

Valeria Fargion, University of Florence, Short profile

Valeria Fargion is Associate Professor of Political Science and holder of a Jean Monnet Chair on "The Politics of European Integration" at the University of Florence, School of Political Science, where she also teaches "Social policies and globalization" and "Local Welfare Systems."

She is the coordinator of the European Studies Program for the Master's degree in "International Relations and European Affairs" and Co-Chair of ESPANET-Italy (Network for European Social Policy Analysis).

She served for two terms (2003-2006 and 2006 – 2009) as Executive Board elective member of the ISA Research Committee 19 on "Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy" and was Board Member of ESPANET (Network for European Social Policy Analysis) for the period 2002-2007. From 2008 to 2010, she acted as national expert for the European Commission (DG Employment) in the context of the OMC on pensions, health and long-term care (ASISP Network).

She has participated in a variety of international research projects and has published widely on the Italian Welfare State in a historical and a comparative perspective, on social care services in Europe, on the relationship between national and local levels of government and the role of the Italian Regions with respect to social policies and European structural funds. Her research interests have recently shifted to global social policy and EU development co-operation. In 2007, she organized in Florence the international conference "Social Policy in a Globalizing World: Developing a North-South Dialogue" which hosted 140 social policy scholars from the five continents (www.unifi.it/rc19). In June 2012 she organized with 26 partner universities the conference "the EU and the World. New Challenges and Trends. 27 ideas from the Erasmus generation" (www.unifi.it/relazioni-internazionali-studi-europei/CMpro-l-s-19.html)

Her recent publications include: "Children, Gender and Families in the Italian Welfare State" in J. Gal and M. Ajzenstadt (eds.) *Children, Gender and Families in Mediterranean Welfare States*, Springer, 2010; "Italy: A territorial and Generational Divide in Social Citizenship" in A.M. Guillemard and A. Evers (eds.) *Social Policy and Citizenship*, Oxford University Press 2012; *Alle radici del welfare all'italiana. Origini e futuro di un modello sociale squilibrato* (with Ferrera and Jessoula), Marsilio 2012, and *Tra l'Incudine e il martello. Regioni e nuovi rischi sociali in tempi di crisi*, with Elisabetta Gualmini, Il Mulino (forthcoming March 2013).