

Code B_2753

Department	Civil - Environmental Engineering and Architecture
UniCa reference person	Ivan Blečić
Project title in English	Mimesis and the Social Production of Space
Subject area of reference (World University Ranking)	ARTS AND HUMANITIES (including Architecture)
Project summary and VPS' profile	<p>There have been quite many attempts to apply and use the Mimetic Theory, developed by René Girard, in literary criticism, political science, political philosophy, sociology, economics, and psychology. However, very little attention has until now been given to the girardian perspective in the field of urban studies, planning theory and political geography. Indeed, almost no attempts have been made to explore the possible implications and explanatory power of the hypothesis of mimetic desire and its “microphysics” on the social production of space.</p> <p>What if we suppose that (among other things) places, public spaces, landscape, territory, can also become objects of mimetic desire, and thus rivalry, violence and scapegoating? Does the distinction between needs and desires (which are mimetic) offer important insights to account, from both anthropological and politico-philosophical point of view, for phenomena such as rivalry, conflicts and violence around spatial objects and goods, attachment to territory, ethnogeography, territorial rights, even landscape aesthetics? Can we find in some practices and historical examples of production of spaces traces of scapegoating (symbolic and real), and therefore the mark of the sacred?</p> <p>These questions are at the basis of the research project for which we are inviting a scholar with deep knowledge of the girardian thought and the related literature, possibly well versed and with experience in urban and regional studies or political philosophy of territory, territorial rights and disputes.</p>
Proposed length of stay	Long visit of 1 month
Expected period of activity	Spring 2024
Academic position of the VPS'	Professor
Course of Study	Laurea triennale (1st cycle University Degree), Laurea magistrale (2nd cycle University Degree), Dottorato di ricerca (PhD Course)
Language of instruction	English