Titolo: A life-course perspective to Covid-19

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Abstract
The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has been having an exceptional impact on individuals’ and families’ life in many domains. The present session aims at building on the life-course perspective to study the economic, social and psychological consequences of the pandemic and the possible related inequalities.

Studying the pandemic from a life-course perspective poses the attention to timing: the consequences of the pandemic are likely to vary according to the age and the life stage at which the pandemic has hit individuals’ life. The pandemic can be harsher for individuals who were about to make relevant life transitions, such as educational, labour market, migratory or family transitions. For example, we can expect the pandemic to be a particularly disrupting force for family formation plans.

It is important to recognize that the way in which the pandemic interacts with timing depends on the life domain at stake. For example, while older people are paying the largest health consequences, younger people are particularly at risk of paying the largest employment and economic consequences – especially those who were at the time of the school-to-work transition. This also raises further questions about whether and to what extent the pandemic exacerbates or weakens existing inequalities, or rather creates new inequalities and between whom.

While it is still early to study the possible long-term consequences of the pandemic, data already allows – especially in counties other than Italy – to investigate how the Covid-19 crisis has affected individuals and families in the short term as well as how individual life histories shape the susceptibility to the health and non-health consequences of the pandemic.

The present session welcomes empirical contributions that employ a life-course perspective to investigate the consequences of the Covid-19 on a wide range of life domains including but not limited to employment, education, family, and health. The session is open to contributions that focus on both Italy and other European and non-European countries.

For background on how to apply the life course perspective to analyse the Covid-19 crisis, please consult https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1040260820300393