Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: OTHREN – Othering the Renaissance. Conceptualizing Foreigners, Slaves and Infedels in Early Modern Political Thought (ca. 1520-1610)

FUNDING PROGRAMME: Horizon Europe

CALL: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships

DESCRIPTORS: History of ideas, intellectual history, history of science, techniques and technologies, history of philosophy, medieval history

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Gianluca Briguglia

FELLOW: Alessandro Mulieri

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 265.099,19	€ 265.099,19

ABSTRACT:

This research proposal studies how 16th century Renaissance Aristotelian authors theorized otherness and dealt with outcasts in their political works. The very idea of political community in early modern political philosophy is based on the view that, as stated by Aristotle in his Politics, some categories of people - women, foreigners, infidels, slaves, children – must be excluded from citizenship because they are considered ontologically different and, therefore, politically unequal. This makes some people outcasts of the political community and raises important questions: on which grounds are outcasts excluded from citizenship? What is their relationship to citizens? Which type of inequality does the exclusion of outcasts entail? Are there different forms of inequality at stake in the exclusion of others? OTHREN provides the first comprehensive study of how some 16th century Aristotelian thinkers theorized three figures of outcasts (foreigners, slaves and infidels) in their political thoughts and how this helped shape their ideas on such different minorities as Jews, Muslims and Amerindians. The proposal focuses especially on political works that were influenced by political Aristotelianism both in the humanist and scholastic traditions. These works are assessed against the backgrounds of Roman political thought (especially Cicero and Seneca), Roman law and the teachings of Christian anthropology that shaped early modern political thought.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
01st June 2022	31st May 2025

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia	**Venice (IT)**	**Coordinator**
2 The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania Corp	**Philadelphia (USA)**	**Partner**