

<p style="text-align: center;">DIPARTIMENTO DI PSICOLOGIA DEI PROCESSI DI SVILUPPO E SOCIALIZZAZIONE</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA</p>	<p>International Thematic Workshop</p> <p><i>Migration studies and inclusive policies from social, developmental and educational perspective</i></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><small>MIGRATION DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVE STRATEGIES</small></p>
<p>Rome (Italy), 21st – 23rd September 2020</p>		

Invited Lecturer Form

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Short Profile (100 words) to be published in the on-line Proceedings

	<p>Alessia Rochira is Assistant Researcher in Social Psychology at the University of Salento. She holds a PhD in Community Psychology from the University of Salento (2010) and the European PhD in Social Representations and Communication from La Sapienza University of Rome (2014). In 2018, she obtained the National Scientific Qualification to function as associate professor in Italian Universities. She Board member of the EICAP - European Institute of Cultural Analysis for Policy. Her research interests cover the analysis of the psychosocial processes related to migration and acculturation, community resilience, sense of community and respect for diversity within territorial communities.</p> <p>e-mail: alessia.rochira@unisalento.it</p>
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**We are in the same boat! Immigration within and towards Europe:
a longstanding variable phenomenon between factual elements, social representations
and media discourse**

Alessia Rochira, University of Salento, Italy
<https://www.unisalento.it/scheda-utente/-/people/alessia.rochira>

Migration within and towards Europe is not a new phenomenon but, above all in the last two decades, it has gained progressively much attention in the scientific, public and policy arenas. The increasing concern towards migration has gone hand in hand with a variety of studies that have attempted to account for the multifaceted migration-related topics. Among them, in line with an ecological perspective that delineates how the person-environment interaction molds people experience, this contribution mainly focuses on the responses that migration elicits by the side of the receiving societies compelled to confront themselves with the growing diversity of their communities. In particular, this contribution seeks to understand the changes provoked by the immigrant



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settlements in the cultural, social and psychological configuration of the communities that, willingly or unwillingly, become their homes. At the same time, given the bidirectional and interactional process of mutual accommodation engendered by ethno-cultural contacts, it also explores how immigrants form and transform their communities due to the experience of migration and the exchanges with the members of the territories that receive them. Overall, this piece tries to reckon the complexity of the reality of migration and contends that the study of these topics would benefit from taking into account different levels of analysis. In specifics, it maintains that the genetic articulation of the three levels through which social representations are created – e.g., microgenetic, ontogenetic, and sociogenetic levels – can offer a means for expanding the understanding of the challenges associated to the human activity of migration. Among other things, given that multiculturalism has become a fact of life, a key concern is whether the increase of ethnic diversity threatens the similarity assumption that feeds the *sense of we* underlying the feeling of belongingness to oneself community, to be exact sense of community. In this essay, the community-diversity dialectic, that currently represents a substantial subject of debate among community psychology practitioners and scholars, is presented to exemplify how the genetic perspective allows for the appreciation of the functioning of multicultural communities throughout diverse systems. Examples from previous national and cross-national studies exploring the experience of multicultural contacts within small and large territorial communities are presented to account for the micro level processes, namely the everyday interactions (i.e., microgenesis) and the subjective perception (i.e., ontogenesis), through which sense of community and sense of diversity are formed and transformed. Further, a segment of the research results drawn from the Re.Cri.Re. project (www.recrire.eu), a three years research programme funded by the EU, are illustrated to account for the macro-social drives that mold the experience of the transformation of communities. Along with the notion of culture as conceptualized by the Semiotic Cultural Psychology Theory, the investigation of the public discourse on immigration, as transmitted by national press across different European countries, offers valuable data to reflect on the way the representations of immigration are produced and maintained in European societies as a basis for the formation of selves (e.g. sense of community) and others (sense of diversity).

List of publications related to the key lecture (APA format): please add the link to download the texts or kindly send us the Pdf of the list of readings to be consulted by the selected participants

- Rochira, A., Salvatore, S., Veltri, G.A., Redd, R.R., Lancia, F. (2020). Theory and Method for the Analysis of Social Representations. In T. Mannarini, G.A. Veltri, S. Salvatore, (Eds.), *Media and the Social Representations of Otherness* (pp.17-38). Springer. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-36099-3_2
- Rochira, A., Avdi, E., Kadianaki, I., Pop, A., Redd, R.R., Sammut, G., Suerdem, A. (2020). Immigration. In T. Mannarini, G.A. Veltri, S. Salvatore, (Eds.), *Media and the Social Representations of Otherness* (pp.39-59). Springer. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-36099-3_3
- Fedi, A., Mannarini, T., Brodsky, A.E., Rochira, A., Buckingham, S., Emery, L., Godsay, S., Scheibler, J., Miglietta, A., & Gattino, S. (2019). Acculturation in the discourse of immigrants and receiving community members. Results from a cross-national qualitative study. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 89(1), 1-15. doi: 10.1037/ort0000325
- Rochira, A. (2018). What is the role of sense of community in multiracial societies? A contribution to the community-diversity dialectic: A genetic psychology approach. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 46(8), 972-982. doi: 10.1002/jcop.21985
- Salvatore, S., Mannarini, T., Avdi, E., Battaglia, F., Cremaschi, M., Forges Davanzati, G., Fini, V., Kadianaki, I., Krasteva, A., Kullasepp, K., Matsopoulos, A., Mølholm, M., Redd, R., Rochira, A., Russo, F., Santarpià, A., Sammut, G., Valmorbida, A., Veltri, G. A. (2018). Globalization, demand of sense and enemization of the other. A psycho-cultural analysis of European societies' socio-political crisis. *Culture & Psychology*, 25(3), 345-374. doi: 10.1177/1354067X18779056
- Buckingham, S., Brodsky, A.E., Rochira, A., Fedi, A., Mannarini, T., Emery, L., Godsay, S., Miglietta, A., Gattino, S. (2018). Shared communities: A multinational qualitative study of immigrant and receiving community members. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 62, 23-40. doi: 10.1002/ajcp.12255
- Salvatore, S., Fini, V., Mannarini, T., Veltri, G.A., Avdi, E., Battaglia, F., Castro-Tejerina, J., Ciavolino, E.,



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Cremaschi, M., Kadianaki, I., Kharlamov, N.A., Krasteva, A., Kullasepp, K., Matsopoulos, A., Meschiari, C., Mossi, P., Psinas, P., Redd, R., Rochira, A., Santarpià, A., Sammut, G., Valsiner, J., Valmorbidà, A. (2018). Symbolic universes between present and future of Europe. First results of the map of European societies' cultural milieu. PLoS ONE, 13(1): e0189885. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0189885>

Mannarini, T., Talò, C., Rochira, A. (2016). How diverse is this community? Sense of community, ethnic prejudice and perceived ethnic heterogeneity. Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology, 27(3), 181-195. doi: 10.1002/casp.2295

Rochira, A., Fasanelli, R., Liguori A. (2015). Same people, different images. The social representations of migrants in a local community. Community Psychology in Global Perspective, 1(2), pp. 96-122. doi: 10.1285/i24212113v1i2p96

Rochira, A. (2014). "We are in the same boat". The dialogue between identification and disidentification underlying individual and group positioning. Culture & Psychology, 20(3), pp. 375-386. doi: 10.1177/1354067X14542530