

premio Valeria Solesin



Forum della Meritocrazia
with the support of the Solesin family, announce the 9th annual

VALERIA SOLESIN AWARD

The Valeria Solesin Award, now in its 9th edition, aims to promote reflections on women's participation in society. It is through the remembrance of Valeria Solesin's studies and analyses that the initiative proposes a platform for solid, intergenerational dialogue on equal opportunities and gender issues in Italy and across the world. Thanks to the research projects selected by the Award, the Meritocracy Forum and the various civil society, academic and business players involved develop insights and good practices to share with companies and organisations on how to promote equal opportunities and gender equality, a sustainable goal of the 2030 Agenda.

This year the Award will distribute cash awards worth a total **31,200 euros** thanks to renewed support from companies, associations and institutions, as well as new entities that have decided to join for this 9th Edition: **State Street, MM, A&A – Albè e Associati Studio Legale, Suzuki, TRT Trasporti e Territorio, Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento, Associazione Italiana per gli Studi di Popolazione - sezione della Società Italiana di Statistica, FiberCop, SAS, TIM, A-Tono, Winning Women Institute and Sanofi.**

To honour the memory of Valeria Solesin, an Italian researcher at the Sorbonne in Paris who tragically lost her life on 13 November 2015 in the attack on the Bataclan theatre, this award is given to the best research papers in:

“Female talent as a determining factor for the development of the economy, ethics and meritocracy in Italy.”

It is inspired by Valeria's studies into women's dual roles at home and at work and other fields of study that demonstrate how improvements in women's employment are a resource for socio-economic development: they boost GDP, increase the birth rate, reduce the risk of poverty for the elderly and the young, expand demand for services, generate tax revenue and create new opportunities for business growth and innovation. By way of example, the properly balanced presence of women in organisations has been shown to have positive effects on profits, while reducing the average age and raising the level of education of board members.

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Sostenitori



REGULATIONS

The award is for research papers that best address these issues, specifically those providing an in-depth labour market analysis focused on gender from a **socio-economic, demographic-statistical and legal perspective**. The papers should focus on the factors that prevent more women from joining the labour market (lack of services to support care work, insufficient demand for labour, unequal treatment and cultural stereotypes) and discrimination, while also exploring the virtuous work/life balance policies and practices introduced by public institutions and companies in Italy or internationally to encourage a labour model that includes, champions and values women's careers, all the way up to the top. We particularly encourage the submission of dissertations that address:

- the importance of gender in STEM fields (*Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics*), in the **innovative fields of scientific and technological research and the digital economy** and, more generally, the presence of women in historically male-dominated industries, with respect to both post-secondary education and the various economic sectors;
- the **inclusion of migrant women in society and the labour market**;
- the **certification of gender equality**.

ART.1

The call for papers for the Valeria Solesin Award is open to students who have defended a thesis for a **master's degree** at any Italian university. They must have obtained their degree by 31/07/2025 in one of the following subjects: **Economics, Sociology, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Education, Engineering, Data Science, Demography and Statistics**.

ART.2

The application and documentation must be sent via e-mail to the following address: premiovaleriasolesin@gmail.com.

Applications may be submitted starting **22/05/2025** and the deadline is **31/07/2025**. No application received after the deadline will be considered. The subject line of the e-mail must include **"VALERIA SOLESIN AWARD - Candidate's name and surname"**.

ART.3

The application must be prepared using the form in attachment A and contain:

- the candidate's personal information and tax code
- permanent and (if applicable) temporary address and telephone number
- personal data processing consent form
- consent form for the public consultation of the dissertation
- statement of acceptance of the rules of this call for papers.

Attached to their application, candidates must send:

- a copy of a valid identity document
- a copy of their degree certificate issued by the university's administration office
- their CV
- the electronic version of their dissertation in English or Italian
- a summary of the results of the dissertation in the form of an **abstract**. This document must start with the dissertation title and the applicant's name, and must be sent as a Word document (not pdf), in Times New Roman, font size 12 for the text and 10 for the footnotes. It may not exceed 5,000 characters, including spaces, and it may be written in English or Italian. The name of the document must be: Abstract_Name Surname
- a **brief statement** justifying the dissertation's relevance to the study of the socio-economic impact of female representation and talent in the workplace. The letter must start with the dissertation title and the applicant's name, and be sent as a Word document (not pdf), in Times New Roman, font size 12 for the text and 10 for the

footnotes. It may not exceed 2,500 characters, including spaces, and it may be written in English or Italian. The name of the document must be: Motivation_Name Surname.

ART.4

Only dissertations defended after 01/01/2023 will be accepted.

Incomplete applications and/or applications submitted using templates that differ from the template attached hereto and/or applications sent after the deadline are not eligible.

