



Ca' Foscari University of Venice

PROJECT ACRONYM AND

Dating Challenges: Technologies and Unequal Geographies of Abortion and Childbirth Care

TITLE: PregDaT - Pregnancy

FUNDING PROGRAMME: HORIZON EUROPE

CALL: ERC-2022-STG

KEYWORDS: *Reproductive health, reproductive justice, medical anthropology, socio-cultural anthropology, feminist technoscience, temporalities*

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Giulia Zanini

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 1.497.984,00	€ 1.497.984,00

ABSTRACT:

Pregnancy dating, or the assessment of the duration of the gestation, is considered the most important step in the management of any pregnancy for obstetric and neonatal care. It is on the estimated starting date of the pregnancy that the whole chain of care (e.g. prenatal screening, childbirth plans) is established and access to a variety of critical pregnancy, childbirth and abortion options are regulated. Although considered a standard procedure, pregnancy dating varies greatly in accuracy and methods, and across services and countries, and depends on technologies, resources and skills of those involved. In this process, pregnant people's embodied knowledge is often disregarded as unreliable. Despite bearing major and life-changing consequences, pregnancy dating remains largely unquestioned in the social sciences and in medical and public health literature. This has profound effects on how pregnancy has been theorised and empirically studied as well as on legal provisions and clinical practices.

Through PregDaT, the Principal Investigator will transform existing paradigms of understanding and studying pregnancy and reproduction by unpacking the black box of pregnancy dating, exposing its socio-technical and political components of pregnancy time, and exploring whether and how these generate unequal access to abortion and childbirth care for different groups in different locations. Prof. Zanini will lead a multidisciplinary team employing qualitative methods from STS, anthropology, feminist legal studies, public health studies and visual design to investigate the process of pregnancy dating in 4 European countries, both in metropolitan areas and in peripheral locations. PregDaT will reshape scholarly understanding of pregnancy and pregnant subjectivities and temporalities, while intervening in the policies, practices and regulations of pregnancy and abortion care.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1 st September 2023	31 th august 2025

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia	Italy	Coordinator
----------------------------------	-------	-------------