

**Call for Papers: Democracy in the Construction of Europe: achievements, constraints and limits, 1969-1992**

**4 – 5 October 2019**

School of International Studies, Trento

The multifaceted crisis that has been conditioning Europe since 2008 calls for a critical rethinking of European integration history and raises new questions about its nature and scope, which appear in many ways different from what they were at the inception of European integration. The role of democracy in the construction of Europe offers a perfect trajectory of such an evolution. While European integration has contributed to Member States' democratic stability, concerns and discussions about a "democratic deficit" have been increasing over the last few years.

This workshop aims at historicizing the role of democracy within the process of European integration, discussing its achievements, shortcomings and limits. By offering a historical perspective on the role and features of democracy within the construction of the EEC/EU, the workshop will also offer a deeper understanding of both the so-called democratic deficit and the historical roots of populism.

After a first successful workshop held in February 2019 at the School of International Studies of the University of Trento, we are now organizing a second workshop to analyze the place of democracy in the construction of Europe between the 1969 Hague Conference and the Maastricht Treaty. This two "long decades" provided the European Community with a fundamental transformation and, as the EEC received new powers, concerns about its democratic accountability increased. Indeed, during the Seventies, discussions on the democratic features of the EEC began to emerge. One example was the diffusion of the expression "democratic deficit", first used by political scientist David Marquand in 1979 to describe the weaknesses of the democratic legitimacy of European institutions. Another one was the publication of the Trilateral Commission well-known report on *The Crisis of democracy* (1975). While the report was tackling the crisis of democracy in all the Western world, it also pointed out that the absence of democratic mechanisms at the European level was exacerbating the crisis of democracy in EEC Member States. The introduction of direct elections to the European Parliament was also meant to cope with this problems. Over the following years, European institutions tried to cope with the on-going discussion on their democratic accountability. Democracy became important for both the internal construction of Europe and European Political Cooperation, a first embryonic EEC foreign policy.

We invite contributions on themes that include, but are not limited to:

- Democracy at the European level: institutions, European political parties, transnational groups
- The Ortolí, Jenkins, Thorn and Delors Commissions and democratic accountability
- Europeanization, European integration and national democratic systems
- European Political Cooperation, its democratic accountability and democracy promotion
- Enlargement(s) and democracy: challenges and opportunities
- Financial governance and democratic accountability
- Permissive consensus, Democratic deficit, information deficit in historical context

PhD students, postdoctoral researchers and early career scholar (under 40) in history and connected disciplines are invited to **submit proposals by 23 July 2019** to Sara Lorenzini ([sara.lorenzini@unitn.it](mailto:sara.lorenzini@unitn.it)) and Umberto Tulli ([umberto.tulli@unitn.it](mailto:umberto.tulli@unitn.it)). Proposals should contain a short abstract of no more than 300 words and a short CV (max 3 pages). Travel and accommodation costs will be covered.

The workshop is organized within the Jean Monnet Project "DICE: Democracy in the Construction of Europe".