy, education, semiotics, communication studies, and sociology. Key areas in these fields are studied with reference to both their historical development and influence on contemporary culture.

The researcher will also have the opportunity to collaborate with research centres as Labont – Centre for Ontology ([www.Labont.it](http://www.Labont.it)), an interdepartmental research centre specialised in ontologies; and Scienza Nuova (<http://www.Scienzanuovainstitute.Com>), a research centre involving researchers from the University and Turin Polytechnic, which aims to develop researches with a strong interdisciplinary character in which the social transformations produced by digital technologies are addressed through collaboration between the humanities and technology.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Ernst & Young Business School*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

, Ä Knowledge in the humanities, especially in philosophy



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, ÄÇ Predisposition for interdisciplinary research

, ÄÇ Self-management and interpersonal skills

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**Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Dottorati Innovativi (Innovative PhD course). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Sustainability and resilience of cities in the face of climate change**

**Reference Person:** Lazzeretti Luciana (luciana.lazzeretti@unifi.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Florence

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**Research Keywords:** Sustainability of cities

Urban resilience

City transformation

**Reference ERCs:** SH1\_9

SH7\_7

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, GOAL 11:  
Sustainable Cities and Communities

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### **Description of the research topic**

The research project is devoted to training the PhD Candidate and promoting research activity on the topic of the transformation of cities in response to climate change for improving urban and regional resilience.

The discussion concerning the resilience of cities has increased over the years, in parallel with the topic of sustainability and mitigation of risk related to climate change. The framework of resilience introduces some new concepts as the adaptability to change, recognizing the constant pressures that affect modern cities. According to the literature, resilience is a goal for the sustainability of places and has been considered as the fourth dimension of sustainability, following economic, social and environmental dimensions.

A research field that is gaining popularity concerns the carrying capacity of cities in front of the effects due to climate change and the continuous anthropogenic pressure. This topic is particularly relevant for places with a high impact of tourism or that have fragile resources, such as cities of art. However, the results of several empirical analyses underline that such adverse scenarios may represent an opportunity to favour processes of adaptation of cities that lead toward innovation paths or structural change, fostering resilience.

Focusing in particular on the case of art cities, the research activities are devoted to studying the topic of the transformation of cities in response to climate change through a multidisciplinary approach. In particular, analysing comparative cases studies of best practices developed by some cities worldwide (such as Italy, Brasil or Russia) in terms of technological innovation, innovative models of governance or social and economic transformation, the research activities want to study the role of institutions and norms,



economic actors, organisations and communities in fostering virtuous paths toward resilience and ecological transition.

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### **Research team and environment**

The candidate will be coordinated within a research group that carries out decades of activity on the themes of the economy of culture and the role of artistic and cultural heritage for the sustainability, resilience and development of the territories.

The candidate will participate in the research activity of the group and will be involved in the Department's activities through participation in seminars, conferences and training days organized on the topics covered by the research. In addition, the responsible and the members of the research group will make their skills and knowledge available to follow the research fellow both in the theoretical training phase on the issues and in the development phase of application methodologies to achieve the research activities objectives.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Comune di Firenze, Firenze*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The research project addresses ambitious doctoral candidates with a propensity for a multidisciplinary approach and with an interest in the local dimension of climate change and who want to integrate the knowledge of methodologies both qualitative and quantitative.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Pubblica Amministrazione (Public Administration). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*

*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The regulation of sustainable finance and recent challenges: investor protection, technology and SMEs**

**Reference Person:** Macchiavello Eugenia (eugenia.macchiavello@unige.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Università degli studi di Genova

**Research Keywords:** Investor protection against green-washing

Sustainable digital finance

SMEs ESG disclosure

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_4 Legal studies, constitutions, human rights, comparative law

SH7\_6 Environmental and climate change, societal impact and policy

SH1\_5 Corporate finance; banking and financial intermediation; accounting; auditing; insurance

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions, GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

### **Description of the research topic**

The research pertains to the European legal framework in the area of sustainable finance with special regard to ESG information, financial intermediaries duties and offering of investment products to clients to facilitate the transition towards a more sustainable economic system, as also recognized in the recent COOP 26. Starting with the European Commission's sustainable finance Action Plan (2018), the EU Regulator has been particularly active in the adoption of measures conceived to allow investors to take informed decisions also from a sustainability point of view. Intense information duties on financial operators (SFDR), labels (e.g. proposal for a Green bond standard), legal definitions (EU Taxonomy) and standards aim to limit green-washing behaviours (i.e. the presentation of economic activities as sustainable when this is not the case) and national regulatory fragmentation, and to achieve a higher level of comparability of sustainable products. Nonetheless, also financial operators' duties in terms of organization, risk management and conduct (e.g. MIFID II duties), recently reviewed to take into account sustainability factors, will have a significant impact on the integration of ESG factors (i.e. pertaining to environmental, social and governance issues) in investment decisions. The candidate will critically examine European and national laws in the area of sustainable finance, already adopted or currently reviewed/discussed, to assess the



effectiveness and adequacy of such regulatory policies and choices, as well as socio-economic implications deriving from sustainability-oriented financial choices, organizational structures and models as well as relative regulation. Particular attention will be reserved to the link between corporate non-financial information and financial intermediaries' duties, the challenges and opportunities in extending such disclosure duties to SMEs, the role of ESG ratings and the impact and possible contribution of digital finance and technologies to sustainable finance advancement and overcoming of current obstacles and solution of critical aspects.

