Education and Post-Democracy

Cagliari, 6-7-8 June 2019

The 1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL <u>SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA</u> will be hosted at the <u>University of Cagliari</u> (Italy), June 6 through 8, 2019, by Scuola Democratica, <u>Centro Interuniversitario</u> <u>per la Ricerca Didattica</u> (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), <u>II Mulino Editore</u>.

The Conference stands as an opportunity to present and discuss empirical and theoretical works from a variety of disciplines and fields covering education. The focal theme of the Conference is a trend currently affecting many countries invested by processes of globalization: the advent of what Colin Crouch called «post-democracy» (check Keynote speakers list). 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 evidences to educational policies.

We invite you to submit abstracts for your presentation at the **track session**:

B.12. Religious education and its alternatives facing multiculturalism at schools in contemporary society: a transdisciplinary perspective

Convenors: Luca Bossi (University of Turin, luca.bossi@unito.it) Marta Villa (University of Trento, marta.villa@unitn.it)

Keywords: Diversity management; Religious education; Religious pluralism; Alternative education.

In the frame of contemporary European multicultural societies, religious beliefs (and non-beliefs), their transmission and the relationship with the educational milieu emerge as crucial aspects of social change. In this context, school plays a key role, representing a fundamental agency for the shaping of civic attitudes, and fostering intercultural and interreligious skills. The ability to live in heterogeneous cultural contexts becomes increasingly urgent, while the commitment of the public institution in the construction of a pluralist and inclusive space becomes a priority.

The pluralization of the religious panorama brings out new needs and opportunities, tensions and challenges. The display of religious symbols in the classrooms, the right or the prohibition of wearing religiously related clothing, religious dietary needs and their relationships with school canteens, especially in lower levels of education, are some of the topics emerging in the public space of the school. Among these, the teaching of religion is particularly relevant: in Italy, the Lateran Pacts, a bilateral agreement between the secular State and the Roman Catholic Church, regulates religious education in public schools. Dating back to 1929 and renewed in 1984, the Pacts provides for the public teaching of the Catholic religion. Those who decide not to attend Catholic teaching can ask to attend didactic and non-didactic alternatives; other denominational teachings can be activated as a request of families: confined to extra-curricular time, they must be self-financed by religious organizations.

Beyond legal provisions, which daily practices shapes the empirical ground of Italian schools? How are the teaching of religion, its alternatives and extra-curricular teachings planned and organized? How Catholic education relates to the needs of a religiously diverse society? What about the training of confessional non-confessional teachers? Is there any multicultural and multireligious education in Italian schools? Which are the European experiences?

With reference to the 3/2017 monographic issue of Scuola Democratica, in the context of a growing scientific interest for religious diversity and its contemporary challenges, the panel is specially addressed to researchers in anthropology, pedagogy, sociology and history of religions. In order to open up the dialogue and brings in complexity, it particularly welcome contributions from school professionals (e.g. teachers, principals, public officials) with practical experiences in religious

diversity management at school. Case studies may relate to local, regional, national or international experiences, comparative as well as interdisciplinary research.

Reference

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Rappaport, R.A. (2002), Rito e religione nella costruzione dell'umanità, Padova, Ed. Messaggero. Villa M. (2017), Religione e ora alternativa in due contesti scolastici italiani. Una indagine etnografica, in Scuola Democratica, 2017:3

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ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION

HOW TO SUBMIT

Abstracts should be submitted by February 28, 2019 (check Dates and Deadlines).

Abstracts should to be edited in the template form (click to download) and then submitted via the submission platform.

Please do not submit your abstract by e-mailing it to the Convenor(s) of the track session you chose. Convenor(s) will receive submitted abstracts automatically from the <u>submission platform</u> and they are going to reject all the abstracts sent to their e-mail addresses.

Abstracts 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).
- The presenting author can submit only 1 abstract at the Conference.
- You may be co-author of a second, third ... nth... submitted abstract only in case you are not the submitter of this latter.
- Submitters that are accepted for oral presentation will be permitted to give only 1 oral presentation.
- The submitting and presenting author must be listed as the first author in the template form.
- Please note the submitting author will receive all correspondence about the abstract so we advise that the submitting author details that are entered are the same details as those of the presenting author.
- Abstracts may not be edited/updated after final submission. You are welcome to bring an updated abstract onsite with you at the Conference.

Before you begin, please prepare the following information:

- Abstracts must be allocated to a specific track session and therefore you have to select and report track session's code and title in the template form. For a complete listing of track session please click here.
- Abstract layout in the template form has the following sections: Methods, outcomes, references. However, suggestions are not obligatory. Word count is affected by inclusion of references.
- Convenors and the Scientific Committee will review all submitted abstracts. Notification regarding abstract acceptance and scheduling will be sent to the submitting author
- Please note, if your abstract is accepted for oral presentation, the presenting author will be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes oral presentation in the program.

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