**Whose hypergamy? Gendered age heterogamy, family dynamics and gender equality**

Age-differences among partners have been surprisingly under-investigated in sociology. Recent studies suggest positive trends for age-homogamy (i.e. the woman and the man have the same age) and negative trends for age-hypergamy (i.e. the man is older than the woman) among couples in Europe. However, the case of couples where the women is older than the man (age-hypogamy) has been largely overlooked. In this research, couples characterized by age homogamy/hypergamy/hypogamy are compared in Europe. First, it is investigated if their distribution changes across younger cohorts. Second, the patterns of transition from cohabitation to marriage and to first birth are examined. Third, the link between the partners’ attitudes towards gender equality and age-differences within couples is explored. The results are discussed in relation to demographic patterns in developed societies.

**About the presenter**

Giuliana Giuliani is a PhD researcher at the European University Institute. Under the supervision of Professor Fabrizio Bernardi, she is examining the link between gender equality and demographic patterns in Europe and the US. Her research interests span gender in relation to demographic dynamics and the labour market. Previously, she obtained a Master’s in Demography at Stockholm University where she also worked as a research assistant. She has published with Professor Ann-Zofie Duvander on the effects of the cash-for-care policy on female participation in the labour market in Sweden.