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European Research Council



CODEC
Consequences of
Demographic Change



Call for Conference Papers on The Transition to Adulthood after the Great Recession To be presented on October 25-27, 2012, Bocconi University, Milano

The Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood (<http://www.transitions2adulthood.com/>) and the Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics at Bocconi University announce a call for papers that contribute to our understanding of how the Great Recession has affected the Transition to Adulthood in industrialized countries. In many countries, family incomes, housing values and other wealth holdings have fallen, unemployment rates have been high, and economic growth has been slow. In many countries, young adults have experienced greater hardships on average than mature and older adults. However, there is substantial heterogeneity in the experience of young adults, as those with affluent parents often have access to resources that can buffer them from negative economic shocks. There is also heterogeneity in the way young adults experience these shocks across countries.

We are interested in papers from a range of disciplines that help us better understand how economic shocks and government policy responses have affected the economic, social and psychological well-being of young adults (ages 18-34) and their relationships with their parents. Papers can examine how recessions have affected various markers of the transition to adulthood, including educational attainment; independent living, marriage and cohabitation; economic self-sufficiency; and childbearing. Papers may focus on a single country or may take a comparative perspective; they may use quantitative, qualitative or mixed research methods.

The goal of the conference is to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines to advance research on the transition to adulthood and to facilitate future collaborations. It is possible that some of the conference papers will be submitted for a special issue of a journal or collected for a conference volume.

How to apply: Please send a 2-3 page extended abstract describing the project, including a description of the theoretical framing, the data and methods, and expected or preliminary findings. Also include CVs for all authors. All submissions will be reviewed by the conference organizers, Frank Furstenberg, Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania, and Chair of the Research Network on Transitions to adulthood, Sheldon Danziger, H. J. Meyer Distinguished University Professor of Public Policy and Director, National Poverty Center, University of Michigan, and Arnstein Aassve, Associate Professor of Demography at Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management and vice director of the Dondena Centre at Bocconi University.

Deadlines: Applications must be submitted in PDF format to Ms. Patricia Miller: pmiller@pop.upenn.edu no later than May 15, 2012. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by June 15, 2012. Conference papers will be due no later than October 1, 2012.

Funding: Limited funding is available to cover travel and lodging expenses. If you do not have other sources of funding, please include in your application a request for funding.