

Section 6 – Partecipazione e movimenti sociali

Chairs: Gianni Piazza, Massimiliano Andretta

Panel 6.5 Bowling together? Exploring forms of youth political engagement in contemporary times

Literature on youth and political participation has grown steadily in the past decades. However, the changing political and social landscape in Europe and beyond – recently characterized by a populist and conservative turn, as well as by a resurgence of mobilization around environmental and feminist issues - leaves several unanswered questions concerning the evolving political attitudes and aims that drives young people into political mobilization. This panel wishes to discuss how young people participate in politics through different forms of conventional, alternative and innovative actions. In particular, the panel focuses on the role of youth and their political engagement along two main lines of research: i) continuities and discontinuities in patterns of youth political participation and the consequences of such actions on politics, societies and youth biographies ii) the range of social and political values and identities expressed by young people - from progressive, liberals, to conservative, nationalist and religious - through their modes of participation. Papers can further examine a wide range of modes of participation (including electoral, semi-institutional behaviour, political consumerism, e-activism and disruptive/protest-related activities, and others) and can address hybrid patterns of political engagement, looking at the interplay between online, electoral, non-institutional and innovative modes of participation. We welcome papers from a variety of methodological approaches, which may focus on different issues that have gained momentum in recent years and around which young people mobilise and engage politically: feminism and gender equality, religion, nationalism and independentism, climate change and environment, among others.

Chairs: Anna Lavizzari, Ilaria Pitti