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### **Research team and environment**

The candidate will join a stimulating environment for conducting research in the area of sustainable finance and corporate governance. The University of Genoa presents a rich portfolio of courses in the area of sustainability in different sectors as well as interdisciplinary courses on sustainability (<https://unigesostenibile.Unige.It/Educazione>). Moreover, the Department of Law of the University of Genoa has a long traditional of excellence in legal studies and its Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on European Union Sustainable Finance and Law (Eusfil; director Michele Siri) specifically focuses on the research about the legal implications of the integration of sustainability factors in the financial sector. In this respect, the Centre brings together a European team of experienced scholars with a very high profile in their field of work (corporate governance, financial regulation, law and economics, etc.), conducting research in the area of CSR and/or sustainable finance. The activities are performed in collaboration with other well-known international research centres (e.G. Centre of Competence for Sustainable Finance of the University of Zurich). Professor Eugenia Macchiavello is an internationally recognized expert in the area of Fintech regulation, regulation of alternative and inclusive finance, responsible banking and sustainable finance. She is a member of the Italian Association of Professors in Economic Law (ADDE), of the EBI Associated Researchers Group and of the Expert Working Group on FinTech of the Italian Capital Markets Authority (Consob). Before joining the University of Genoa, she has been a visiting Research Fellow at the New York University Center of Financial Institutions.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The ideal candidate would have a strong background in law or in law and economics (experience in comparative law or empirical research would be a plus), mindfulness of legal determinants and principles of financial markets and banking sector, good knowledge of the English language and, preferably, other foreign languages. The candidate we are looking for should also show intellectual and interdisciplinary curiosity, critical thinking, commitment, passion for research, team-working skills and motivation in participating in an international network of young scholars.





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**Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Food Safety and Criminal Compliance: Towards New Enforcement Models Against Individuals and Corporations**

**Reference Person:** Mongillo Vincenzo (vincenzo.mongillo@unitelmasapienza.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Unitelma Sapienza – University of Rome

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**Research Keywords:** Food safety  
Criminal Compliance  
Corporations

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_10

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

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### **Description of the research topic**

The regulatory framework aimed at fighting criminal offences in the food sector is still an under-investigated subject in the domestic and international scenario, despite the fact that these are forms of criminality that seriously endanger the health and economic trust of consumers, even in the context of the single European market, and considering also that no transition to a modern and sustainable food production can be achieved without building an adequate system of “criminal law protection” of these fundamental interests.

The European Union has so far regulated the subject of food safety and food quality in a detailed way in terms of administrative law, whereas no concrete initiative has ever been taken in the area of criminal law apart from an old proposal by the European Commission, which, however, has never been pursued at a regulatory level.

For these reasons, the various European national legislations are very different as the European countries do not have a common definition of food fraud and other food-related offences and, in general, have underdeveloped enforcement mechanisms where, inter alia: offences are often focused solely on the violation of administrative regulations on food production and trade; many legislations anticipate the “trigger mechanism” of criminal law (crimes of danger) even at a stage when there is no real danger for the consumer (using the approach of the “precautionary principle” that may jeopardies, in the criminal law perspective, the respect for fundamental rights); many food offences are sometimes not included among the predicate offences of corporate criminal liability (see, for instance, the Italian Case)



notwithstanding the fact that it is often in the context of large multinational companies that these crimes occur, etc.

Another key issue is related to the fact that, in order to enhance the safety of food production, a large number of private technical standards have been developed in the food sector, which, despite being created and implemented in the private sector, greatly influence the standards of proof of criminal negligence, thus complicating the work of legal and commercial practitioners.

Having regard to this background, this research project will be carried out following various interconnected research lines:

1. Reaching a common definition of food fraud and food crimes in the international scenario not only to bring "order" in the subject from a theoretical standpoint, but also to assess the possibility of harmonizing the criminal legislation of the European countries in this field using the legislative tools of EU treaties (art. 83, par. II, TFEU);
2. Identifying useful amendments to the criminal enforcement mechanisms against individuals in order to overcome the main aforementioned problematic issued of this area of the criminal regulatory framework;
3. Investigating the possibility of building innovative enforcement mechanisms against legal persons for food offences, not only taking into account the fact that the high technical standardization of this sector makes it possible to test regulatory tools focused on the organizational fault/failure to prevent model, but also assessing the possibility of introducing offences whose exclusive perpetrator is the legal person that trades products that are dangerous for the consumer, regardless of the identification of the individual offender in the context of the corporation (so building a truly "autonomous" liability of the legal person).

### **Research team and environment**

Research at UnitelmaSapienza (a young online & distance learning University directly linked to Sapienza University of Rome) is carried out in various Laboratories, Research Centers and Research Groups.

Prof. Mongillo, Full Professor of Criminal law and supervisor of the research project, is involved in a national and international research and institutional network, collaborating with various universities (e.G., Luiss Università, Unimore, Univ. Vanvitelli, Univ. Santiago de Compostela, Univ. Castilla-la Mancha, Università Autònoma de Barcelona, London University, Leipzig University) – and institutions (e.G., Cnpds, International Association of Penal Law, Italian Anticorruption Authority, Ministry of Justice) – in research on corporate criminal liability, food crime, corporate compliance. This research, coordinated by prof. Mongillo, will see also the collaboration of various young scholars with a specific expertise in this field,



including the fight against food crime and corporate crime. This line of research aims at investigating the future perspective for improving these systems, fostering an increasing exchange of best practices between the public and private sectors.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Knowledge of the main research methodologies of criminal law, with regard to the analysis of private and public sources, case law and scientific literature.

The Ph.D. Student must also be able to apply the comparative law method and conduct empirical research by carrying out interviews with experts in the field.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Market regulation and sustainable investment policies: a comparative law perspective**

**Reference Person:** Monti Alberto (alberto.monti@iusspavia.it)

**Host University/Institute:** IUSS Pavia

**Research Keywords:** Comparative Law  
Economic Analysis of Law  
Long term investments

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_4  
SH2\_5  
SH2\_2

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, GOAL 13: Climate Action,  
GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

### **Description of the research topic**

The polymorphism of the concept of sustainability requires the identification of criteria for assessing the consistency of the regulatory approach to long-term investment policies as well as the effectiveness of legal and fiscal tools seeking to govern the gradual transition towards sustainable development models in line with the goals set out by the United Nations (Agenda 2030).

