



Università  
Ca'Foscari  
Venezia

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE:** PARENT-CITIZENS - Schools of Citizenship: Parent Councils at Public Schools in Italy, Spain, and France

**FUNDING PROGRAMME:** HORIZON 2020

**CALL:** H2020-MSCA-IF-2020 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie - Standard European Fellowship

**DESCRIPTORS:** Social integration, Exclusion, Inequalities, Participation and prosocial behaviour, Education systems, Institutions and policies, Sociology of education, Migration, Refugees, Asylum, Interethnic relations, Conflicts and integration of migrants, Electoral politics, Political parties, Citizenship and public engagement, Qualitative methods, Ethnography, Case studies

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

**SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE:** Matteo Legrenzi

**FELLOW:** Garrett Jacob

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 183.473,28	€ 183.473,28

**ABSTRACT:**

In the wake of economic, climate, and violent crises throughout the Mediterranean region, Europe has recorded more asylum seekers and immigrants during the past decade than ever before. As these new populations seek to integrate into European society, the following questions arise: are there sufficient institutional sites and resources to civically incorporate these incoming individuals and families? More importantly, what are the appropriate and practically effective institutions to build shared values of tolerance, respect, and citizenship? The purpose of this interdisciplinary project is to investigate the public institution most directly responsible for civic education, public schools, in three of the highest immigrant destination countries in Europe: Italy, Spain, and France. Yet while most European wide civic education initiatives focus on school children, the focus of this study is parent participation on parent councils (assemblee genitori, asociación de padres, conseil des parents d'élèves) at schools. In many nation states throughout Europe, parents have the right and expectation to participate at schools through legally codified parent councils, yet they remain little understood as a vehicle for productive civic integration. This absence in the scholarly literature and European institutional initiatives is surprising given the established finding that schools are the primary public institution where immigrants interface with others and participate civically. In sum, parent councils at public schools are uniquely situated as a civic educational institution and remain nearly absent from citizenship education initiatives in Europe. In an effort to illuminate the viability of parent councils for civic integration, this study utilizes a mixed-method framework to build a conceptual understanding through qualitative methods in the first phases of research which inform a representative survey of parent members in the final phase of the study.

**Planned Start date**

**Planned End date**

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

**31<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**BENEFICIARY:**

**1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia**

**Venice (IT)**

**Beneficiary**