

CALL FOR PAPERS

International workshop

Department of Political Sciences, Law and International Studies

Padua (Italy), 17-18 January 2013

Deadline: 31 July 2012

Italian protest movements and their international dimension after 1968: a comparative historical approach

The chair of History of Italian foreign policy - Department of Political Sciences, Law and International Studies (University of Padua) invite scholars to submit research paper proposals dealing with the International political culture of protest actors from the late 1960s to the 1980s.

During the second half of the 1960s, among the younger generations – especially in the Western world – there appeared a growing consciousness of the dramatic changes which were characterizing the international situation, as well as of the economic and social changes that had shaped their countries. The protest movements in the US and in Western Europe had as primary targets of their activities, not only their own governments, but also their foreign policies. The protest against US involvement in Vietnam shaped the second half of the 1960s and the first half of the 1970s and, although local Western Communist parties played an important role in organizing manifestations (e.g. pro North Vietnam campaigns), the impact was wider and deeper than what the Communist parties could achieve. Moreover the Vietnam war was not the only international issue which characterised the interest of the protest movements and their initiatives involved opposition to other forms of western “imperialism”, the activities non-governmental bodies such as the multinationals, the survival of fascist regimes in Europe (e.g. Spain and Portugal) or the creation of right-wing military regimes in Europe and in Latin America (e.g. Greece and Chile), neo-colonialism, etc.

Moreover some protest movements bordered or had some contacts with minority groups which advocated violent forms of “resistance” against “international imperialism” and terrorist organizations were active in various parts of the world and developed some cooperation.

Last but not least, during the 1970s and the early 1980s, also as a consequence of the economic crisis and of the growing consciousness of the environmental problems posed by previous

economic growth, protest movements began to focus their attention on issues such as pollution, the consequence of the exploitation of nuclear energy, etc.

New political actors emerged in the international arena, constituting a watershed in terms of political and cultural identities, as well as new ways to do politics.

The workshop aims at analysing the international political culture of protest actors that emerged in the period between the late 1960s and the early 1980s, focusing on the Italian case but also on European and non-European study cases, in a comparative perspective.

The initiative, pursued by the Department of Political Sciences, Law and International Studies of the University of Padua, is the second event of a wider project which aims at networking junior and senior scholars who are working on such a topic.

The network already includes scholars from the University of Bologna – Forlì, the University of Augsburg, the New York University, SciencesPo Paris, LUISS University Rome and IMT Lucca, Bruno Kessler Foundation Trento, Gramsci Institute Rome, European University Institute Florence, and the University of Padua.

The working languages will be English and Italian.

The Scientific Committee is committed to the publication of papers' selection, based on scientific criteria.

Applicants should submit to valentine.lomellini@unipd.it and antonio.varsori@unipd.it by 31 July 2012, a single Word or PDF file containing 400-word (about 2000 characters) abstract of the proposed research paper and a brief academic CV. Please, remember to highlight your email address on the top of your CV.

The file should be titled: "*Your Name* Padua workshop 2013".

Notification of acceptance will be made by 15 September 2012.

Successful applicants will be expected to email their papers by 15 November 2012.

The Organization will provide lodging and meals at the conference; within the limits of the workshop budget will also meet traveling expenses.