

15 years of UNESCO CHAIR in

“Population, Migrations and Development”



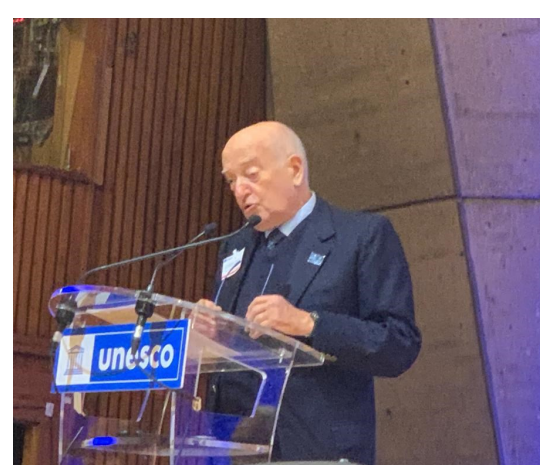
THE CHAIR

The UNESCO Chair in “Population, Migrations and Development” was established in 2008 at Sapienza University of Rome with the aim to further develop the long term objective of building capacities in teaching and researching, promoting a multidisciplinary scientific approach in the field of development, population and migrations.

The Chair involves researchers and scholars from different disciplines and fields of competence, working on migrations, demography and development. Based on a network of high level scholars and researchers from different universities and research centers, the Chair act as a laboratory creating new knowledge and ideas in order to promote cultural diversity and to work out new scenarios for the future of international migrations.



RECENT ACTIVITIES



30th anniversary of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme Paris, 3-4 November 2022



The conference, organized by UNESCO with the support of the French National Commission for UNESCO, celebrated the accomplishments of the UNITWIN Programme over the last three decades. Dedicated to the theme of “Transforming knowledge for just and sustainable futures”, the two-day event has been grounded in the spirit of global scientific, moral, intellectual, and academic solidarity. Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo presented the project “DIALOGUES OF THE UNESCO CHAIRS: a laboratory of ideas for the world to come” during the plenary session dedicated to the theme “UNITWIN/ UNESCO Chairs Programme: A global observatory?”. Alessandra De Rose, Cristina Giudici and Eleonora Miaci attended the conference. Watch the recording of the event in this link: <http://webcast.unesco.org/events/2022-11-UNITWIN/>



UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022), Barcelona

On May 18-20th, thirty-seven Italian UNESCO Chairs, contributed to the Conference with a consultation report on “Dialogues of the UNESCO Chairs: a laboratory of ideas for the world to come”. Cristina Giudici, Eleonora Miaci and Benedetta Cassani produced a policy paper on “Socially responsible University in the era of refugee crisis”. The Chair also contributed to the WHEC2022 with a video.

Nairobi Summit



Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Alessandra de Rose participated to the Conference

the Nairobi Summit, also known as ICPD+25, was held in Nairobi, Kenya, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Cairo conference at the same time the international community was working towards meeting the UN's



On Wednesday 18th January 2023, the Sapienza University of Rome hosted the seminar organised by the Network of Italian UNESCO Chairs (ReCUI), entitled A New Social Contract for Education: Perspectives Reflections Issues.



The 52nd session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD 52) took place from 1 to 5 April 2019 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Cristina Giudici and Marina Zannella participated as expert consultant

The italian network of UNESCO chairs — Rete delle Cattedre Unesco Italiane ReCUI

First Convention of the italian network of UNESCO chairs— ReCUI

In 2020, the Italian UNESCO Chairs, developing an intense scientific dialogue on the goals of the 2030 Agenda, have started a process aimed at operating as a collective body, interacting and proposing themselves as a community of knowledge, with the project "UNESCO Chairs' Dialogues: a laboratory of ideas for the world to come.



On Friday 24 March 2023, in the Aula Magna of Piazza San Marco, in Florence, the first Convention of the Italian network of UNESCO chairs - ReCUI took place. Patrizio Bianchi, Former Minister of Education, has been appointed to act as spokesman of the network.



Work Group on Migration—ReMIG

The Italian UNESCO Chairs have long identified migration as a transdisciplinary topic, ideal for comparing, elaborating, and promoting scientific and cultural advances, and making them available to Italian and European institutions. In 2018, the Italian UNESCO Chairs reached an important, albeit difficult, agreement on the indications to be given to the civil debate in view of the international debate on the 'Global Compact', synthesized in the 'CONIUS 18' statement.

Contemporary events prompt us to take up this path again, also in view of the foreseeable Italian and European institutional interventions, that are becoming urgent and necessary in the field of migrations.