A backward-looking analysis of certain recent pieces of legislation, for example in the field of renewable energies, shows how, under the label of sustainability, short-term speculative forms of investment have been encouraged, forms of investment hardly in line – and in some cases even contrasting – with the announced goals.

Drawing from recent regulations at EU level, such as the Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment (the so-called Taxonomy Regulation) and the Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (the so-called Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation), the research aims at identifying, in a comparative perspective and using the tools of economic analysis of law, the cornerstones of a regulatory approach consistent with long-term investment policies effectively oriented towards sustainability.

### **Research team and environment**



IUSS mission is to provide advanced education to undergraduate and graduate students, as well as fundamental and applied research in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and Human, Social and Life Sciences. At IUSS, PhD candidates will find an open multidisciplinary environment offering real opportunities for developing academic and professional tools for facing the challenges arising from increasing complexity and fast changes in the society and the environment. IUSS is always and actively committed towards internationalisation, inclusion and diversity.

The selected candidate will join the Legal Science Research Group (LSRG) at IUSS (comprising, among others, Prof. Alberto Monti, Prof. Stefano Moratti e Dr. Lydia Velliscig) and will work in a pluralist and multi-disciplinary academic environment. The LSRG conducts policy-oriented research studies applying the methodologies of comparative law and economic analysis of laws and institutions; in the specific field of climate change, the LSRG collaborates with the IUSS research centre on Climate change impAct studies for RiSk MAnagement (CARISMA).

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Legal background (Law Degree), preferably in comparative law; intellectual curiosity.

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Climate Risks and the Media**

**Reference Person:** Pasquaré Mariotto Federico (pas.mariotto@uninsubria.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Insubria

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**Research Keywords:** Anthropogenic Global Warming

Media representation

Climate risks

**Reference ERCs:** SH7\_6

SH3\_12

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, GOAL 13: Climate Action

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### **Description of the research topic**

This research goal is dedicated to investigate the pivotal role of the media in shaping public perception of climate risks. As is well known, 97% of climate scientists acknowledge the threats posed by Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW), whereas a great number of citizens – about 55% of the US population – believe that science has not yet reached an overall consensus on the role of human activity in altering global climate. The reason for these contrasting patterns is not difficult to find: in the US, several media outlets give voice to the so-called climate skeptics or negationists, the 3% of remaining scientists who, allegedly financed by fossil fuel companies, actively contribute to decreasing motivation of the general public to tackle the causes of climate change on an individual basis. On the contrary, there are other sectors of the media that fully exert their role of raising public awareness of the citizens about facing climate change through science-based mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Given the above, it is worth investigating to what extent politics and the media have acknowledged the undeniable link between climate change and meteorological extreme events. Also in our latitudes, in fact, during the last ten years there have been devastating extra-tropical cyclones, most notably in Sardinia (in November 2013), in Serbia and Croatia (May 2014) and in Germany and Belgium in the Summer of 2021. While the tragedies in Sardinia and in the Balkans were almost neglected by the Italian media, and ignored by Italian and European politicians, the catastrophic floods in central Europe in July 2021 seem to have spurred the interest of politicians, the likes of Angela Merkel and Ursula von der Leyen; and the media, both in Italy and in Europe as a whole, have extensively underscored the need to consider such an extreme weather event as the result of anthropogenic forcing on the global climate system. It would therefore be useful trying to critically analyse, also by way of cutting-





edge text-mining softwares, the media coverage of climate change by Italian newspapers, both printed and online. The media have always, and always will, be a driving force in shaping public opinion. Studying how they cover climate change on a daily basis will enable to understand their influence on policy-makers and citizens, including the younger generations. Moreover, it would be extremely important to come up with new ways to communicate climate risks in an unbiased and scientifically sound manner. Such new approaches may be discussed with representatives of the media during a dedicated event at the end of the three-year doctoral program

Last but not least, the present research project will investigate how scientists could play a major role in communicating climate risks to the media and also engage in outreach activities aimed at communicating directly to local residents the risks/benefits of renewable energy infrastructures such as hydroelectric power plants.

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### **Research team and environment**

The Reference person will be showing the PhD candidate how to analyze quantitatively the media representation of climate change. This task will mainly be performed by using TalTac and other similar, cutting-edge text mining softwares, capable of processing a huge amount of texts in time-efficient manner.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Alumni Insubria*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

To successfully conduct the proposed research, the candidate will need to possess: a) the ability to understand global warming, climate change and climate risk processes; b) the ability to qualitatively examine the Italian news media, searching for recurring patterns of representation of climate change in a given time period; c) the candidate will also have to be skilled in learning how to use the text mining softwares needed to quantitatively assess the patterns individuated in the previous step; d) last but not least, the candidate will have to come up with innovative strategies that the media might employ to communicate climate change in an unbiased and scientifically sound fashion.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Transizioni Digitali ed Ambientali (Digital and Environmental Transitions). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Sustainability in the Anthropocene: The Politics of Plant and Ecosystem Conservation**

**Reference Person:** Pellegrino Gianfranco (gpellegrino@luiss.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Luiss University

**Research Keywords:** Anthropocene  
Sustainability  
Restoration

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_7  
SH7\_6  
LS8\_2

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 13: Climate Action, GOAL 15: Life on Land, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

### **Description of the research topic**

In the Anthropocene, the standard alternative between weak and strong sustainability fades, as much of nature is already anthropized and destined to further anthropization. The option of fully preserving pristine nature vanishes in the Anthropocene, or, if still possible, its costs can be radically unbearable. Due to climate commitment, some costs to future generations will be inevitable and compensation will be over-demanding for present generations. In the Anthropocene, the ideal of sustainability originally stated by the Brundlandt Commission needs deep revision. Moreover, two areas are of relevance when mitigation and adaptation policies are considered. First, plant management and reforestation can be a new helpful tool to increase carbon sinks and restore biodiversity. Second, ecosystem conservation and restoration should take into account the inevitable transformations connected to renewable energies' infrastructure impacts.

