

# NextGen@Work Summer School

Understanding Youth in Times of  
Economic, Social and Political  
Uncertainty

14–18 September 2026

Department of Social and Political  
Sciences

University of Milan, Italy

[nextgeneration.summerschool@unimi.it](mailto:nextgeneration.summerschool@unimi.it)

## Who We Are

The **NextGen@Work Summer School** is part of NextGen@Work, a collaborative and interdisciplinary research project in youth studies that focuses on **youth and work**, as well as on the **innovative presence of young people** in the worlds of **economy, culture, and politics** in times of uncertainty.

It fosters collaboration among scholars with **diverse** research interests, **theoretical perspectives** and **methodological approaches** within the broad field of youth studies.



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## Structure and Themes

The **five-day programme** combines morning lectures and afternoon discussions, workshops and student presentations.

**Main themes** include:

- labour market **policies**, employment services and precarious work
- **discriminations** and inequalities at work
- youth, welfare and new forms of **poverty**
- **migrations**, citizenship and belonging
- youth activism, **new social movements** and social innovation.

**Teaching staff** includes scholars from the University of Milan and other Italian and international leading universities.

A final **round table** with representatives from Assifero, Ashoka and AnciLAB will connect academic debates with policy and practice.



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## Aims and Focus

The NextGen@Work Summer School aims to provide participants with **conceptual and methodological tools** to understand and investigate:

- the role and status of younger generations in the **labour market** and professional sphere
- **migration** processes and their impact on youth
- **gendered inequalities** and **intersectional** dynamics shaping youth experiences of labour
- dynamics of civic participation, social movements and **youth activism**

## Learning Experience

Participants will take part in:

- **Lectures** with established international scholars
- **Workshops** and smaller group discussions
- **Student presentations**, where participants can present and receive feedback on their own work

The programme places particular emphasis on **contemporary generational experiences** in a context often described as one of **permanent crisis**, shaped by **intersecting** dimensions such as: economic instability, health crises, geopolitical tensions and conflict, labour precarity, climate change and environmental risks.

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## Participants and Selection

The Summer School is open to a maximum of **20 participants**, with priority given to PhD candidates and early career researchers in sociology, political science and law. Gender balance and the relevance of applicants' research projects to the themes of the School will be considered in the selection.

## Fees

**There is no participation fee.**

Selected participants will have **access free of charge to lunches, welcome events, teaching materials, and internet.**

Travel and accommodation costs are not covered, however, participants will be able to benefit from discounted accommodation rates at partner hostels affiliated with the University of Milan.

## Application

Applications must be submitted through the **online form**. Applicants are also required to send their CV and a short motivation letter to **nextgeneration.summerschool@unimi.it**.

## Deadlines

Deadline for applications: **30 March 2026**  
Notification of acceptance: by 22 May 2026.  
Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application via e-mail.

## Day Schedule

	9.30 am/1.00 pm	2.30-/6.30 pm
<p><u>Mon 14 September</u> <b>Labour Market: Policies and Employment Services</b> Chairs: M. Pallini &amp; R. Semenza, University of Milan</p>		<p>Lecturers: M. del Conte (Luigi Bocconi University); M. S. Lodovici (Carlo Cattaneo University); M. Pallini; R. Semenza</p>
<p><u>Tue 15 September</u> <b>Labour Market: Discrimination and Precarious Labour</b> Chairs: O. Bonardi &amp; A. Murgia, University of Milan</p>	<p>Lecturers: O. Bonardi; S. Borrelli (University of Ferrara); A. Murgia; C. Scharff (King's College London)</p>	<p>Workshop \ Students' Presentations and Discussion</p>
<p><u>Wed 16 September</u> <b>Youth, Welfare and New Forms of Poverty</b> Chairs: I. Madama &amp; F. Maino, University of Milan</p>	<p>Lecturers: I. Madama; F. Maino; S. Stefani (University of Genoa)</p>	<p>Workshop \ Students' Presentations and Discussion</p>
<p><u>Thu 17 September</u> <b>Migrations and Citizenship</b> Chairs: P. Bonizzoni, S. Guglielmi &amp; N. Panichella, University of Milan</p>	<p>Lecturers: S. Guglielmi; N. Panichella; S. Beaud (Science Po Lille)</p>	<p>Workshop \ Students' Presentations and Discussion</p>
<p><u>Fri 18 September</u> <b>Youth Activism and New Social Movements</b> Chairs: E. Colombo &amp; P. Rebughini, University of Milan</p>	<p>Lecturers: E. Colombo; P. Rebughini; C. Leccardi (University of Milano-Bicocca); A. Frisina (University of Padua)</p>	<p>Round Table with C. Carazzone (General Secretary, Assifero); F. Mento (Director, Ashoka Italia); L. Merlino (Project Manager, AnciLAB)</p>

Participants are expected to **attend the full programme** (five full working days) and **actively contribute to discussions.**

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## Faculty

### **Organising Team (University of Milan)**

Olivia Bonardi, Paola Bonizzoni, Enzo Colombo, Simona Guglielmi, Ilaria Madama, Franca Maino, Annalisa Murgia, Massimo Pallini, Nazareno Panichella, Paola Rebughini, Renata Semenza

Tutor: Pasquale Schiano

### **Lecturers**

Stephane Beaud (Sciences Po Lille), Olivia Bonardi (University of Milan), Silvia Borrelli (University of Ferrara), Enzo Colombo (University of Milan), Maurizio Del Conte (Luigi Bocconi University), Annalisa Frisina (University of Padua), Simona Guglielmi (University of Milan), Carmen Leccardi (University of Milano-Bicocca), Manuela Samek Lodovici (Carlo Cattaneo University), Ilaria Madama (University of Milan), Franca Maino (University of Milan), Annalisa Murgia (University of Milan), Massimo Pallini (University of Milan), Nazareno Panichella (University of Milan), Paola Rebughini (University of Milan), Christina Scharff (King's College London), Renata Semenza (University of Milan), Silvia Stefani (University of Genoa)

### **Experts – Round Table**

Carola Carazzone (Assifero), Federico Mento (Ashoka Italia), Lucia Merlino (AnciLAB)

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## Venue

The Summer School will take place at the **Department of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Milan**, in the historic Palazzo Resta Pallavicino, via Conservatorio 7, Milan.

Located in the city centre, **a short walk from the Duomo and major cultural landmarks**, the venue offers an ideal setting both for intensive study and for **enjoying Milan's rich cultural and urban life**

## Acknowledgment

The event is organised within the EPRA Hub – Evidence-Based Policy Research and Action Hub funded by the 'Departments of Excellence' program of the Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research



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## Contact

For further information, please contact:  
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[Political, Economic and Social Sciences](#) | [Università degli  
Studi di Milano Statale](#)

