



German-Italian Centre for the European Dialogue

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Call for applications to the Autumn School in European Studies

Villa Vigoni, 16-19 October 2024

Europe and the Post-Global World Re-thinking Identity and Democracy in the EU

IN COOPERATION WITH:



**Università
Bocconi**
BLEST
Bocconi Lab for
European Studies



The Autumn School 2024 will cover the global and regional challenges which the European Union has been at the forefront of in recent years – challenges which call for a re-evaluation of the fundamental concepts of democracy and identity. The traditional notions of democracy, centred on nation-states with clear boundaries and relatively homogeneous populations, are becoming increasingly inadequate in addressing the complexities of a supranational entity like the EU. Similarly, the concept of a singular European identity is being questioned as cultural, economic, and political divides become more pronounced. Furthermore, the perceived democratic deficit, where decision-making appears removed from the electorate, challenges the legitimacy of the EU – hence the need to enhance transparency, foster citizen participation, and develop mechanisms to bring EU institutions closer to the people they serve. The recent European Parliament elections in 2024 have highlighted both progress and persistent challenges in this regard. Voter turnout has shown varying levels of engagement across different member states, indicating fluctuating interest in EU-level politics. The elections also underscored significant regional disparities and the continuing influence of nationalist and eurosceptic parties, reflecting deep divisions within the electorate. In rethinking democracy and identity, the EU must navigate this and more complexities to ensure its future stability and cohesion.

[THE ORGANISATION WILL COVER THE COSTS OF ACCOMMODATION, MEALS AND TRANSFERS TO AND FROM THE MILANO CENTRALE TRAIN STATION.]

CANDIDATES' PROFILE

- EITHER PH.D./MASTER'S STUDENTS IN EUROPEAN STUDIES OR PH.D./MASTER'S STUDENTS IN HISTORY/ECONOMY/LAW/POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH AN INTEREST IN EUROPEAN STUDIES
- ADVANCED ENGLISH LEVEL (CEFR-LEVEL C1)
- BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF ITALIAN AND GERMAN IS DESIRABLE

SELECTION PROCESS

APPLICATION

- CANDIDATES MUST SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATION ELECTRONICALLY. THE APPLICATION HAS TO BE COMPOSED OF A CURRICULUM VITAE AND A MOTIVATION LETTER (MAXIMUM ONE PAGE)
- APPLICATIONS HAVE TO BE SENT TO SCOTTO@VILLAVIGONI.EU AND THE SUBJECT TITLE MUST INCLUDE "SURNAME NAME + APPLICATION TO AUTUMN SCHOOL IN EUROPEAN STUDIES 2024"
- CANDIDATES ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR APPLICATION IN ENGLISH, WHICH WILL BE THE WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE SEMINARS
- PLEASE, NOTE THAT ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS CONTAINING THE ABOVEMENTIONED DOCUMENTS (CV AND A MOTIVATION LETTER) AND SENT WITHIN THE DEADLINE WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION
- **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 23 AUGUST 2024**