This research focuses on the political justification of sustainable patterns of ecosystem and plant conservation in the Anthropocene. The researcher will answer the following related research questions: 1. Which model of sustainability is the fittest (i.e., the most theoretically plausible and politically feasible) in the Anthropocene? 2. How can sustainability so understood suggest which plants and ecosystems should be preserved? 3. How can this model of sustainability support the value and the political opportunity of reforestation and landscape restoration, also in the light of climate change mitigation and adaptation? 4. How can this model of sustainability deal with trade-offs between the environmental impact of



renewable energies (such as wind and solar energy) and the conservation of plants, ecosystems and landscape? 5. Which conservation and restoration policies can be justified in the light of the above? 6. Which are the consequences of these conservation and restoration policies in terms of intergenerational justice?

The research will span the following fields: sustainability and Anthropocene studies; discussions about nature preservation and restoration; plant ethics; environmental and ecological citizenship and justice; climate justice (with a focus on mitigation policies); intergenerational justice.

The main outputs of the research will be the following: 1. A new theory of sustainability in the Anthropocene; 2. A new theory of nature conservation and restoration in the Anthropocene; 3. A set of sustainable policies concerning the restoration of plants and ecosystems, reforestation and landscape restoration, also in connection with global mitigation and adaptation policies as stated in the latest IPCC reports.

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### **Research team and environment**

The supervisor will be professor G. Pellegrino, i.e., the reference person above. However, the phd candidate will work with many other scholars at Luiss, whose research activities are closely related to the research topic – in particular with Pietro De Giovanni (<https://impresaemangement.Luiss.it/docenti/cv/353898>), whose work concerns mainly circular economy and economic sustainability, with Christian Iaione (<https://giurisprudenza.Luiss.it/docenti/cv/340609>), whose work deals with urban studies, sustainability, climate change and the commons, with Raffaele Bifulco (<https://giurisprudenza.Luiss.it/docenti/cv/150300>) and Jorge Vinuales (<https://giurisprudenza.Luiss.it/docenti/cv/354328>). Moreover, the phd candidate will gain from involvement in Luiss network (especially in the International Universities Climate Alliance) and in Luiss' teaching activities (especially in programs such as Strategic management, with its major in Green economy and sustainability (<https://www.Luiss.it/ammissione/offerta-formativa/laurea-magistrale/strategic-management>), and Law, Digital Innovation and Sustainability (<https://www.Luiss.it/ammissione/offerta-formativa/laurea-magistrale/law-digital-innovation-sustainability>)).

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The ideal candidate for this research will have a background on one or more of these fields: political theory, qualitative political science, sociology. Previous publications on the topics will be considered a preferential title. Previous education on the fields of ecology, environmental ethics, environmental political theory, environmental sociology, public policy analysis will be considered a preferential title, too. He/she should be able to adopt an interdisciplinary perspective and to move from theoretical premises to policies.

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**Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The environment between philosophical conceptualisation and environmental aesthetics**

**Reference Person:** Perissinotto Luigi (lperissi@unive.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia/ Ca' Foscari University of Venica

**Research Keywords:** Nature  
Anthropocene,  
Environmental Aesthetics

**Reference ERCs:** SH5\_9 Metaphysics, philosophical anthropology; aesthetics  
SH5\_4 Visual and performing arts, film, design and architecture  
SH4\_13 Philosophy of science, epistemology, logic

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being, GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, GOAL 14: Life Below Water, GOAL 15: Life on Land

### **Description of the research topic**

The research background problematises, on the one hand, concepts such as 'world' and 'environment' and, on the other, the opposition between 'natural' and 'cultural'. The starting point is the recognition that the dichotomies between culture and nature, natural sciences and humanities, as well as their respective epistemological ideals have crumbled under the environmental crisis and the anthropogenic transformation of the earth system.

The research lines are four:

- (1) a recontextualisation of the topic of animality in light of a conception of environmental sustainability that avoids its widespread anthropocentric connotation.
- (2) A reflection on the Anthropocene capable of, on the one hand, holding geological and historical time together in a non-dualistic way and, on the other, of soliciting an analysis, on a planetary level, of the environmental dimension of human action, sciences and technologies.
- (3) A revival of environmental aesthetics to pragmatically rethink the exchanges between humans and the environment beyond the paradigm of a disinterested contemplation of nature. This analysis embraces an environmental aesthetic approach anchored in a post-



subjectivity perspective and in a pragmatically-oriented conception of the interactions between living beings and the environment.

(4) An examination of how artistic practices influence behaviour (especially through virtual / augmented reality and pre- / re-enactment and embodiment practices) and affect widespread sensitivity in view of an "eco-aesthetics" critical of environmental exploitation.

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### **Research team and environment**

The team is made up of Luigi Perissinotto, Cristina Baldacci, Roberta Dreon, Diego Mantoan, Pietro Daniel Omodeo to which Shaul Bass, Elisa Caldarola, Alessandra Cecilia, Jacomuzzi will be added. These are researchers who belong to 3 different Departments (Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, Humanities, Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies) of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice. For some years they have been working on issues related to the philosophy of the environment, the concept of nature and the relationship between natural and conventional, environmental aesthetics, anthropocene. The JOLMA (The Journal for the Philosophy of Language, Mind and the Arts) belongs to this group; some of them are members of NICEH (The New Institute Center for Environmental Humanities) (Ca' Foscari).

