



Università
Ca'Foscari
Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: BIVIUM - Standing at the Crossroads: Doubt in Early Modern Italy (1500-1560)

FUNDING PROGRAMME: HORIZON 2020

CALL: H2020-MSCA-IF-2017-GF – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships– Global Fellowship

SCIENTIFIC FIELDS: History of ideas, intellectual history, history of science, techniques and technologies

HOST DEPARTMENT: DFBC - Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

FELLOW: Marco Faini

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Marco Sgarbi

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 229.761,00	€ 229.761,00

ABSTRACT:

This three-year research project aims to produce the first comprehensive social and cultural history of doubt and unbelief in Renaissance Italy. The project is timely since scholarly attention to the topic of unbelief and scepticism in Early Modern Europe is growing, as evidenced by recent publications and major research projects. In a period of dramatic cultural, political and religious change, traditional ideas and beliefs were shaken; and doubts on human reason and its powers arose. As a result, intellectual and religious authorities and long-standing truths began to be questioned by intellectuals and commoners alike, and anxiety over the powers and reach of human reason spread. A number of works were published in the vernacular that dealt with doubt and addressed a broad public. These works have never been coherently and systematically studied. This project will fill the void analysing such works with a ground-breaking interdisciplinary methodology. It will result in new comprehension of crucial aspects of European cultural identity such as the rise of the notion of freedom of conscience and the development of intellectual inquiry, and will revolutionise the traditional scholarly approach to a key moment in Italian and European civilisation. Marco Faini, an experienced researcher with international experience in Germany (Wolfenbüttel, Münster), in the UK (Cambridge), and at Villa I Tatti, is confident that the development of this project will profoundly impact his career. Thanks to the training provided by Ca' Foscari University in Venice and by the Faculty of History at Toronto University, Faini will acquire new skills and build fruitful relations with European and North-American institutions and scholars. The training, networks and publication of the project's outcomes will increase Faini's possibilities of obtaining a future ERC Grant and may also result in a tenure-track position at Ca' Foscari University.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
15 th September 2018	14 th September 2021

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia	Venice (IT)	Coordinator
2 University of Toronto, Toronto	Toronto (CA)	Partner
