

# *Young people, Europe, the Mediterranean*

Forlì (Italy) 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March 2009

## **4<sup>th</sup> Conference Young People & Societies in Europe and around the Mediterranean**

### *Outline of the initiative*

The first edition of *Rencontres Jeunes & Sociétés en Europe et autour de la Méditerranée* took place in Marseilles in October 2003 and was promoted by two French research and training institutions (*Centre d'études et de recherches sur les qualifications* and *Laboratoire d'Economie et Sociologie du Travail*) hosting researchers from different backgrounds and disciplines, including demographers, economists, politologists, psychologists, sociologists, historians, etc. Two more institutions joined later: *Institut national de la Jeunesse et de l'Éducation populaire* and *Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres*.

The conference was organised as part of a wider project aimed at promoting the creation of a permanent network of researchers from different countries and disciplines. Common objective of participating researchers is to open a discussion on the evolution of the relationship between young people and society by combining different analytical approaches. Therefore the project affords an interdisciplinary and international perspective.

The *Rencontres* series focuses on the analysis of the multiple factors affecting the relationship between young generations and their context of belonging and devotes special emphasis to comparative approaches. The conference is therefore committed to investigating young people as historical and social phenomena resisting static definitions and deeply entrenched in the societies they live in.

The first edition of the *Rencontres* series (October 2003) hosted around 150 researchers from France, as well as other European countries and the Maghreb area. The second and third editions took place in Marseilles in October 2005 and 2007. These confirmed the conference as an established initiative and evidenced the need to open the discussion to other European researchers through the involvement of other areas of the Mediterranean, including the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Consequently, the original network was extended to include researchers and institutions in other countries, pushing for the biannual conference to be held in other cities of the Mediterranean area.

It is in this context that the “Polo Scientifico-Didattico” of Forlì and the Faculty of Political Science “R. Ruffilli” proposed their candidacy. The Forlì campus of the University of Bologna – with its international inclination and commitment to multidisciplinary research – has been judged as an exemplary and qualified host for the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Rencontres Jeunes & Sociétés en Europe et autour de la Méditerranée*.

The Italian edition of the conference, which will be held in Forlì in March 2009, is endorsed by the Italian Sociology Association.

## Members of the founding scientific committee

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### Further information on previous conferences:

<http://jeunes-et-societes.cereq.fr/index.htm>

### Further information on institutions promoting the *Rencontres*:

**Cereq** – Centre d'études et de recherches sur les qualifications: [www.cereq.fr](http://www.cereq.fr)

**Injep** - Institut national de la Jeunesse et de l'Éducation populaire: <http://www.injep.fr/>

**Lest** - Laboratoire d'Économie et Sociologie du Travail: [www.lest.cnrs.fr](http://www.lest.cnrs.fr)

**Iufm** - Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres de l'Académie d'Aix Marseille: <http://www.aix-mrs.iufm.fr/>