



COLLOQUIUM SERIES

European Doctoral School of Demography

Tuesday, March 22nd – 2 p.m.

Aula Fanfani (Sapienza Università di Roma, Via del Castro Laurenziano 9, Roma -
Facoltà di Economia, 5th floor)

Dr. Maria Rita Testa

(Senior researcher Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital -
VID/OEAW, IIASA, WU-Vienna University of Economics and Business)

Intentions and childbearing in contexts

Abstract: In European and other advanced societies people tend to have fewer children than they tell researchers they would like to have. The mismatch between fertility intentions and outcomes is at the heart of persistent low fertility. Using cross-country comparative data, I will address the issue of the correspondence between birth intentions and birth outcomes paying attention to interdependencies between intentions and outcomes in other life domains such as education, partnership, work, and residence. Life courses are considered in their structural and institutional context and looking at different societal and cultural settings. A special attention will be given to cross-country comparisons as well as to the relationship between individuals' family size preferences and perceptions of their environmental context.