



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
DIPARTIMENTO DI
SOCIOLOGIA E DIRITTO DELL'ECONOMIA

8th Annual Meeting of the European Network of Multi-locality Studies

November 23 – 24, 2023

**Hosted by the Department of Sociology and Business Law
Palazzo Hercolani, Strada Maggiore, 45 Bologna, Italy**

Call for Papers

Multi-locality and mobilities over the life course

Multi-locality is a more common phenomenon than we may think. The share of inhabitants who regularly live in more than one residence is estimated to be over 10% in several countries (e.g. French INSEE-survey 'Family and dwellings' 2011, Leal 2006, Allen et al. 2004, Casado-Diaz 2004). It is a lived experience of a significant part of the world's population and subject to changes over the life course. Additionally, international or transnational migration, multi-local living and its reoccurring mobilities challenge our ideas of family ties, local cohesion, and (des-) integration.

With this call for papers we focus on multi-locality and connected mobilities as well as their changeable nature over the life course. By employing a multi-locality perspective we aim to explore patterns of living in more than one place and mobilities as well as establishing and maintaining social relationships in and across different places. Adding a life course approach situates multi-local living in a temporal perspective and helps to understand its trajectories and conditions as well as the various linkages between social order, social change and individual actions (Carpentier/White 2013, Gherghel 2013, Bessin 2009, Grossetti 2006, Lalive di Epinay et al. 2005). It allows to develop an understanding of "[...] the complexity of social life by taking into account temporality, socio-historical context, structural constraints and the capacities for action (agency) of social actors in a situation of interdependence" (Carpentier, White 2013: 279, our transl.). Both multi-locality studies and the life course approach address micro, meso and macro level since the issue of residence has implications beyond the individual and family sphere. In what way do decisions to leave a region and to settle in another place or the repartition of one's presence on several locations influence the development of these regions by increasing or declining its population, its creative potential, its tax base, its purchasing power, levels of the implication in civic engagement and even the creation of jobs in administration and private enterprises? It also poses the challenging question of spatial disparities and which territories will have the capability to attract people (Florida 2012, McCann 2007) as well as questions of power relations and spatial justices (Soja 2010).

Opening up towards new frontiers of multi-locality and mobility studies, this CfP additionally addresses environmental sustainability of multi-local and mobility practices as a central issue yet rarely discussed in depth. What is the impact of multi-locality and

mobilities on the environment and what is the impact of the environment (and its formal and informal regulations) on mobilities and the life course?

In connecting multi-locality studies with a life course approach, we invite papers addressing the above-mentioned aspects. Proposals may present theoretical or methodological reflections, empirical research results or case studies on specific social groups.

Submission of abstracts (max 500 words): August 31, 2023

Feedback on proposals: September 15, 2023

Please send questions and abstracts to:

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Accepted authors are warmly invited to send a long abstract two weeks prior to the meeting.

This conference is organised by the European Network of Multi-locality Studies in cooperation with CIDOSPEL (Centro Internazionale di Documentazione e Studi Sociologici sui Problemi del Lavoro) <https://centri.unibo.it/cidospel/it>



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