Within the ReCUI, a transdisciplinary working group has been created with the aim of update the Conius 18 statement. The group, named ReMIG is composed by the UNESCO Chairs of the University of Brescia, Ferrara, Rome (Population), Rome (Bioethics), Venice, Reggio Calabria and Pisa, obviously remaining open to new collaborations

Conius 2018 Statement

Guidelines: the human condition today and the reference to the universal principles of human rights (1); reflection on ethics and human rights (2; 3; 4); gap between theoretical principles and government action (5); migration and the rights of citizenship as a terrain in which human rights are exercised and the concrete action of governments (6; 7; 8; 9); cultural identity, religious dialogue, inclusive societies: the role of education and migration (10; 11; 12; 13); the role of local territories and governments in the management of migration; in the promotion of integration, in the exercise of the respect for human rights (14; 15; 16; 17; 18) role and functions of the UNESCO Chairs (18,20).

1. The current human condition urges rapid progress along the road of pluralising citizenship as an answer to the twofold requirement for the respect of human dignity and for social cohesion within States.

2. The exercise of human rights is the grammar of the democratic governance. Every process of participation, decision, evaluation and control has to be analysed in the light of the effectiveness of the rights involved: the realization of each right, with the freedoms and responsibilities that are associated with it, defines an authentic relationship for the quality of life and the daily construction of a democratic culture. Every human right indicates a level of security from which the development of law is not only possible but, through inclusive governance, ensures that every person is respected as being worthy, free and co-responsible for development.

3. To work for peace, justice and institutions means starting from the ethical dimension that is trust in the human being and the search for consistency between the different rationalities that constitute the human knowledge; but it is also a dialectical method for building a dialogue which is the result of exchange, of listening to people, above all of those who have known the heaviest sufferings. Ethics involves the development of the dignity of each person through cooperation with others: within the framework of fair institutions and organizations able and legitimate to manage the conflicts.

4. Ethics is the learning of responsibility and it is defined by the ability to respond to the requests and needs of others. Ethics is the fight against all that is inhuman, against violations of human rights and its reference criterion is human security defined by respect for human rights seen in their interdependence and indivisibility.

5. As far as human rights are concerned, there is a growing gap among countries' declared (and perceived) external actions and their actual performance at both international and domestic level. The construction of a country's international reputation and credibility has to be based on its commitment to responsibly contribute, promoting an effective integrated approach to human rights, peace, justice and sustainable development.

6. Compared to historic national citizenships, «universal» citizenship corresponds to the recognition of citizenship rights to any person living within the municipal boundaries. As a consequence, the traditional notion of citizenship, must change from a view to exclusion (*ad alios excludendos: foreigners, non-EU citizens*) to one of egalitarian and inclusive citizenship.

7. This commitment concerns primarily the European Union, as the pioneer of pluralisation of citizenship. As the original experiment in multilevel and supranational governance, the EU is not only a legal space, but it is also a territory, which can be used to exercise fundamental rights and freedoms, including the free circulation of people as well as of goods, services and capitals.

8. In our multicultural societies, immigration and citizenship are not contradictory issues. They both fall ontologically within the field of rights for the «equal dignity of all members of the human family». Both citizenship and the institution of citizenship must be framed so that the *ius humane dignitatis* prevails over other parameters, especially over the *ius sanguinis* in the framework of a migrants friendly integration approach.

9. In Europe, the *acquis communautaire* represents a new frontier open or closed to migrants and refugees according to the Dublin Agreements and their revisions. Though the frontier of the European Union was conceived as a commercial frontier, it now represents the access to the entire *acquis communautaire*, as a standard of civilization and a byword for the European identity.

10. It is necessary to restore a community cultural identity, its historical connection with the site, the common care of cultural resources, in order to safeguard its universal value. Dealing with the community in the definition and the consciousness of a cultural identity related to the history of the place, means an expressive understanding of the authenticity of the heritage as a still alive world.

11. Successfully facing the challenge of building inclusive and diverse societies in cultural and religious terms is not only necessary for countries to be able to devote themselves to other priorities, such as economic growth and the eradication of poverty; thus, ensuring that the full religious and cultural freedom for all is itself a fundamental goal to reach.

12. Education can become an instrument of political change if it succeeds in making people and groups work together in the search for a status of equal rights for all; and it helps educating qualified teachers on social construction as an opening to a new phase of history capable of initiating a process of personal, local and humanitarian rehabilitation. And, again, education can create social cohesion only if it manages to keep abilities: personal skills, cognitive styles, differentiated learning processes and respect the individual and social dimensions of the person, making this the master force of his expression in the world.

13. Researchers have shown that students with migratory background are considered as a disadvantaged and vulnerable group due to several economic, educational and psycho-social factors. In the same time, their resilience – conceived as the capacity to reach adequate levels of adjustment across multiple well-being dimensions – is significant, not only in terms of protective factors, but also as a contribution to enrich host societies and promote intercultural communities globally.

14. Migration demands a multiple answer, at European, national and municipal level. The resources required to face housing, school, health, and mobility needs must be provided largely by the central government, but the efficient and equitable allocation of them is the responsibility of the local level of government.

