

Call for Papers:

Europe in Movement(s)

Genoa 2001 and Transnational Mobilisations in Historical Perspective

The Italian-German Historical Institute of the Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK) is organising a conference on **19-20 November 2026** entitled **Europe in Movement(s). Genoa 2001 and Transnational Mobilisations in Historical Perspective**.

The G8 summit in Genoa (19-22 July 2001) is often described as the high point of the international mobilisation against neoliberal globalisation and, at the same time, as a watershed in the history of social movements in Europe. The protests, the death of Carlo Giuliani, the violence and torture later recognised by the European Court of Human Rights, as well as the long legal proceedings, have made Genoa a crucial laboratory for understanding relations between movements, states, and supranational bodies at the dawn of the twenty-first century. At the same time, scholarship on the Global Justice Movement and the alter-globalisation movement has highlighted the transnational and strongly European character of this cycle of protest: networks such as the Association for the Taxation of Financial Transactions and for Citizens' Action (Attac), the Genoa Social Forum, the Indymedia networks, and the World and European Social Forums redefined democratic practices, organisational forms, and political imaginaries that continued to circulate well beyond 2001 and fuelled subsequent mobilisations against war, against austerity, for the climate, and for the rights of migrants.

The conference, which will take place in Trento on **19-20 November 2026**, is aimed at scholars from different disciplinary fields who address the proposed themes from a historical perspective, and it seeks to:

- Place Genoa within a comparative European historical perspective over the medium to long term, analysing continuities and discontinuities with other national contexts (France, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, Central and Eastern Europe, etc.) and with the institutions of the European Union, including security and control policies.
- Critically reflect on Genoa 2001 as a periodising event, questioning the hypothesis that it represents the end of a cycle of the global justice movement or, rather, the beginning of its transformation.
- Bring history, the social sciences, law, media studies, and memory studies into dialogue in order to understand Genoa's legacy in subsequent mobilisations (anti-war movements, anti-austerity movements, climate movements, and movements for migrants' rights) and in more recent transformations of political cultures in Europe.

Conference themes

The scientific committee invites submissions that, from different disciplinary and methodological perspectives, address one or more of the following areas (indicative).

Cycles of protest, scales, and geographies

- Periodisations of the global justice movement and subsequent cycles (from the social forum cycle to anti-austerity mobilisations, Occupy, climate movements, and migrants' rights).
- Genoa as a climax, rupture, or turning point in relation to other "places-as-events" (Seattle, Prague, Gothenburg, Florence, Chiapas, Porto Alegre, etc.).

- Comparisons between national and supranational contexts (France, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the EU's external borders).
- North-South relations and the circulation of repertoires of action, knowledge, and imaginaries between Europe and the Global South, from postcolonial and decolonial perspectives.

State, law, and security

- The state, policing, and the criminalisation of dissent; changes in the ways protests are managed and repressed (urban space, borders, mega-events).
- Italian legal proceedings and ECHR judgments within the framework of European and international law, and their effects on repressive practices, rights, and public memory.
- Digital surveillance and the use of technologies (AI, biometrics, platforms) in the control of protests.
- Relations between social movements and political parties, populisms and transformations of party systems, as well as sovereigntist appropriations of critiques of globalisation.

Subjectivities, media, and memories of conflict

- Transnational organisations and networks (Attac, trade unions, NGOs, feminist and LGBTQIA+ collectives, social centres, Catholic-social networks, Greens, post-workerist groups, etc.), their political cultures and hybridisations; movement ecologies and the material and digital infrastructures of mobilisation (squatted and self-managed spaces, logistics networks, online platforms).
- Activist biographies, processes of political socialisation, and forms of grassroots cosmopolitanism; precarious young people, students, migrant workers, and new political subjectivities; gender dimensions in collective action practices and in organisational and media cultures.
- Activist generations, emotions, and political trauma: the "Genoa generation" in relation to the generations of Occupy, contemporary movements, and Fridays for Future, also with regard to processes of constructing biographical and collective memory.
- Independent media, Indymedia, and citizen journalism practices in the production of archives and counter-narratives; images, sounds, films, and digital memories of mobilisations; forms of data activism and open source; memories, sites, and heritages of conflict (Genoa as a protest "place-as-event" of global mobilisation, tensions between institutionalisation/musealisation and antagonistic memories, comparisons with other European and global contexts).

Keynote speakers

Donatella Della Porta (Scuola Normale Superiore)

Ilaria Favretto (Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies, School of Advanced Study, University of London/Kingston University)

Submission guidelines

Interested scholars are invited to submit:

- An abstract (maximum 400-500 words, in English or Italian) including:
 - title of the paper;
 - research question and theoretical framework;
 - sources and methodology;
 - main expected results.
- A short CV (max. 2 pages) including institutional affiliation, main relevant publications, and email address.

The application, complete with all required documentation, must be sent in pdf format by email (standard or certified) to the following address:

europemovements@fbk.eu

by 12:00 (noon) CET on 2 March 2026.

Conference grants

A total of **9 conference grants** will be awarded.

Each grant will be paid in a single instalment, **up to a maximum of €300**, as reimbursement to cover documented travel and accommodation expenses. Meals (the conference dinner on 19 November 2026) will be covered by the institute hosting the conference.

Where possible, the Foundation reserves the right to increase the number of grants during the same period and for the same purpose, with the aim of supporting and recognising a greater number of deserving proposals.

Selection and publication

Proposals will be evaluated by the scientific committee on the basis of:

- Relevance and scholarly quality of the proposal, taking into account the originality of the contribution and its potential impact on the academic community.
- Academic and professional background, with particular reference to research experience, publications, and institutional affiliations.

The outcome of the selection will be communicated by **mid-March 2026**.

Those whose proposals are accepted must confirm their acceptance or withdrawal within **7 working days** of receiving the acceptance notification.

Selected contributions will be considered for publication in an edited volume (in English and/or Italian) to be published in one of the two peer-reviewed series of the Italian-German Historical Institute (FBK): *Quaderni* (Viella) or *Studies in Early Modern and Contemporary European History* (De Gruyter). Selected participants commit to submitting a draft by **26 October 2026** and the final text by **February 2027**.

Languages for both the conference and the contributions: Italian and English.

Scientific committee

Donatella Della Porta (Scuola Normale Superiore); Cecilia Nubola (FBK – Italian-German Historical Institute); Giulio Taccetti (University of Turin).

For any further information, please write to: europemovements@fbk.eu

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Trento, 28 gennaio 2026