



Ricerche su società e politica

CALL FOR PAPERS

Attitudes and values in a changing world:
Italy in the European Social Survey (2001-2018)

Call for papers, Special Issue, Polis, edited by:

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The past two decades have been characterized by major global events, from the attack on the twin towers in 2001 and the invasion of Iraq in 2003; the 2008-09 financial and economic crisis; the ongoing war in Syria and the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe since 2015; and the rising rates of political dissatisfaction in many Western countries. With the growth of **24-hour news** and the **internet**, the information that individuals access and process today worldwide is incomparable to anything in the past and has **profound implications** on the way subjects form their **ideas** on the contemporary world. Therefore, the possibility to track, capture and investigate individuals' **behaviours, values, beliefs** and **attitudes** over **time** and across **space** has become increasingly relevant for the scholarly understanding of a **rapidly changing social world**.

For nearly twenty years now, the **European Social Survey (ESS)** has aided researchers in this task. The ESS is an academically driven cross-national survey that has been conducted in over thirty countries across Europe since its establishment in 2001. Every two years, face-to-face interviews are conducted with newly selected, cross-sectional samples investigating the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of diverse populations. The core and rotating modules that form the backbone of the ESS questionnaires have addressed multiple topics, including attitudes toward the media, social trust, politics, democracy and citizen involvement; subjective well-being and human values; attitudes towards immigration; family, work and well-being, the timing of life and gender roles; economic morality, welfare attitudes and justice; public attitudes toward climate change.

Italy has participated in the ESS on four occasions: in rounds 1, 2 and 6, and in the recent round 8, collected between 2016 and 2017 and released in May 2018. This **call for papers** aims at gathering **high quality, theoretically** motivated contributions based on all European Social Survey data but with emphasis on **round 8**. While contributions on all ESS themes are welcome, the editors especially aim at collecting papers that address the following themes:

Politics. The economic crisis in Europe has brought about social tensions that have been associated with dramatic changes in citizens' political attitudes and behaviour. The rise of protest

and new social moments, the increase in electoral de-alignment epitomized by the detachment from mainstream parties and the emergence of challenger ones, alongside the growth of non-democratic attitudes and values have posed important questions in recent scholarship. However, not all changes in political opinions and behaviour can be attributed to the economic crisis, and still important country differences exist. The comparative and longitudinal scope of the ESS and the availability of several items capturing political orientations (e.g. interest, efficacy, trust, party identification) and behaviour (participation, voting choices) offer a great opportunity to investigate these changes. This call therefore welcomes articles exploring citizens' political orientations and behaviour, their changes and cross-national differences.

Social trust. Being able to trust others beyond daily and familiar contacts is considered to have desirable effects at the aggregate-level, i.e. in terms of higher institutional development and lower corruption, and at the individual-level, i.e. for well-being and life satisfaction. For these reasons, research has often investigated cross-countries differences in trust, while fewer studies have focused on changes in trust over historical time. The call welcomes articles exploiting the wide comparative scope of the ESS, its multiple rounds, and various indicators to study over time and cross-country variation in social trust.

Migration. The European migrant crisis brought millions of migrants and refugees in Europe over the past few years and European countries have been struggling to cope with the influx. A growing debate has spurred within the EU and a large divide has emerged among politicians and citizens on how to best deal with the crisis. As a result, the scholarly community has become increasingly interested in investigating attitudes towards migration and the ESS includes several questions on the topic both in the core and in the rotating modules. The call for papers welcomes contributions addressing citizens' attitudes towards migration; how these have changed over the years of the migrant crisis; and how they vary cross-nationally.

Climate change. According to NASA, the planet's average surface temperature has risen about 1.1 degrees Celsius since the late 19th century, with 2016 being the warmest year on record since. Despite the consequences of climate change for human life, little is known about what citizens think about this topic. The 8th round of the ESS introduced a rotating module investigating attitudes and awareness about climate change, energy saving strategies and use of renewable energy sources. Thus, the call for papers welcomes contributions exploring cross-national variation in citizens' attitudes towards these topics and testing theoretically driven hypotheses on possible explanations for individual and macro-level differences.

Deadlines and guidelines

Abstracts of **500 words** accompanied by **5 keywords** should be submitted to polis@cattaneo.org by **July 15, 2018**. The e-mail object should read: "CFP ESS 2018".

Authors will be notified by the Editors concerning the selection of the articles by **September 7, 2018**.

The deadline for the submission of the full version of the articles is **November 30, 2018**. Articles of maximum 8000 words and written in English should follow the journal guidelines (<https://www.mulino.it/riviste/issn/1120-9488>) and be submitted on the online platform.

Communication concerning the peer-review process will be provided by **February 15th, 2019**. Authors will submit their final versions by **May 31, 2019**. Publication on issue **2/2019**.

For any further information please contact the editors.