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The candidate must have a solid training in the field of philosophy and artistic and cultural studies, with particular reference to aesthetics, art philosophy, epistemology, art philosophy, new media, and must know how to use these knowledge and skills in relation to issues concerning the environment with particular reference, on the one hand, to the interactions between the environment and living beings, also including non-human beings (in a historical and critical-theoretical perspective) and, on the one hand, on the other hand, to artistic experiences and practices relating to the environment and its dynamics.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Epistemology, trust and philosophy of technology: towards a philosophy of sustainable choice**

**Reference Person:** Piredda Giulia (giulia.piredda@iusspavia.it)

**Host University/Institute:** IUSS Pavia

**Research Keywords:** Decision-making and Sustainable choice

Rationality and Mind

Epistemology and Philosophy of Science

**Reference ERCs:** SH4\_12 Philosophy of mind, philosophy of language

SH4\_13 Philosophy of science, epistemology, logic

SH4\_7 Reasoning, decision-making; intelligence

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 4: Quality Education, GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action

### **Description of the research topic**

How can we make reliable scientific predictions and act on their basis when faced with complex data and uncertainty? What is the role of philosophical analysis in the evaluation of current global challenges such as climate change and sustainability and in the development of informed solutions to them? How should humans conceptualize their relationship with the environment they live in?

The public debate on such global challenges is most of the time lacking in rigor. Reliable sources of information are often hard to individuate, and threats for an informed and reasoned decision can come from skepticism towards science and scientific truth, and more generally from an incomplete, and sometimes even mistaken, understanding of the proper features of the scientific enterprise. The role of experts and expertise in the formation of scientifically sensible opinions and beliefs is sometimes downplayed due to a decreased trust in them. The reputation of experts and of the scientific community more generally is thus at stake, and analyzing the mechanisms by which reputation is built - and eventually lost - becomes crucial.

Moreover, the recent extraordinary technological development (particularly in digital areas) asks for a rigorous philosophical reflection, both in the metaphysical and in the ethical realm. Which relation exists between the human mind and technology? Should we rethink the status of technological artifacts as not completely separate from natural entities? Many philosophers have dealt with such questions in the last decades, reflecting on the power of





the mind of engineering the environment humans live in, exploiting it for their own purposes, through the use of instruments, tools, artifacts and scaffolds. This operation, though, is not always morally neutral, and the analysis of how technological devices and infrastructures then act back on our way of dealing with information and our possibilities of action becomes crucial. Reflections on these topics are at the intersection between philosophy of mind and cognitive science, philosophy and ethics of technology.

The successful PhD candidate will be expected to investigate how, in such complex scenarios, rationality and trust towards scientific experts can be defended and made to serve public decision and action through sustainable choices. Ideal research projects will investigate how traditional issues in the study of scientific methodology, rational choice and decision-making should be framed in the renewed context of global challenges and of the complex interaction between nature and technology, especially when complexity and richness of data, uncertainty in outcomes, severe risk and public responsibility are at stake.

The research can focus on one among the many areas of philosophy involved in such problems, although interactions between the following disciplines will be encouraged: Philosophy of Science, Epistemology, Theories of Rationality and Behavioral Economics, Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive sciences, Cognitive Psychology, Decision-making Theory, Philosophy of Technology, and Public ethics. Other possible interdisciplinary research areas which will be positively considered are: philosophy of language, critical thinking and argumentation theory, informal and formal logic. Impact on public information and education will also be considered relevant within the research areas.

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### **Research team and environment**

Giulia Piredda (Lecturer). Her research interests are in the philosophy of mind and cognitive science, with particular attention to the situated, embodied and extended views of mind and affectivity. She also deals with the topic of trust and reputation in several projects.

Nicola Canessa (Associate Professor). Works in Psychobiology and Physiological Psychology. Director of the IUSS-Maugeri Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory. His research concerns the study of the neural bases of cognitive processes, particularly decision-making and social cognition.

Michele Di Francesco (Full Professor). Past Rector of IUSS, Past President of the European and Italian Societies for Analytic Philosophy and of the Italian Society of Neuroethics and Philosophy of Neuroscience. His main research is in the philosophy of mind and cognitive science.



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Andrea Sereni (Full Professor). His research covers several areas in epistemology, philosophy of mathematics and philosophy of language and logic. He coordinates the Italian Network for the Philosophy of Mathematics.

Alfredo Tomasetta (Associate Professor). Specializes in philosophy of mind and analytic metaphysics (esp. The metaphysics of human persons). He is also interested in philosophical logic, philosophy of language, epistemology and classical Indian philosophy.

Research activities will be based at IUSS, a competitive and internationally-oriented school of advanced studies, home to the PhD program and located in an intellectually stimulating context in one of the oldest Italian university town.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Candidates should be intellectually curious and have a special interest in philosophy of science, epistemology and the study of how the human mind works when we have to make decisions in complex contexts, especially in relation to issues such as the nature of rationality, decision-making, and the impact of cognitive sciences. Students should be prepared to intense reading and learning, and open to explore novel lines of research in a multi-disciplinary environment. Rigor in arguments and in discussion will be encouraged, with particular focus on its application to the public debate on global challenges, where the impact of, and responsibility for public actions are at stake.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Ethical, Political and Institutional Profiles of Sustainable Development and Climate Change**

**Reference Person:** Pirni Alberto (alberto.pirni@santannapisa.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

**Research Keywords:** Ethics of Climate Change  
National and International Actors and Climate Change  
Political Theory of Climate Change

**Reference ERCs:** SH5\_6 Philosophy, history of philosophy  
SH2\_7 Political systems and institutions, governance  
SH2\_6 Violence, conflict and conflict resolution

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

### **Description of the research topic**

Proposed projects address ethical, political and institutional issues that fall within the thematic area of sustainable development and climate change. In particular, projects are expected to contribute to contemporary ethical and theoretical-political debates related to sustainability, environmental ethics, theories of justice (including intergenerational) and global political theories, through a critical discussion of issues such as allocation of responsibilities, potential redistribution of benefits/disadvantages, mitigation of discrimination and inequalities resulting from climate change, at supranational and global level. Also of interest are projects concerning the policy debate on human-driven global warming, the roles of governmental and non-governmental actors in shaping and implementing climate change policies, the relation between climate change and conflict, and other germane topics. Selected candidates should critically assess issues such as allocation of responsibilities, potential redistribution of benefits/disadvantages, mitigation of discrimination and inequalities resulting from climate change, at supranational and global level. Interdisciplinary research projects are encouraged, addressing issues relevant to the advancement of ethical, political and institutional knowledge and research, but capable of benefiting from and possibly contributing to other disciplines, including law.