Applications with dissertations defended abroad with a foreign degree not corresponding to the Italian master's degree as assessed by the Award's Scientific Committee will be excluded from the competition.

Those who have already applied for the award in previous editions and were not selected may apply again for up to a total of two times (no one may participate in more than two editions), provided that they meet all the conditions set out in these rules regarding when they defended their dissertation, the fields of study and the procedure to be followed.

ART.5

The award will be given at the indisputable judgement of an assessment committee comprised of the Scientific Committee with the support of the Valeria Solesin Award Advisory Board.

The dissertations will be assessed on the basis of content with respect to: a) their relevance to the topics of the call, b) originality and c) scientific rigour.

University marks will only be considered if two or more dissertations are founded to be equally deserving. In case of a tie between the dissertation assessment score and graduation marks, priority will be given based on the order of submission of the applications.

ART.6

The Scientific Committee consists of university professors specialised in the subjects listed in Article 1. The Advisory Board consists of representatives of the sponsor organisations and professionals in the private sector. The assessment committee reserves the right to not assign the award in the event of an insufficient number of applications (fewer than nine) and/or if the dissertations are found to be of poor quality or irrelevant to the topics indicated. The committee's naming and selection process is confidential and its decision is indisputable, unappealable and binding.

ART. 7

The value of the awards is detailed in the table below:

AWARDS	SUPPORTERS	VALUE (EURO)
1	State Street	4,500
2	MM	2,700
3	A&A – Albè e Associati Studio Legale	2,000
4	Suzuki	2,000
5	Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento	1,000
6	TRT Trasporti e Territorio	1,000
Special Award Focus on population studies**	Italian Association for Population Studies - Italian Statistical Society section	500
Special Award Focus on STEM**	FiberCop	6,300
Special Award Focus on STEM**	SAS	3,000
Special Award Focus on STEM**	TIM	3,000
Special Award Focus on STEM**	A-Tono	1,500
Special Award Focus on Gender Equality Certification***	Winning Women Institute	1,000
Special Award "Focus on the Inclusion of Migrant Women"****	Sanofi	2,700

The list of cash awards given here may change if other entities decide to take part in the initiative as supporters.

* As for the "Population Studies" Special Award, this award refers only to dissertations written on the theme of the call that address demography-related issues. If there are no dissertations with a demography-related subject and/or if they are judged to be of poor quality by the scientific committee, this award will be included in the list of cash awards above following the overall ranking.

** With regard to the "Focus on STEM" Special Award, it refers only to dissertations that deal with STEM (*Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*) subjects written in line with the theme of the call. If there are no dissertations with a STEM subject and/or if the STEM work is judged to be of poor quality by the scientific committee, this award will be included in the list of cash awards above following the overall ranking.

*** As for the "Focus on Gender Equality Certification" Special Award, it refers only to dissertations written on the theme of the call that address the topic of Gender Certification. If there are no dissertations on Gender Certification and/or if the work in this field is judged to be of poor quality by the scientific committee, this award will be included in the list of cash awards above following the overall ranking.

**** As for the Special Award "Focus on the Inclusion of Migrant Women", it only refers to dissertations that address the inclusion of migrant women in society and in the labour market in line with the main theme of the call. If there are no dissertations with this focus and/or if the work in this field is judged to be of poor quality by the scientific committee, this award will be included in the list of cash awards above following the overall ranking.

ART.8

The winners will be informed on an individual basis at the end of the assessment process if their work is considered the best at national level in the committee's unquestionable belief. During the special Awards Ceremony, the date of which will be announced in forthcoming months, the winners will publicly present their work.

Should they win, the participants authorise the transmission of their data to the organisations sponsoring this initiative in order to deliver the awards. The awards will be paid within 60 days of the event.

ART.9

For any additional information, please contact Forum della Meritocrazia via email at the following address: premiovaleriasolesin@gmail.com.




ART.10

Participants unconditionally accept all the conditions of this call for papers and hereby agree to not take any legal action against the committee and/or the companies and organisations sponsoring the initiative and to not join in any lawsuits commenced by third parties in relation to participation in the Valeria Solesin Award.

The currently applicable provisions of law shall apply to any matters not covered by this call for papers.

