3-4-5 JUNE 2021

REINVENTING EDUCATION
second international conference

Scuola democratica il Mulino

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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/PAPERS

The **2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA "*REINVENTING EDUCATION*"** will be hosted online **June 3 through 5 2021**, by **Scuola Democratica, Centro Interuniversitario per la Ricerca Didattica** (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), **Il Mulino**. The challenges posed by the contemporary world have long required a rethinking of educational concepts, policies, and practices. The question about education 'for what' as well as 'how' and 'for whom' has become unavoidable and yet it largely remained elusive due to a tenacious attachment to the ideas and routines of the past which are now far off the radical transformations required of educational systems. Scenarios, reflections, and practices fostering the possibility of change towards the reinvention of the educational field as a driver of more general and global changes are centerstage topics at the Conference and will have a multidisciplinary approach from experts from different disciplinary communities, including sociology, pedagogy, psychology, economics, architecture, political science, etc. We hope with this opportunity to confirm the participation obtained at the first edition of the conference. Organizers, promoters and partners of the Conference wish to invite educators, teachers, researchers, scholars, academics, scientists, professionals, experts and policy makers to join the conversation and bring the disciplines towards a more integrated set of alliances by:
- promoting a trans and inter disciplinary discussion on urgent topics;
- fostering debates among experts and professionals;
- diffusing research findings all over international scientific networks and practitioners' mainstreams;
- launching further strategies and networking alliances on local, national and international scale;
- providing a new space for debate and evidence to educational policies.

We invite you to submit ABSTRACT/PAPER for your presentation at the **Panel session**:

E.6 CHALLENGES AND WEAKNESSES. DIFFERENTIATION, DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, PROFESSIONALISM, AUTONOMY

<u>Convenors</u>
Giovanni Ragone (Università di Roma La Sapienza); Giovanni Boccia Artieri (Università di Urbino Carlo Bo); Matteo Turri (Università degli studi di Milano)

<u>Keywords</u>
university; differentiation; digital transformation; professionalism; autonomy

Italian University is facing three main challenges foreshadowing an extraordinary opportunity:
- The Recovery Plan launch. By an impressive availability and multi-annual continuity of European funding, the government intends to carry out in an organized and governed manner several powerful structural interventions in 6 key- areas. Potentially, every intervention, every infrastructural realization, every single project requires high level skills, innovative visions, and a civil engagement of at least the major players towards the general interest: for this reason, universities and public research agencies should play a fundamental role.
- The new intervention requests increasingly emerging from the territories and currently being organized - as a response - under the category of "Third Mission". They have been intensified for some time, also in relation to a de facto remodeling of functions and policies development among state apparatus, regions, local authorities, companies and third sector. In addition, they imply growing requests for multi-actor cooperation.
- The sudden acceleration of digitalization and digital innovation processes. Substantial paradigm changes in production, services, culture and education have reached such a level of extension and maturation to configure a substantially new landscape of economy, culture and society, generating a strong demand for high skills, research, and organizational innovation.
These are epochal challenges, all the more so in the frame of general unpreparedness and difficulties of our country system. Universities are one of the most relevant resources able to hold up and accompany an imposing and predictably conflictual transformation.
In which conditions does the Italian university present itself to this historic appointment? Is the current organizational and policy model of the Higher Education system adequate to address it? Beyond the suffering caused by public resources cutting, it seems appropriate to relate the new challenges to the main actual weaknesses affecting the current university state, predictably capable to hinder an efficient response. In this sense, even partial analyzes should be useful, possibly contextualized in educational systems evolving at international level, and linked to attempts to focus on possible changes.
The intervention proposals may include more or less extensive analyzes and experiences, mainly referable to one of the following 4 topics:
1) Functional changes and differentiation processes between universities. The Italian university system is traditionally characterized by a low horizontal differentiation (universities are typically less specialized

than those in continental Europe). But differentiation processes are taking place: are they properly governed? and which development trajectories are possible? What is the influence of the funding and evaluation processes?

2) The paradigm changes in learning / teaching and research, driven by the digital transformation. The Italian university transition to practices more consistent with the cultural, economic and social processes is visibly lagging behind. Troubles concern the different types of digital divide, but even the change of attitudes, mental forms, informal learning systems of the new generations. Is another University model possible?

3) Transformations relating to professions practices and structures. How is the discrepancy between the growing bureaucratization and the arising creative and innovative attitudes to overcome? What role did the strictly disciplinary framing play by University? How have relations between academics and university, students, and external stakeholders been changing?

4) The governance dynamics and system direction: is autonomy still the lever for enhancing energy and improving quality? What contribution have the national actors offered, in terms of university policies? Are the governance structures still adequate? Which effects has the 2010 reform caused on the university structures?

References

Capano, G., Regini, M. Turri, M. (2017), Salvare l'università italiana. Oltre i miti e i tabù, Il Mulino, Bologna

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS SUBMISSION

HOW TO SUBMIT

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted by **April 4, 2021** (**check Conference Dates and Deadlines**).
ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted via the **pre-conference tool**.

Please do not submit your ABSTRACT/PAPER by e-mailing it to the Convenor(s) of the Panel session you chose. Convenor(s) will receive submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS automatically from the **pre-conference tool** and they are going to reject ABSTRACT/PAPER submitted to their e-mail addresses.

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English.
You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. Be careful: **DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH ABSTRACT AND PAPER**. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.

ABSTRACT/PAPER should include:
1. Title (limited to 20 words in UPPER CASE)
2. Author's name and surname, institution, and email address
3. Five keywords
4. ABSTRACT's text (limited to 500 words). In case you decide for the PAPER, text will be 3.500 words min. 5.000 words max. In the submission text, please write: ABSTRACT or PAPER after the title. Example: FAMILY BACKGROUNDS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY (PAPER)

The Conference formula is: **1 SUBMISSION = 1 FEE** (**check FEES webpage**)
It is possible to submit a maximum of 2 ABSTRACTS/PAPERS per person (double submission must concern 2 different Panel Sessions). Each ABSTRACT/PAPER is eligible if it is backed by an **APP FEE**.
Co-authors who do not submit ABSTRACT/PAPER as first author may access to the Conference via the discounted P FEE (**check FEES webpage**)
The submitting and presenting author must be listed as the first author in the **pre-conference tool**. Please note that the submitting author will receive all correspondence about the ABSTRACT/PAPER. Therefore, we recommend that the submitting author details that are entered are the same details as those of the presenting author.

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS may not be edited/uploaded after final submission.

Before you submit, please make sure the following requirements are met:
- ABSTRACT/PAPER must be allocated to a specific Panel session. Therefore, you must select the proper Panel when submitting. For a complete listing of Panel sessions please **click here**.
- If possible, write your ABSTRACT/PAPER highlighting methods, outcomes, references. Word count is affected by inclusion of references.
- Convenors and the Scientific Committee will review all submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS. Notification regarding acceptance and scheduling will be sent to the submitting author via the **pre-conference tool**. Please note, if your ABSTRACT/PAPER is accepted, you will be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes for oral presentation.