### **Research team and environment**

The research will be carried out in the intellectually stimulating and highly engaging academic environment of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies and in the wider network of the



scholars and institutions participating in the PhD Curriculum in , 'Theories, Institutions and Culture'. At the Sant'Anna School, the research will be developed within the Institute of Law, Politics and Development (DIRPOLIS). The Institute conducts innovative research in the fields of law, political science, development economics, moral and political philosophy. Its multidisciplinary approach allows for a comprehensive representation of complex legal, political, social and economic phenomena. Its manifold projects and activities on environmental-related issues, carried out within a cooperation network gathering a number of scholars from various European and non-European universities, promote high level scientific researches in the field of climate change and sustainable development.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Openness towards interdisciplinary approaches will be appreciated.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Ricerca PNRR (PNRR Research). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The new trends in climate change litigation**

**Reference Person:** Pozzo Barbara (barbara.pozzo@uninsubria.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Università dell'Insubria

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**Research Keywords:** Climate change  
Litigation  
Comparative law

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_4  
SH2-5  
SH7-6

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being, GOAL 5: Gender Equality, GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality, GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action, GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

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### **Description of the research topic**

In the aftermath of COP 26 in Glasgow, where lot of attention was devoted to climate change litigation, the rapid development of suits related to climate issues around the world is inducing comparative lawyers to reflect on the underlying dynamics driving this phenomenon.

Among the aspects that will be taken into consideration in the research project there will be the importance of having an international binding treaty as the Paris agreement, for the evolution of climate change liability.

Further, the research project will analyze the different paths developing in the various national contexts and in particular:

1. Human-rights based claims,
2. Tort law claims,
3. Greenwashing claims,
4. Public trust claims,
5. Claims in favor of indigenous people and vulnerable groups



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Other aspects of relevant importance that might be taken into consideration concern the role of attribution science in the development of climate change litigation, as well as the role of NGOs in the spreading out of litigation patterns.

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### **Research team and environment**

At the University of Insubria there are two Research Centers devoted to study climate change related issues: the CENTER FOR STUDIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND TERRITORIAL POLICIES and the CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH CENTER (CCRC)

The Department of Law, Economics and Cultures further organizes every year an International Summer school Program on Comparative environmental law, together with the universities of Utrecht (NL), Aix-en-Provence (France) and Opole Univeristy (Poland) focusing on comparative climate change law.

The resarch team involved is also collaborating with the European Environmental Law Forum (EELF), organising seminars and workshops together, as well as with the Rivista Giuridica dell'Ambiente, one of the prominent law reviews specialized on environmental law.

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

A good background in comparative law, international law and EU law.

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*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Hydrogen Strategy and Policy: Italy in Comparative Perspective**

**Reference Person:** Prontera Andrea (andrea.prontera@unimc.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Macerata

**Research Keywords:** Hydrogen  
Energy Transition  
Comparative Public Policy

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_1  
SH2\_5  
SH7\_9

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, GOAL 13: Climate Action

### **Description of the research topic**

Hydrogen has a key role in the energy transition and in the current global climate change agenda. The European Union has recently acknowledged the role of this energy carrier in achieving its 2050 net-zero greenhouse gas emission targets. At the same time, several EU countries have launched strategies and policies to increase their stance in the emerging green hydrogen economy. This is the case of both large EU member states, such as Germany, France and Spain, and smaller ones, such as the Netherlands and Portugal. Beyond Europe, many industrialised countries are increasing their efforts to position themselves at the upfront of the green hydrogen technological race. Hydrogen is an important component of decarbonization policy worldwide, but also of many post COVID-19 industrial strategies. In addition, hydrogen features in the new geopolitics of the energy transition.

Against this background, this research project aims at analysing the Italian policies and strategies in the field of (green) hydrogen. Moreover, the project aims at offering a comparative perspective on the Italian hydrogen policy, both with regard to its energy, climate and industrial implications and with regard its European and international dimensions. Specifically, the project will employ the analytical tools and methods of comparative public policy and international political economy to illustrate the emerging features of the Italian (green) hydrogen policy and to derive lessons and best practices that can improve the effectiveness and impact of the Italian strategy and policy on the matter.

### **Research team and environment**



The PhD student will have the opportunity to work with scholars from different backgrounds relevant for the research project, including Public Policy, International Relations, Energy Policy, Applied Economics and EU and International Law. Also, the PhD student will have the opportunity to have access to the network of international contacts of the University of Macerata's faculty, e.g. Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS, Potsdam, Germany).