COMPANIES

Sponsors of the Valeria Solesin Award giving the awards:

COMPANY		DESCRIPTION
	State Street	<p>State Street Corporation (NYSE: STT) is one of the largest financial services providers globally. Its services for institutional investors include investment servicing, investment management, research and trading services. With assets under custody and/or administration of \$46.7 trillion and \$4.7 trillion under management* as of 31 March 2025, State Street operates globally in more than 100 markets and has more than 53,000 employees worldwide.</p> <p>For more information, visit www.statestreet.com.</p> <p><i>*Data as of 31 March 2025; includes approximately \$106 billion in assets related to SPDR® products for which State Street Global Advisors Funds Distributors, LLC (SSGA FD) is acting solely as a sales agent. SSGA FD and State Street Global Advisors are affiliates.</i></p>
	MM	<p>MM Spa is a joint-stock engineering company owned by the Municipality of Milan. It was founded in 1955 to design and build Milan's underground lines and has become an Italian leader in civil works and urban and suburban rail systems.</p> <p>In Milan, MM built the city's first three underground lines and actively collaborated to build the fourth and fifth.</p> <p>Since July 2003, MM has managed the Integrated Water Service of the City of Milan. The work in this sector involves the collection, purification, disposal and softening of the water. The service is provided throughout the whole of the city of Milan, meeting the needs of around 2,000,000 residents and commuters.</p> <p>On 1 December 2014, MM took over management of the Municipality of Milan's real estate assets, consisting of more than 38,000 properties.</p> <p>Since 2020, MM has also managed the routine maintenance of school buildings and sports facilities owned by the Municipality of Milan.</p> <p>Since 2024, MM has also managed the green assets of the Municipality of Milan.</p> <p>For more information, visit the www.mmspa.eu website</p>
	A&A – Albè e Associati Studio Legale	<p>With offices in Milan, Rome and Busto Arsizio, we advise companies across the board, with a particular focus on labour law.</p> <p>We adhere to the Best Practice Code of Asla - Association of Associated Law Firms and have obtained the UNI 11871 certification: 2022 "Professional practices of lawyers and chartered accountants - organisational principles and management of risks associated with professional practice for the creation and protection of value".</p> <p>We have always been sensitive to the issue of inclusion and equal opportunities and have a D&I Manager who was rewarded as Lawyer of the Year 2023 for Equal Opportunities by the Equal Opportunities Committee of the Milan Bar Association, an award previously received as a firm.</p> <p>You can find more information at www.albeeassociati.it</p>

	<p>Suzuki</p>	<p>Suzuki Motor Corporation is a car, motorcycle and outboard motor manufacturer. Suzuki was founded in 1909 by entrepreneur Michio Suzuki, who built a factory to produce looms in the city of Hamamatsu, Japan. In 1920 Suzuki Loom Works became the Suzuki Loom Manufacturing Co. and in 1952 the first motorised bicycle was built, the Power Free. In 1954 Suzuki became Suzuki Motor Corporation Ltd and in 1955 Suzulight, the first car, was built, followed by the first outboard motor, the D55, in 1965. 1970 marked the début of Jimny LJ10, the first 4x4, followed by the mini MPV Carry L40V, a 100% electric vehicle.</p> <p>Since then, the company has grown from strength to strength in different industries, with focus on technology, reliability, design and innovation.</p> <p>For more information, visit the www.suzuki.it website</p>
 <p>UNIVERSITÀ DI TRENTO Dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale</p> 	<p>Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento</p>	<p>The Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento builds on the legacy of Italy's first university institution dedicated to sociological studies. The Department regularly tops Italian ranking lists and belongs to numerous European and international research networks. It provides a place for scholars of different orientations and interests to meet and exchange ideas, united by the practice of theoretically oriented empirical research. The department includes scholars from sociology, political science and other disciplines whose contributions enable it to study borderline issues between the social disciplines in a more in-depth manner.</p> <p>For more information, visit the www.sociologia.unitn.it website</p>
	<p>TRT Trasporti e Territorio</p>	<p>TRT Trasporti e Territorio is an independent consultancy firm specialised in economics, transport planning and models with offices in Milan and Brussels. It provides services and conducts research in quantitative analysis, planning and economic evaluation of transport and land use policies. TRT cooperates closely with national and international, public and private entities and actively participates in European research projects on various issues related to innovation in transport policies in order to maintain an ongoing exchange between research and consultancy services.</p> <p>For more information, visit the website www.trt.it</p>
	<p>Italian Association for Population Studies - Italian Statistical Society section</p>	<p>Founded in 2008 (previously Group for the Coordination of Demography, active since 1991), the Italian Association for Population Studies promotes studies on the population, the teaching of demography, publications and the organisation of meetings and conventions on socio-demographic topics. Currently there are around 330 members of the Italian Association for Population Studies in Italy and abroad, and it is a reference point for population academics from different disciplines.</p> <p>For more information, visit the website https://aisp-sis.com/</p>
	<p>FiberCop</p>	<p>FiberCop is a company managing the most advanced and widespread digital infrastructure in Italy, with over 26 million kilometres of optical fibre already laid and available to operators, and an ultra-broadband coverage that exceeds 96% of active lines, reaching around 40% of housing units in the country with FTTH (Fibre To The Home) connections. It represents the first case in the European Union of ownership separation involving a former national telecommunications operator. FiberCop offers operators innovative solutions supported by a constantly evolving technological network. The company operates in various areas: access, high-capacity networks, transport infrastructure, diagnostic services, installation and maintenance support, and ensures quality, security and reliability. It boasts a network with 114.3 million km of copper cables, 10,500 exchanges and over 152,000 cabinets. FiberCop's people are at the forefront across the country to enable and accelerate digitalisation, with the goal of providing 1 Gbps connectivity to the entire population by 2030. FiberCop is committed to building digital infrastructure capable of connecting and creating value for both citizens and businesses. Its objective is to foster the country's economic and social growth, also by promoting digital inclusion.</p> <p>Learn more on www.fibercop.it</p>
	<p>SAS</p>	<p>SAS is among the world leaders in artificial intelligence and data. With SAS software and industry-specific solutions, every company can quickly turn data into reliable decisions. With SAS, you have THE POWER TO KNOW®.</p> <p>For more information, visit the www.sas.com/italy website</p>

