

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: Identifications - A Psychoanalytic/Political Study of Performances Countering intra-European Cultural Racism

**FUNDING PROGRAMME: HORIZON EUROPE** 

CALL: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01 (MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022)

KEYWORDS: performance studies, civic performance, artistic performance, politics, cultural racism, identification, discourse

theory

**HOST DEPARTMENT:** Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

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| Project total costs | Overall funding assigned to UNIVE |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| € 172.750,08        | € 172.750,08                      |

## **ABSTRACT**:

The enlargement of the European Union to include Central and Eastern Europe (2004, 2007) brought with it the rise of right-wing politics in Western Europe. Factors that contributed to the ensuing institutionalisation of right-wing parties include: the European debt crisis (2009-2018), the imposing of austerity measures, and the unprecedented influx of migrants from the Middle East and Africa during a period that has been termed the European migrant crisis (2015-2019). As living standards fell, far-right politicians blamed the decline on both internal and external immigrants and refugees by singling out incomers as a threat to economic and cultural stability. The right-wing populists began galvanising processes of identification among citizens through the use of discourses of intolerance. A newly-fortified cultural racism provided followers with a mechanism of legitimacy for their right-wing beliefs. This research project will study the intricate interplay of performance and race. It will investigate the ways in which both left-leaning civic performances (civil protests, speeches, policies) and artistic performances (theatre, dance, music) are capable of mobilising processes of identification that draw upon anti-racist discourses that permeate and sustain democratic institutions. Turning to discourse theory, and using a self-critical, Western European lens, the project will explore processes of identification that contest cultural racism.

| Planned Start date               |            | Planned End date |  |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------------|--|
| 01/09/2023                       | 31/08/2025 |                  |  |
| PARTNERSHIP                      |            |                  |  |
| Ca' Foscari University of Venice | Italy      | Beneficiary      |  |