

## Stream #20

# Southern European Welfare Model' Revisited: 30 Years On

### Conveners:

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Almost 30 years since the enactment of the scholarly debate on the 'Southern Model' of welfare, this stream invites scholars to review and evaluate how socio-economic transformations over the last three decades have brought social policy issues and responses to prominence in many South European societies.

We are interested in exploring both the politico-historical legacies and welfare systems of Southern European welfare states as well as contemporary issues that have emerged as responses to multi-faceted crises; ranging from the sovereign debt crisis to pressures stemming from migration (both within EU movement and from third-countries), and structural inefficiencies in national political economies and expectations that family-centred welfare interventions will mitigate social risks.

The stream seeks empirical and theoretical contributions towards the following key research questions:

- Is there still a distinct Southern European welfare model, and if so, what sets it out from welfare models in other countries?
- Has the process of Europeanisation led towards the convergence of a single model among Southern European welfare states?
- Are the Southern European countries still on the same path, and if not, how are they diverging?
- What examples are there of welfare reforms that address novel concerns in line with the basic tenets of the Southern European welfare model, and which are the reforms that break away from the premises of the model?
- How can the Southern European welfare model overcome enduring challenges such as low fertility rates, high poverty rates, structural long-term unemployment?

- How can the Southern European Model mitigate new challenges such as climate change and the green transition, new skill formation and financial precarity?

We welcome contributions that are comparative in their perspective, especially those that include Cyprus and Malta, as well as the Southern European border. Single country and case studies are also accepted. We aim to have a mix of historical, conceptual, methodological, and empirical papers, and welcome qualitative and quantitative contributions. We also welcome and encourage interdisciplinary papers and submissions by early career researchers.