	<p>The TIM Group</p>	<p>Through innovative technologies and services, we are driving the digital transition in Italy and Brazil, contributing to the sustainable growth of the economy and society. Our goal is to create value and well-being for individuals, businesses and institutions.</p> <p>We offer a wide range of solutions that integrate digitalisation, climate strategy and the circular economy.</p> <p>To private individuals and households we offer fixed-line and mobile telephone services, communication and entertainment. To SMEs, we offer bespoke solutions to support them in their digital transformation.</p> <p>With TIM Enterprise, we deliver end-to-end solutions for businesses and the public administration, built on Cloud, IoT and Cybersecurity. We rely on Italy's largest network of data centres, the expertise of Noovle, Olivetti and Telsy, and solid partnerships.</p> <p>Through Sparkle, we develop fixed and mobile networks (4G and 5G) at an international level.</p> <p>In Brazil, TIM Brasil is a leader in 4G and 5G coverage and a major player in the communications sector.</p> <p>We support high social impact projects with Fondazione TIM in Italy and Instituto TIM in Brazil. Our values are passion, courage, inclusiveness and integrity: this is what inspires us every day in meeting the challenges of the future.</p> <p>Learn more on: www.gruppotim.it</p>
	<p>A-Tono</p>	<p>For over 25 years, the A-Tono Group has been active in Italy's digital market, offering its expertise in technological development, payment services, marketing and communication to businesses, public bodies, developers and end users.</p> <p>Our mission has always been to bring innovative solutions to the market that can address one or more needs individually, but that, when combined, create a high-value-added offering.</p> <p>A-Tono includes a Technology Lab, a Payment Institution (authorised and supervised by the Bank of Italy), and a team of marketers, enabling it to offer innovative and secure solutions through an omnichannel approach. The so-called Combined Payment Solutions – both physical and digital – make A-Tono a unique point of contact and a single partner for clients.</p> <p>Our multidisciplinary team consists of over 160 professionals across 4 locations in Italy (Milan, Pontedera, Naples and Catania), with technological and regulatory expertise to anticipate market needs, driven by a strong belief in our ability to influence the daily habits of consumers and businesses.</p> <p>Learn more on www.a-tono.com</p>
	<p>Winning Women Institute</p>	<p>Founded in 2017, the Winning Women Institute, a Benefit Corporation, is committed to spreading the principle of gender equality to institutions, businesses and the public. It was the first organisation in Italy to introduce a Gender Equality Certification in the workplace, developed through the expertise of its Scientific Committee. This team of experts, drawn from academic and corporate backgrounds, created an innovative assessment model based on the Dynamic Model Gender Rating methodology.</p> <p>Thanks to its experience, the Winning Women Institute contributed to drafting the UNI/PDR 125:2022 reference practice, which came into force in May 2022. Today, it offers consultancy services to companies of all sectors and sizes, supporting them along the certification process for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Gender Equality Certification UNI/PDR 125:2022 • ISO 30415 DE&I Certification • ISO 53800 International standard on gender equality • UNI/PDR 159:2024 Certification Recognition for inclusive employment of persons with disabilities <p>In addition, it provides training and strategic consultancy to help companies promote inclusion and gender equality in a concrete and structured way.</p> <p>For more information, visit www.winningwomeninstitute.org</p>
	<p>Sanofi</p>	<p>We are an innovative and global health company. Our raison d'être is what guides us in what we do: challenging the boundaries of science to improve people's lives. We are committed to transforming the practice of medicine in around 100 countries all over the world. We work to provide patients with potentially life-changing treatment options as well as vaccines that protect and save the lives of millions of people worldwide, placing sustainability and social responsibility at the heart of our ambitions.</p> <p>For more information, visit the www.sanofi.it website</p>