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Safe Consulting* (<http://www.safe-consulting.it/>), Senigallia (AN)

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Political Science, Public Policy, Energy Policy

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Transizioni Digitali ed Ambientali (Digital and Environmental Transitions). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*





*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Prosumerism and Energy Communities: The Role of Local and Public Authorities. (P.E.C. Project)**

**Reference Person:** Ruggeri Lucia (lucia.ruggeri@unicam.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Camerino

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**Research Keywords:** Energy Communities

Public Administration

Energy Market Decentralization

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_4 Legal studies, constitutions, human rights, comparative law

SH2\_5 International relations, global and transnational governance

SH2\_1 Political systems, governance

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action

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### **Description of the research topic**

The new Legislative Decrees (no. 199 and no. 210/2021) implemented in Italy the EU Directive RED II and IEM which introduced the Renewable Energy Communities (REC) and Citizens Energy Communities (CEC). Both Directive enable consumers to become prosumers and, also, to storage and sell energy. These new actors of the decentralized Energy Market are composed by a network of energy consumers included municipal administrations, research and training bodies, religious bodies. The primary purpose of the REC is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits for its shareholders or members or for the local areas where it operates. The Energy Communities may engage in generation, in energy storage, energy efficiency services or charging services for electric vehicles or provide other energy services to its members or shareholders. The role of the public administrations disclosed by the new regulatory framework is pivotal to implement in an effective way the constitutional principle of subsidiarity (art. 118 It. Cost.): on the ground of energy transition the alliance between citizens, enterprises and local and public authorities can boost the wellness of each area interested by the creation of the CEC or CER. The Fit for 55 program now followed by the REPowerEU Plan enhance the role of public authorities: the amendments to the Regulation 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility introduce the obligation to produce solar energy using the roofs of public and private buildings. The Public Administrations needs to adopt new specific policies and skills devoted



to the climate crisis and war crisis. The aim of the project is to investigate the use of the energy communities' legal models focusing the analysis on the contracts which can be used to create the energy communities and to manage the services of the CER and CEC. The project aims to give a new updated inclusive protection to all members of the Energy Communities as parts of new contracts and economic relationships. Citizens and Public Administrations need to sign contracts i) to set up REC or CEC and the REC and CEC; ii) to finance co-ownership; iii) to digitalize the energy exchanges, iii) to storage the energy; iiiii) to distribute and sell energy; iiiiii) to transform buildings in , 'smart' and , 'energy efficient' buildings. The prosumer, even if public body, continue to be a , 'week' contractual part which needs protection, but the traditional notion of , 'consumer' is not always useful or sufficient. The aim of the research is to adapt the consumer protection to this new kind of consumption models and to define the interplay between the Energy regulatory framework with the GDPR and the EU Directive 2019/770 which permits to use personal data as price for digital contents and services. The main objects of the research are: i) to analyze the Energy Packages, included the , 'Fit for 55' and the REPowerEUPlan; ii) to collect Italian and EU best practices of REC and CEC; iii) to compare experiences in which the Public Administrations realized energy communities and to analyze the role of regional legislators in each experience; iiiii) to analyze EU and national case-law in energy and data sharing. The expected outputs of the research are: i) a Prosumer , 'vademedecum' which define the level of protection in the different contracts signed by REC and CEC, with specific focus on the role of Public and Local Administrations; ii) a taxonomy of Energy consumer which define the different types of consumption (domestic or non-domestic; individual or collective); iiiii) the different legal forms of REC and CEC (non profit organizations); iiiiii) the different types of production; iiiiii) the distribution system; iiiiii) the selling systems and models; iiiiii) the vulnerable energy consumers specific protection and inclusive system; iiiiii) the data protection measures in each phases of the energy production, consumption and sharing. The result of the Programme is to offer a contribution to Consumer Protection and Public policies strategies in a new regulatory framework in which data sharing and energy sharing is pivotal to realize the goal of climate neutrality. Without citizens, local/public authorities and enterprises involvement REC and CEC cannot start or be succesful, so the PHD research programme includes dissemination and communication activities which will be realized in at least 2 public administrations/municipalities, 2 condominiums and 2 enterprises, which will be pilot communities of the research, which tested the materials and the activities of the project. The PHD student: i) will develop the programme in foreign research centres in agreement with Camerino University (6 months); ii) will realize materials on the basis of the feedback of public administrations, municipalities, condominiums and enterprises of the pilot (2 months of stage in local authorities or enterprises involved in the programme); iii) will attend courses and seminars dedicated to Energy Market, Consumer, Public policies and Data Protection, Sharing economy (10 Credits each year in the first and second year of PHD course).

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### Research team and environment



The Phd Student will benefit from a multidisciplinary and international team composed by the ECPE researchers (43, from 15 nationalities- <https://ecpe.Unicam.it/en/node>) and will be involved in specific experiences of study and research guided by University of Camerino (Administration areas) focused on energy efficiency of University buildings also involved in reconstruction after the earthquake of 2016. He/she will be inserted in skilled research small-group composed by 5 Phd Students and 1 RTDA who are developing studies focused on Energy Communities. The research activities, coordinated by Prof. Lucia Ruggeri, received grants by PON Green Economy, Agenzia Coesione Sociale and several PMI interested in Energy Market. The Phd Student will enjoy an international and multisectorial environment thanks to international collaborations developed with several Italian research centers and stakeholder (e.G. ENSIEL, AISFOR; Federconsumatori, Legambiente). At international level the Phd Student can follow activities in several universities skilled in Energy and Energy Consumer Protection Legal and Social issues: East Anglia University (UK), Sorbonne Business School (FR), Rijeka University (HR) Madrid Carlos III (ES), Toyo University (Tokyo) (JAP), Louisiana State University (USA), International Business University of Almaty. The PHD Student will be inserted, also, in the Energy Platform of the University of Camerino, a specific multidisciplinary team composed by experienced researchers skilled in Energy and Climate Change.

The Phd Student will benefit also from courses offered by UNICAM focused on Energy Law, Contracts and Markets, Environmental Law and Civil Economy.

