



With the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



*Rossi-Doria*  
Centre for Economic and Social Research  
Centre of Excellence - Roma Tre University



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE



## Cohesion Policy: evidence-based lessons for digital and green recovery in Europe

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

This workshop explores the opportunities and challenges triggered by the digital and green transitions in Europe and its regions. The Recovery Plan and Next Generation EU are reshaping the entire EU policy landscape towards a common purpose: a digital, green and inclusive recovery from Covid-19. Cohesion Policy – the key development policy of the Union – takes centre stage in this historical opportunity to 'build back better' to benefit all citizens and regions. Solid evidence on 'what works in practice' and a truly interdisciplinary approach are needed to inform, guide and shape a new generation of regional and industrial policies able to deliver on this ambitious agenda. High-level speakers from a diverse set of fields and institutions will engage in an evidence-based debate on how Next Generation EU and the EU Cohesion Policy could support a digital, green and inclusive recovery in all EU regions. What is (and what should be) the role of data and evaluation for policy learning? How can we address the challenges for green and digital recovery in less developed regions? What can we learn from the experience of 50 years of Cohesion Policy to inform and shape new evidence-based interventions?

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Program (CET time)

From 9.30 Welcome participants

09:45 - 10.00 **Welcome Address**

**Anna Giunta** (Director of the Rossi-Doria Centre, Roma Tre University)

**Eleonora Pierucci** (Coordinator of the Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Project 'DEEPLY', Roma Tre University)

10.00 – 11.30 **Keynotes and Q&A I – Evidence-based Recovery: learning what works from evaluation**

Chair: **Riccardo Crescenzi** - London School of Economics

**Eric Von Breska** – European Commission, Recovery and Resilience Task Force

**Veronica Gaffey** - European Commission, Regulatory Scrutiny Board

**Henry Overman** – London School of Economics & What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth

11.30 – 11.50 Break in breakout rooms

11.50 - 13.10 **Paper Session**

Chair: **Mara Giua** – Roma Tre University

**Davide Rigo** - London School of Economics: *How many jobs can be done at home? Not so many!*

**Emanuele Campiglio** - University of Bologna: *It takes two to dance: Institutional dynamics and climate-related financial policies*

**Rezart Hoxhaj** - University of Ghent: *Inclusive Europe: The impact of cohesion policy on immigrants economic integration in Italy*

**Giulia Valeria Sonzogno** - Gran Sasso Science Institute: *Mind the Covid-19 crisis: An evidence-based implementation of Next Generation EU*

13.10-14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 16.00 – **Keynotes and Q&A II – Digital and Green Transition in Europe**

Chair: **Carlo Pietrobelli** – Roma Tre University

**Werner Stengg** – European Commission, Cabinet of Executive Vice-President Margrethe Vestager

**Elena Verdolini** – (University of Brescia and European Institute on Economics and the Environment)

**Andres Rodriguez-Pose** – London School of Economics

16.00 – 16.20 Break in breakout rooms

16.20-17.50 – **Roundtable - Lessons from Cohesion Policy for Recovery in Europe**

Moderator: **John Bachtler** - University of Strathclyde

**Guido De Blasio** (Banca d'Italia); **Lewis Dijkstra** (European Commission); **Maria-Varinia Michalun** (OECD); **Vassilis Monastiriotis** (London School of Economics); **Marco Percoco** (Bocconi University)

17.50 – 18.15 Concluding remarks

**Nicola De Michelis** – European Commission, DG REGIO