

# SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES IN A CHANGING SOCIETY

Call for proposals

**30th June 2021**

**GRANTING SCHEMES 2021. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

Fondazione  
**CARIPLO**

TUTE SERVARE MUNIFICE DONARE • 1816



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# Social and Human sciences in a changing society

## 1. PREMISE

“Social and Human sciences in a changing society” call falls under Fondazione Cariplo strategic aim: “Demographic challenges: experimenting new responses for a changing society”.

## 2. BACKGROUND

For quite some time now, Italy has been experiencing a structural process of demographic change. 2020 was the fourteenth consecutive year recording a decline of births with a natural balance of -342 thousand units. In parallel, life expectancy continued to increase, reaching the peak of 83.22<sup>1</sup> years in 2019. In parallel, the number of young adults living with parents has also increased. To date approximately 85.4% of Italian, aged between 16 and 29 years, live with their family<sup>2</sup>.

Within this framework, contributing to shape the natural complexity of population changes, we can include a multiplicity of mechanisms interacting with each other bi-univocally in a logic of action and reaction. The ways in which population changes over time, in fact, reflect everyday choices and wishes, but also postmodern anthropological paradigms as well as individual experiences and how these inform generation transitions. To complete the picture, we should also add the role played by ethnic identities, legal institutions, social stratifications, economic relations, and our ecosystem.

In this panorama, Italian experience represents a unique case study with valuable peculiarities and the potential to inform the academic debate at the international level, paving the way to the development of new reflections/discourses and models. Finally, it is important to underline that Italy

is not a homogeneous reality, but rather the combination of different contexts encompassing cities and rural areas, large metropolises, small towns, and inland areas. This picture, already complex, might be further complicated, and possibly even modified, by effects of the recent pandemic.

## 3. AIMS

With this call, Fondazione Cariplo supports studies grounded on demographic and statistical data that aim to accompany our changing society developing valuable reflections within the social and human sciences. In this sense, projects need to combine two key elements: the quantitative component embedded in the demographic data and the social, cultural, economic, political, regulatory, anthropological, territorial, and environmental factors that might contribute to shape our society. While the former represents a solid methodological ground for the research studies, the latter paves the way to in depth reflections over the variety of factors that can contribute to shape population characteristics in a precise moment.

The projects must include a research rationale based on the *state of the art* and the analysis of primary or secondary demographic data derived from other studies and publications. Attention will be paid to proposal originality and the adequacy of the match between methodological approach and research question[s]. Within this framework, Fondazione Cariplo recommends, where possible and meaningful, to integrate different and complementary (qualitative-quantitative) methods and approaches.

Proposals must clearly describe how they intend to contribute our understanding of ongoing

<sup>1</sup><http://dati.istat.it/index.aspx?queried=7283#> (last access 20/04/2021).

<sup>2</sup>[https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Young\\_people\\_-\\_social\\_inclusion#Living\\_with\\_parents](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Young_people_-_social_inclusion#Living_with_parents) (last access 20/04/2021).

demographic changes fostering the development of a more equal and sustainable society for people and our ecosystem. Although the call focuses on Italy, this does prevent the possibility of comparing different realities. In all cases, it is necessary to provide clear evidence of the impact of research results at national and/or local level.

In case of partnership between two or more institutions, it will be necessary to clarify the added value of each partner and how these complement the coordinator's competencies contributing to a unique project design.

In addition, projects must provide training and professional opportunities for young scholars/researchers.

Finally, embracing Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)<sup>3</sup> principles, with this call Fondazione Cariplo aims to promote initiatives fostering communication and interaction between researchers and civil society. Researchers must propose a communication plan inclusive and open to all stakeholders differently implicated in and by the study. Planned activities are meant to foster the development of a dual exchange of information between science and society. Ultimately, to encourage the transferability of research results into local policies, it is mandatory to include policy makers among the main targets of communication activities.

## 4. GUIDELINES

### 4.1 Eligible organizations

For the purpose of this call, we consider eligible any public or private non-profit organization conducting scientific research.

Participating this call, organizations accept the grant portability for all Principal Investigators (PIs) of all

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<sup>3</sup> The European movement on RRI is constantly evolving, as emerges from the debate that led to the so called "Rome declaration on RRI" ([https://ec.europa.eu/research/swafs/pdf/rome\\_declaration\\_RRI\\_final\\_21\\_November.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/swafs/pdf/rome_declaration_RRI_final_21_November.pdf)). Considering the available literature, it is possible to describe RRI as a dynamic and iterative process aimed to match research and innovation with society values, needs and expectations. Moreover, RRI aims to actively involve all the stakeholders differently implicated in research and innovation, and make them mutually responsible of each other and with regards to research process and results.