For this scholarship it is planned a period of internship at *Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale "Energia e Sistemi Elettrici", Cassino (FR)*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The following skills are useful to develop successfully the PHD Programme:

- attitude to work in team
  - Italian language knowledg: at least level B2
  - English language knowledge: at least level B2
  - legal or economic educational background is suitable, but not mandatory
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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Pubblica Amministrazione (Public Administration). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*



*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **The Evaluation and Remediation of Climate Change Risks in Old and New Media**

**Reference Person:** Russo Katherine Elizabeth (kerusso@unior.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Naples L'Orientale

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**Research Keywords:** Climate Change Risk communication

News Discourse Analysis

Social Media Discourse Analysis

**Reference ERCs:** SH4\_11

SH4\_9

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, GOAL 13: Climate Action

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### **Description of the research topic**

During the last decade, news and social media have intensified their role as a channel for the communication of risk. Risks are “threats to outcomes that we value” (Fischhoff and Kadvani, 2011: 22), yet while some outcomes, such as car mortality, are defined as risks, other outcomes such as climate change are contested and their measurement often leads to debate (Russo, 2017, 2018). The debate about climate change policies and science are mediated by news media, which call lay people to think about them either as active participants or interested observers. In order to make risk decisions, citizens seek information, which is circulated through broadsheet news media, and later arises in social media such as facebook and twitter, or face-to-face conversations.

Risk communication faces the challenge of conveying specialized information to lay people, and bridging the gap between experts and lay decision-makers may be extremely difficult in the case of ‘contested science’ such as climate change (ibid: 116). Experts adopt non-persuasive communication, trusting data to speak for themselves, and describe both benefits and risks, often in quantitative terms. Scientists are cautious and generally speak about probabilities, which do not translate well in the “unequivocal commentary that is valued in the press” (Boycoff and Boycoff, 2007: 3). In contrast, sceptics explicitly address the fears of the lay public in a language that leaves lingering emotional effects and avoid technical terms, thus reaching a wider public.

Following this line of thought, the aim of the project is to provide a data-driven analysis of the evaluation of climate change in news and social media discourse. The analysis of climate



change risk discourse in newspaper and social media discourse may indeed reveal how they influence public opinion, providing a window into how societies express and define themselves as they grapple with uncertainty about facts, options, beliefs and common values. This spreading of climate change discourse across , 'genre chains', is central to the present study on the recontextualisation of scientific studies on climate change in news discourse and social media since it may affect the citizens' evaluation of risk decisions (Fairclough 2003; Blommaert 2005). News chains and networks are particularly important to this study since they contribute to the systematic transformation and recontextualisation of information from genre to genre, and possibly affect its evaluation.

The project will provide a data-driven analysis of the recontextualisation and appraisal of climate change discourse in news and social media during the years 2011-2021. The analysis will be carried out by analysing a corpus specifically compiled to represent different interrelated news and social media discourse genres. The data will be analysed according to an approach which draws upon findings in Corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis, Appraisal Linguistics, and Social Media Critical Discourse Analysis (Baker 2006; Martin and White 2005; Thomson and White 2008). Accordingly, it will situate quantitative analysis and qualitative analysis within a wider analytical framework which includes extra-linguistic social variables.

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### **Research team and environment**

The PhD student will collaborate with scholars who are experts in Corpus Linguistics, Appraisal and Critical Discourse Analysis with a strong interest in climate change discourse. The research team includes a Principal Investigator (Associate Professor Katherine Russo), a tenure track researcher (Rtd-B Anna Mongibello), and two PHD students (Arianna Grasso and Arianna Del Gaudio). The PhD students will be able to profit from the Research Centre ILAND and the PhD Programme in Literary, Linguistic and Comparative Studies

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The candidate will have a sound grasp of English Language Linguistics and strong competence in the English language (C1+/C2 CEFR). They will ideally also have a good knowledge of Corpus Linguistics methods and Critical Discourse Analysis and a strong interest in climate change discourse.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Ricerca PNRR (PNRR Research). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*





*Curriculum: 4. Theories, Institutions and Cultures*

## **Population health, sustainable development and climate change**

**Reference Person:** Sannella Alessandra (alessandra.sannella@unicas.it)

**Host University/Institute:** University of Cassino and South Lazio

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**Research Keywords:** Health  
Social Transition  
Technological innovations for health

**Reference ERCs:** SH3\_1  
SH3\_14  
LS7\_9

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 1: No Poverty, GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being, GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality

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### **Description of the research topic**

The main objective of the research is to provide, within the epistemological framework characterized by the paradigm of sustainable development, the analysis of the impact of the various "health actions" in the social and environmental factors. The study will have to be distinguished by its transdisciplinary character: the interpenetration of the various scientific perspectives will be the glue for innovative research linked to multiple research structures in which a mix-methods methodological approach will be privileged. Among the research priorities, it will be possible to identify phenomena deriving from the emergencies of the acceleration of climate change and social transitions; the redefinition of the quality of life of citizens on eco-sustainable projects; the measurement of actions launched at the institutional level, aimed at the health of communities and citizens (goal 3). The analysis will have to consider the tools of the IV industrial revolution, such as Artificial Intelligence and robotics, to develop contexts of social and technological innovation aimed at reducing inequalities, for the promotion of social justice and health, especially towards populations at greatest risk of vulnerability. It will be possible to propose tools for sustainable health in the light of the principles of One Health (WHO 2017) through innovative policies. In this way, will enhance polycentric scientific advances and desirable models of social transition and health promotion within the paradigm of sustainable development.

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### **Research team and environment**

The research environment is supported by the culture of inclusion and cooperation in the research group with a "circle" management approach. The team is based on peer-to-peer





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research activities, and all identified practices will support candidates. Candidates will be included in the International Observatory for Sustainable Development and Global Health 2030 (IOHS 2030).

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

The candidate must possess knowledge and tools of research in the field. Particular attention must be paid to the transdisciplinary nature of the proposal

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### ***Type of scholarship and obligations***

*The type of this scholarship is: Ricerca PNRR (PNRR Research). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*