15. A EU citizenship having as its administrative parameter a «European» *ius soli* clearly requires a reversal of the ratio which currently informs the Union citizenship. It should be up to the local government to promote the operation directed at a proper pluralisation of the institute of a new citizenship within the European Union.

16. Local Governments are fully entitled to claim and share the principle of the «responsibility to protect», launched by the United Nations at the start of the third Millennium, looking to States as the main subjects of reference. But people, families and groups turn to local government bodies, as their closest institutions, in order to ask for protection, security and social services. Human rights are indeed protected or violated in the places where people live their daily lives.

17. As Eleanor Roosevelt stressed: «Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home – so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighbourhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination».

18. The 2019 Global Education Monitoring Report "Migration, displacement and education: building bridges, not walls", states that education provided equally builds bridges: unequal provision raises walls between migrants and refugees and their host communities. Two new global compacts on migrants and refugees recognize education's role and set objectives aligned with the global commitment to leave no one behind.

19. Established to foster cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace, UNESCO Chairs have a crucial role as thinktanks and bridgebuilders between academia, civil society, local communities, research and policy-making. UNESCO Chairs, in agreement with their international partners, promote the dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values as prerequisite for social cohesion and peace.

20. The Italian UNESCO Chairs, very concerned about the future of our societies, stand in favour of the rights inherent to the equal dignity of all human beings and against all discrimination based on the *ius sanguinis* in favour of the recognition of the equal status and social justice for all. This is why the Italian UNESCO Chairs act in line with the goals, objectives and indicators of the Agenda 2030 and of the Global Compact of the United Nations.

PROGRAMME 2023

Seminars and Conferences:

18 January Launch event of the second cycle of UNESCO Chairs' Dialogues webinars. Ref: Cristina Giudici

19-20 January Final symposium of Perceptions H2020 project. Ref: Elena Ambrosetti

1-3 February AISP Popdays 2023. RomaTre University, Rome. Ref: Alessandra De Rose

23 February Final Round table of Perceptions H2020 project. Sapienza University. Ref: Elena Ambrosetti

23-24 February the Chair participate to the debate on “migration and development in countries of origin and destination” organised for the launch of Bergamo and Brescia as European Capital of Culture. Ref: Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo

23 March European meeting promoted by Bruno Gabellieri on the themes of poverty and mutualism (Paris). Ref: Raimondo Cagiano

12-15 April The Chair participate to the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America - PAA, New Orleans, Louisiana.

3-5 May The chair participated to the Consortium meeting of COVINFORM H2020 project, Berlin. Ref: Elena Ambrosetti.

21- 2 June The Chair participated to the SIS 2023 conference - Statistical Learning, Sustainability and Impact Evaluation, Ancona.

3-6 July The Chair will participate to the Inclusive Lifelong Learning Conference organised by the UNESCO Center for Lifelong Learning, Bali, Indonesia. Ref: Cristina Giudici.

7-9 September The Chair will participate to the third Transnational Meeting of the Erasmus+ project Service Learning in Athens. Ref: Cristina Giudici.

11-15 September The Chair will participate to the CIVIS Student Week "Global Migration on the Ground" University of Tübingen. Ref: Elena Ambrosetti.

26 September The Chair will host the workshop 'MigrAzioni di Sapienza' organised by the Mentorship group

28 September The Chair participate to the launch of the photographic exhibition 'Journey to Sapienza' realised by Selène de Condat for the Mentorship project. Ref: Cristina Giudici

19-22 October The Chair will participate to the Festival Statisticall, Treviso. Ref: Elena Ambrosetti.

21 October in The Chair will participate to the debate “Quelle place aux Régions dans la réalité européenne?”. Guingamp, France. Ref: Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo

8 November in collaboration with the Chair in Urban Quality and Urban Culture, notably in Africa and the Chair in Urban Health, the Chair will organise a seminar on 'Conflicts: implications on populations, territories and cultural heritage', Sapienza University of Rome. Ref: Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo

29 November The Chair will present the Erasmus+ project Service Learning Intersectoral : Collaboration Practices for the development of students' soft skills and socially engaged universities. Ref: Cristina Giudici

Academic teaching:

Demografia - Bachelor degree course held by **Cristina Giudici**, October-December, Sapienza University of Rome.

Population, migrations and development - Bachelor degree course held by **Cristina Giudici**, February-May, Sapienza University of Rome.

Consequences of International Migration - Phd Course held by **Elena Ambrosetti** 27 February-2 March, European Doctoral School of Demography EDSO, Barcelona.

Visiting

The Chair will welcome Dr. Tetiana Matuskevych, from the UNESCO Chair on Science Education, National Pedagogical Dragomanov University, Ukraine for a teaching week. Ref: Cristina Giudici

AGREEMENTS 2023

The Chair is developing an agreement with the Emile Chanoux Fondation (Aosta, Italy) aimed at the development of the “EuroSapienza” program of teaching and research activities in the field of European studies in population, migrations and development.