<sup>4</sup> For the matters of this call the term young researcher refers to graduates, doctoral students and postdocs under 35 years old, on the expiry date of the call.

the involved units (leading organizations and partners). Any change in the host institution needs to be approved by Fondazione Cariplo according to the "Guidelines for presentation" ("Guida alla presentazione dei progetti su bandi") and the "General criteria for granting contributions" ("Criteri generali per la concessione dei contributi").

### 4.2 Eligible projects

To be eligible, projects must:

- fall within the social research area;
- involve, train and empower young researchers<sup>4</sup>;
- promote gender equality in research careers.

Moreover, PIs of all the involved units (leading organizations and partners) must:

- propose no more than one proposal on this call<sup>5</sup>;
- can be involved as PI (of the leading organizations or partners) in other submissions addressed to any other Call launched by Fondazione Cariplo's Science and Research Area (except for Calls in partnership with other granting agencies) as long as the proposals are not overlapping<sup>6</sup>;
- have concluded all other project<sup>7</sup>, previously funded by Fondazione Cariplo Scientific Research Area (except for calls in partnership with other granting agencies).

It is mandatory for the leading organization/coordinator operational headquarter to fall within Cariplo Foundation's geographical area

<sup>5</sup> Should more than one proposal be received on this call, only the first received will be considered admissible. The criteria concern both the coordinator/principal investigator of the lead unit and the coordinator/principal investigator of any partner unit.

<sup>6</sup> In case a coordinator/principal investigator (leading or partner unit) participates to overlapping submissions, Fondazione Cariplo will only consider the project chronologically received earlier.

<sup>7</sup> A proposal is considered ongoing unless the final grant reports - both the scientific and the financial one - have been uploaded on our website. Please note these documents must be uploaded before the expiry date of this call.

of intervention. This requirement does not refer to partners.

Proposal's total cost includes exclusively additional costs<sup>8</sup> and overheads according to the eligibility criteria and the thresholds indicated below:

- A03 - "Equipment and software". This entry should not exceed the threshold of 20% of additional cost. It covers the costs for newly acquired equipment and software. All costs must be clearly motivated in relation to project needs. A03 include renting costs as well as building work expenses aimed to allow new equipment installation.
- A06 - "Temporary staff". This entry is dedicated to cover research personnel costs. Please note that costs for administrative staff are not allowed.
- A07 - "Sub-contractors and consultants"<sup>9</sup>.
- A08 - "Materials and supplies". This entry cannot include costs related to office supplies and photocopies.
- A09 - "Overheads". This entry cannot exceed the threshold of 5% of additional costs.
- A10 - "Travel, publication and dissemination costs". This entry cannot exceed the threshold of 20% of additional costs. A10 is dedicated to cover research personnel's travel expenses and conference fees, scientific publications and all communication activities.

Awarded grants cover 100% of project costs, meaning that the grant requested corresponds to the proposal total costs. Requested funding should range from 100,000 to 200,000 euros.

Proposals should provide the following mandatory documents:

- Letter of agreement<sup>10</sup> ;
- Partnership agreement<sup>11</sup>;
- Project Form<sup>12</sup>, PDF format;
- Project Communication plan<sup>13</sup> Form, PDF format;
- Budget Form, Excel format;
- Authorization for the Transfer of Personal Data to extra-European countries<sup>14</sup>.

With the participation to this call, organizations acknowledge, agree and irrevocable accept "Intellectual property rights policy", "Open access policy" and "Acknowledgement guidelines for academic papers". Please note that these documents are available online to be downloaded.

#### 4.3 Criteria

Proposals' evaluation will be performed as indicated in "Guida alla presentazione dei progetti su bandi". Projects final score will be calculated according to the following criteria:

##### 1. EXPOSITION (weight 10%)

- critical discussion of the *state of art* and positioning of the proposal within the academic debate;
- clear representation of the relevant demographic framework;
- aims and strategies' adequacy.

##### 2. APPROACH (weight 20%)

- clear project design and good match with the project's aims;
- adequacy of strategies and methodologies with regards to project research question[s];

<sup>8</sup> Sum of: A03, A04, A06, A07, A08, A10. In other words, the total project cost excluding A09.

