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In 2016, in full agreement with the Solesin family, we decided to create an award to honour the memory of Valeria, an Italian researcher at the Sorbonne in Paris who tragically lost her life on 13 November 2015 in the attack on the Bataclan theatre.

The competition is inspired both by Valeria's studies - which examine the theme of the dual role of women, their time split between family and work - and other contemporary research that highlights the positive effects of a balanced female presence in companies.

We therefore selected the following theme:

"Female talent as a determining factor for the development of the economy, ethics and meritocracy in Italy." The award is aimed at students who have completed a master's degree at an Italian public or private university or hold an equivalent degree obtained abroad in the areas of Economics, Sociology, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Education Sciences, Engineering, Data Science, Demography and Statistics.

First introduced in 2021, once again this year the award will be given for dissertations focusing on the importance of gender in STEM fields (*Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*), for which **four Special "Focus on STEM" Awards will be given**.

Also confirmed are the **Special Awards**

- "Focus on Gender Equality Certification", added in 2023 and dedicated specifically to dissertations that examine the issue of Gender Equality Certification as part of their focus on the theme of the call.
- "Focus on the Inclusion of Migrant Women", added in 2024 and dedicated specifically to dissertations that address the inclusion of migrant women in society and in the labour market.

This year, a Special Award titled "Focus on Population Studies" has been added. It is dedicated specifically to dissertations that examine demography-related issues as part of their focus on theme of the call.

Valeria Solesin

The Goal



Our target audience is students whose research papers provide a labour market analysis focused on gender from a socio-economic, demographic-statistical and legal perspective.

We want to highlight dissertations that 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.

With the Special Awards, we encourage in particular dissertations developing the following themes:

- the importance of the gender dimension applied to the innovative areas of scientific and technological research and the digital economy
- the certification of gender equality in organisations.
- the inclusion of migrant women in society and the labour market
- demographic aspects related to the analysis of the labour market and society from a gender perspective

Valeria Solesin



Universities and their involvement

The 9th Edition of the Valeria Solesin Award is launched with the publication of a new call for papers. The initiative will be promoted with a communication to students and the support of some of the most prestigious public and private universities across Italy:

University of Milan

University of Milan - Bicocca

Politecnico di Milano

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore -Milan

Bocconi University

University of Trento

Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Sapienza University of Rome

LUISS

University of Insubria

University of Parma

University of Brescia

University of Padua

Federico II University of Naples

University of Catania

University of Cagliari

University of Siena



University of Palermo

University of Messina

University of Basilicata

University of Salerno

University of Udine

University of Turin

University of Bari

University of Bologna

University of Pavia

University of Florence

University of Pisa

University of Verona

"G. D'Annunzio" University of Chieti - Pescara

University of Sannio, Benevento

University of Calabria

University of Bergamo

University of Molise





The Awards

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 for the "Population Studies" Special Award, it 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.





The Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee is made up of the people that designed and developed the project and important figures from the world of academia, experts in the areas of Economics, Sociology, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Education Sciences, Engineering, Data Science, Demographics and Statistics.

The Scientific Committee

Chairwoman: Renata Semenza - University of Milan

Coordinator: Silvia Fontana - University of Milan - Bicocca

Marzia Barbera - University of Brescia

Olivia Bonardi - University of Milan

Paola Corna Pellegrini - Forum della Meritocrazia

Maria De Paola - University of Calabria

Alessandra De Rose - Sapienza University of Rome

Silvia De Simone - University of Cagliari

Mariolina Garofalo - University of Salerno

Carmen Leccardi - University of Milan - Bicocca

Antonio Lo Faro - University of Catania

Isabella Loiodice - University of Foggia

Elena Mauro - Forum della Meritocrazia

Barbara Poggio - University of Trento

Paola Profeta - Bocconi University

Donatella Sciuto - Milan Polytechnic

Giuliana Scognamiglio - Sapienza University of Rome

Salvatore Strozza - Federico II University of Naples

Nicola Tedesco - University of Cagliari

Simonetta Ulivieri - University of Florence

Agnese Vitali – University of Trento

The Advisory Board

Paola Corna Pellegrini - Forum della Meritocrazia

Maria Cristina Origlia - Forum della Meritocrazia

Laura Bruno - Sanofi

Mirella Cerutti - SAS

Denis Dollaku - State Street

Claudia Infantino - FiberCop

Andrea Rubera - TIM

Odile Robotti - 30% Club

Marco Scippa - MM

Barbara Stefanelli - Corriere della Sera





2024 Award

Award ceremony: in the picture: the winners of the 8th Edition, Valeria's mother, the supporters and the project team of Forum della Meritocrazia



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