

### ***Section 3 – Politica comparata***

#### **Panel 4. Ideology and Organization in Populist Political Parties.**

**Chair: Matteo Giglioli**

The panel solicits contributions belonging to the emerging scholarship on the different varieties of populism, in light of recent electoral advances by anti-system parties in Italy, Europe, and beyond. The specific angle to be explored concerns a classic social-scientific question, namely, the interaction between the organizational form parties take and the ideological substance of their political message. How do populist parties navigate the de-structuring of traditional party systems and profit from voter de-alignment? How do new populist parties differ from traditional parties organizationally, and what effect does this new party form have on the ideas these parties can advocate? Conversely, do certain ideological stances adopted by populist parties constrain the type of organization they can construct? Does an established party whose ideology veers towards populism typically implement changes in its institutional makeup? Do socio-organizational shifts prompt a recalibration of party doctrine?

Potential topics related to ideology include (but are not limited to) right-wing vs. centrist vs. left-wing populism, anti-liberalism, Euroscepticism, separatism, welfare chauvinism, anti-corruption, anti-Semitism, anti-globalization, and anti-immigration. Potential topics relative to organization may comprise personalization, institutionalization, centralization vs. decentralization, new parties, entrepreneurial parties, light/liquid parties, the impact of IT and social media on campaigning, the debate over campaign finance and public support for political parties, the recruitment model for political personnel, and the relationship with civil society groups, pressure groups, and lobbyists.

Different methodologies, both qualitative and quantitative, theoretical and empirical, are welcome, as well as different case studies, small- or large-n comparisons, whether attempting to single out broad comparative trends or explore the specificity of particular outliers.