<sup>9</sup> This expense item also includes any costs for the certification of the qualified professional registered in the Register of Statutory Auditors. For the purpose of the calculation aimed at ascertaining whether or not there is an obligation to acquire the report of the qualified professional registered in the Register of Statutory Auditors (audit), it is specified that the threshold should be calculated by multiplying the costs included in the Plan Economic (sum of items A06, A07, A08, A09 and A10) with the coefficient 1.25. It is also recommended to refer to the "Reporting Guide"

and the "Guidelines for awarding the audit assignment"; both documents are available on the website. It should be noted that in case of funded projects, Fondazione Cariplo will confirm to individual beneficiaries any specific obligation.

<sup>10</sup>Letter of agreement should be filled in according to the available online format.

<sup>11</sup>To be provided exclusively in case the project involves partner. Please note that Partner agreement form is available online.

<sup>12</sup> Project form is available online.

<sup>13</sup> Communication plan form is available online.

<sup>14</sup> Authorization form is available online website.

- well integration of the quali-quantitative methods;
- multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach designed to facilitate in depth reflection on social, cultural, economic, political, regulatory, anthropological, territorial and environmental factors and how these contribute to determine population characteristics in a given time.

### 3. ORIGINALITY/INNOVATION (weight 15%)

- relevant contribution to the development of the state of art.

### 4. IMPACT (weight 20%)

- clear discussion of project impact and how this represents a progress toward social and ecosystem sustainability;
- project's ability to anticipate specific social, economic, and cultural needs at the national and/or local level;
- development of new networks or enrichment of existing ones.

### 5. PROJECT COORDINATOR, TEAM AND ENVIRONMENT (weight 10%)

- track record and adequacy of the PI and of all team members' competencies (leading organization and partner);
- PIs' scientific and managerial leadership;
- well integration of the team within the national and international research context;
- synergic integration of competencies and knowhow of the different institutions;
- presence of adequate equipment (software etc) in relation to the project's dimension and typology.

### 6. YOUNG RESEARCHERS (weight 5%)

- engagement of young researchers in roles of responsibility;
- training programs for young researchers.

### 7. GENDER EQUALITY (weight 5%)

- adequate promotion of gender equality in research career.

### 8. COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION (peso 5%)

- consistency of the dissemination plan with the "Communication guidelines" and with Responsible Research and Innovation principles;
- appropriate involvement of policy makers as recipients of communication activities.

### 9. BUDGET AND DURATION (10%)

- budget suitability and coherence with the project timeline. whether present the evaluation of partners and subcontractors' contribution should be assessed here.

Submissions will be evaluated by three independent reviewers. Cariplo Foundation will, exclusively, evaluate budget coherence and Communication plan quality.

#### 4.4 Non eligible projects

Proposals will be considered non-eligible in case they are not in line with "4.2 Eligible projects" and/or fall in any of the following categories:

- projects purely descriptive;
- projects aimed to set up new research centers, and/or laboratories, and/or animal facilities;
- projects without clear social implications.

#### 4.5 Submission process

The deadline for proposals' submission is fixed at 5 pm on **30 June 2021**.

### 5. AVAILABLE BUDGET, ELIGIBLE AND NON ELIGIBLE COSTS

The budget available for this call is 2 million Euros.

Please note that eligible and non-eligible costs are detailed in section "4.2 Eligible projects".

### 6. COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Cariplo Foundation, as a private entity, has full power to decide on the allocation of the budget. The text of the call and all the necessary documents are available at Cariplo Foundation website: [www.fondazionecariplo.it](http://www.fondazionecariplo.it)

## 7. SUMMARY\*

Call	Social and Human Sciences
Type of call	Call with deadline
Deadline	30th June 2021
Budget	€ 2.000.000
Aims	Promote projects that, starting from a solid base of demographic and statistical data, develop social and humanistic reflections to accompany our changing society
Target	Public or private non-profit organizations that carry out scientific research
Grant request limits	Grant requests range between € 100.000 and € 200.000
Contacts	Scientific Research Area Staff contact available at: <a href="http://www.fondazionecriplo.it">www.fondazionecriplo.it</a>

*\* The data in the "Summary" are a snapshot of the key elements of this Call. Please read carefully the full text of the Call for all details.*