



EURODIV 5th Conference “Dynamics of Diversity in the Globalisation Era”

22-23 October 2009
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), Milan, Italy

Call for Papers

This is the first announcement and call for papers for the Conference on “Dynamics of Diversity in the Globalisation Era”, to be held at Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), Italy on 22-23 October 2009.

Diversity is a key feature of European societies. European integration, global migrations, the ageing of the population, and changing gender roles have shed light on diversity and put it on the agenda. EURODIV organises a set of Conferences on the understanding of diversity and its dynamics through an interdisciplinary and cross-national approach.

After having explored in the past 4 years the concept of diversity, its meaning in the European context and how cultural dialogue can take place in the economic, social and political arenas, **the 5th and final EURODIV Conference addresses the dynamics of diversity in response to growing international exchanges of people, goods and ideas (and vice-versa) and its implication for policy.**

While transnational communities and companies emerge, there is increasing evidence that people’s awareness of being involved in open-ended global flows triggers a search for fixed orientation points and action frames, as well as determined efforts to affirm old and construct new boundaries. In this sense, globalization and localization constitute and feed each other; and the global and the local appears to be two faces of the same process.

The Conference aims to:

- (1) Provide new insights, conceptualisations and empirical evidence on the processes underlying the dynamics of cultural identities and local diversity in response to growing international exchanges of people, goods and ideas;
- (2) Study the implications for elaboration of policies (including trade, cultural and migration policies).

The Conference provides an opportunity for diversity scholars to discuss the state-of-the-art of research and to envisage possible alternative scenarios of research specifically within European contexts. As the current economic crisis questions globalisation, and some speak of de-globalisation, the Conference is an opportunity to test the robustness of previous findings.

The Conference is organised under the auspices of the Marie Curie Series of Conferences “EURODIV: Cultural Diversity in Europe: a Series of Conferences” (MSCF-CT-2004-516670). Its main objective is to bring together researchers in the first years of their research career (see below for details) to exchange knowledge in a spirit of mutual learning. Leading diversity scholars will be invited to introduce the topics of the Conference.

The local organiser is Valeria Papponetti, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei. For more information on EURODIV please visit the EURODIV web site at <http://www.susdiv.org>.

The Conference is organised around three topics:

Local productions and global trade. Diversity shows in the things that we buy and sell: goods sold in markets, clothing, food and restaurants, artwork, and in public/private ethnic ceremonies and celebrations. A number of industries, such as publishing, music, cinema, crafts, fashion and design, are more than other industries able to vehicle cultural identity and diversity. Together with artistic expressions, they provide an entry point to study the dynamics of cultural identities at local level. At the same time, global trade in cultural products and services is growing. We welcome theoretical and empirical papers looking at how cultural industries and art production change as a result of this interplay between the global and the local.

Peoples and companies. People from practically every part of the world are confronted with aspects of other societies and cultures, through e.g. tourism, consumers goods, the media. Companies operate in multiple locations and have long supply chains spanning all over the globe. This open-ended global flows shape a dynamic and fluid context where peoples and companies continuously (re)define their identity. Homogenisation and heterogenisation forces are contemporaneously at work. We welcome theoretical and empirical papers studying how individuals and companies accommodate and define their identity in this changing and fluid context. In particular, we welcome papers studying the emergence and (cultural) behaviour of transnational companies, communities and networks.

Policy perspectives. As the triad of territory, culture and people evaporates, the ability of national, regional and local boundaries to enclose cultures and regulate cultural exchanges is under pressure. In this new uncertain and ambiguous setting some maintain that society will disintegrate if its members are not bound together by a string of common values, cognitions and motives. In a 'resurgence of tradition', the retaining, emphasising and glorifying the values of the past imply that external elements and influences are rejected. Others accept the diversity of values, norms and practices, within and between groups. The question is about the risks deriving from the absence of common interests and representations. We welcome papers studying concretely specific policies elaborated at supra-national, national, regional or local level to answer these challenges. Example may refer to cultural, trade, migration policies to embrace or reject differences and external influences.

Grants

There are several grants available for the conference. Grants cover living expenses (up to a max of €148.95 per day) and travel expenses (up to the maximum established on the basis of travel distances). A small number of grants are destined to researchers that do not have a paper to submit. There are no conference fees.

Researchers eligible for funding

Group 1: Early-stage researchers. Researchers attending the event for training purposes who have, at the time of their attendance, no more than 4 years of (full time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma that gives you direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained and who do not have a doctoral degree.

Group 2: Mid-career researchers. Researchers attending the event for training purposes who have, at the time of their attendance, a doctoral degree or 4-10 years of (full-time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma that gives them direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained.

Group 3: European researchers active outside the Union. Researchers attending the event for training purposes who have, at the time of their attendance, more than 10 years of (full-time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma that that gives them direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained, who are nationals of Member States or Associated Member States and who are active in research outside the Member States and Associated Member States at the time of the event.

Submissions and applications for a grant:

If you are interested in submitting a paper, please send an e-mail to Elena Bellini (elena.bellini@feem.it) by **31st May 2009** including:

- 1.** A 600-word abstract. Please indicate the name, affiliation and e-mail address of author(s), the contact author, the paper title, and max 5 keywords;
- 2.** The application form (attached) duly filled in;
- 3.** Full CV of the applicant(s);

Grants for multiple authors will be considered, depending on the availability of funds.

If you wish to apply for a grant and do not have a paper to submit, please send an e-mail to Elena Bellini (elena.bellini@feem.it) by **31st May 2009** including:

- 1.** A motivation letter (max 600 words) that explains the reason why you would like to participate in the conference. Please indicate your full name, affiliation and e-mail address;
- 2.** The application form (attached) duly filled in;
- 3.** Full CV of the applicant(s).

Incomplete submissions or submissions sent after the deadline will not be taken into consideration. The final decision will be made by **30th June 2009**. Researchers selected for participation should submit their full papers by **15th September 2009** (max 8000 words).

The Scientific Committee

Prof. Gianmarco I.P. Ottaviano, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei and Bocconi University, Italy.

Prof. Maddy Janssens, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, Belgium.

Prof. Sandra Wallman and Susanne Küchler, University College London, London, UK.

Dr Raffaele Bracalenti, Istituto Psicoanalitico per le Ricerche Sociali, Rome, Italy.