



**INSPR.EU**

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORK  
FOR SOCIAL PROTEST RESEARCH

---

**Change, Resistance, and Collective Action in Southern Italy  
A Multidisciplinary Symposium**

University of Kent  
4<sup>th</sup> September  
Keynes College, KLT4

---

**Programme**





## **Change, Resistance, and Collective Action in Southern Italy**

This symposium reopens the debate on the Italian ‘Southern Question’ through a variety of multidisciplinary perspectives. Challenging conventional narratives of the retrograde South in opposition to the ‘civic’ North (Schneider, 1992), this symposium is the first to foreground the Mezzogiorno as an important arena for defining processes of cultural signification both at the national and transnational level.

This approach sheds new light on the Southern Italian regions as areas where dynamics of change, resistance, and collective action are constantly at play. It brings together for the first time a wide-ranging set of contributions from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and perspectives including postcolonial studies, social psychology, sociology, history, politics and medicine. The cross-disciplinary angle places Italy’s ‘Southern Question’ at the intersection of a number of situated historicities that consider traditional cultural essentialisms alongside contemporary marginal and subversive discourses.

By establishing a productive dialogue between past and present, this symposium will posit the South of Italy as a paradigmatic example of how potential dynamics of collective actions can promote a better understanding of the social, cultural and political disparities affecting subaltern societies.

# Schedule

---

Presentations will last 20 minutes each. After all presentations there will be a discussion amongst the panel and audience. All rooms are equipped with audio-visual tools which will be available to use.

| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September, 2015 |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <i>Event</i>                           | <i>Time</i>        |
| Registration                           | 9.00-9.30          |
| <b>Panel I</b>                         | <b>9.30-11.00</b>  |
| Coffee                                 | 11.00-11.30        |
| <b>Panel II</b>                        | <b>11.30-13.00</b> |
| Lunch                                  | 13.00-14.00        |
| <b>Panel III</b>                       | <b>14.00-15.00</b> |
| Coffee                                 | 15.00-15.30        |
| <b>Final Conclusions for the day</b>   | <b>15.30-16.30</b> |
| Wine Reception                         | 16.30-17.00        |

---

## Fees

Attendees £10

Postgraduate Students £5

**Panel 1**  
**9.30-11.00**

---

**Divisions New and Old? Re-interrogating the Southern Question**

*Professor James Newell* (University of Salford): 'To What Extent is There Still a Southern Question in Italy?'

*Professor John A. Davis* (University of Connecticut): 'Beyond the "Passive Revolution" – Re-reading Gramsci on the Southern Question'

*Professor Iain Chambers* (Università L'Orientale): 'The Southern Question.... Again?'

---

**Panel 2**  
**11.30-13.00**

**Silence, Grey Areas and Black Holes: Criminal Organisations in the South**

*Dr Felia Allum* (University of Bath): 'Enablers, Sponsors and Helpers: The Hidden Face of Italian Mafias'

*Dr Giovanni A. Travaglino* (University of Kent): 'Culture, Passivity, and Resistance: Towards a Social Psychology of Omertà'

*Dr Maria Ridda* (University of Kent): 'The City of the Dead: Naples, Criminality and the South'

**Panel 3**  
**14.00-15.00**

---

**Panel 3: A State Based on Work (and Health)? The South in Toil and Sickness**

*Professor Victoria Goddard* (Goldsmiths University): ‘Gender, Generation and Enduring Precarities in the Global South’

*Dr Saverio Stranges* (Luxembourg Institute of Health): ‘Italy’s Southern Question: Impact on Health Outcomes and Wellbeing, a Public Health Perspective’

---

**Conclusions**  
**15.30-16.30**

*All Speakers*: Questions and Final Conclusions for the Day

# Travelling University of Kent Campus Map

---



Dashed Line: Keynes College (Symposium)

Dotted Line: Central University Bus Stop (Keynes College)

## Sponsors

---

This conference is sponsored by the **International Society of Political Psychology** (<http://www.ispp.org/>) and the **Interdisciplinary Network for Social Protest Research** ([www.inspr.eu](http://www.inspr.eu))



---

## Organising Committee

**Giovanni A. Travaglino**, School of Psychology, University of Kent  
[g.a.travaglino@kent.ac.uk](mailto:g.a.travaglino@kent.ac.uk)

**Maria Ridda**, School of English, University of Kent  
[m.ridda@kent.ac.uk](mailto:m.ridda@kent.ac.uk)

**Benjamin Abrams**, Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge  
[ba289@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ba289@cam.ac.uk)

## Video & Photography

**Dominic Sandiford**  
[d.j.sandiford@kent.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.sandiford@kent.ac.uk)

Special Thanks to the members of the **Centre for the Study of Group Processes**  
(<http://grouplab.wordpress.com/>)



# **CONTENTION**

THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PROTEST

[www.contentionjournal.org](http://www.contentionjournal.org)

[info@contentionjournal.org](mailto:info@contentionjournal.org)

**Contention promotes interdisciplinary integration and cooperation among different fields and areas. The journal is peer-reviewed and open access, and is published in print and online.**

**Contention publishes research about a comprehensive range of collective actions, social movements and other forms of political and social contention. Contention considers research articles with novel findings, critical review articles, theoretical essays and book reviews.**

**The journal accepts the challenge brought about by multidisciplinary cross-fertilisation and aspires to expand the community of academics working on interdisciplinary issues.**

