Abstract proposal for

The XIII conference "People, Politics, Participation. Governing the Fragile Rural Areas in

Italy and Europe" - March 22-23, 2019 (Rovigo, Italy)

The international panel:

UNDERSTANDING, RESISTING AND BUILDING ALTERNATIVES TO RIGHTWING

POPULISM IN THE EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE

**Community-supported agriculture: building alternatives in Europe countryside**

*Angela Genova*

The rise of right-wing (authoritarian) populism in the European countryside calls for a deep investigation to understand the causes and the effects of such trend. Nevertheless, several local rural initiatives seems to resist this dangerous political path.

This study aims to investigate the community-supported agriculture (CSA model) in Italy in the framework of the European context. Community-supported agriculture is part of civic agriculture practices and it is based on an innovative contract between consumers and farmers characterized by sharing the risk of farming.

The research objective is to analysis the community-supported agriculture practices as resisting practices of right-wing uprising in rural areas in Italy. Therefore, firstly the map of CSA in Italy is presented, then the main potentialities and criticalities are discussed with a specific focus on the institutional and formal aspects of the Italian CSAs. Data are collected through key informants interviews.

Despite the spread of right-wing populism in rural area also in Italy, this study discusses the limits and potentialities of community-supported agriculture in Italy considering the European literature and practices.

**Angela Genova – Short bio**

She conducts research on welfare policies in a comparative regional, national and European perspective, with particular attention to social policies and health policies aimed at people with disabilities and belonging to ethnic minorities. She is researcher (RTDa) in the Department of Economics, Society and Policy of the University of Urbino Carlo Bo, where she teaches 'social policies' and 'health policies'. Since August 2015 she is vice chair of the Research Network 16, Sociology of Health and Illness, European Sociological Association. Among her last publications:

2018 Genova A., Barberis E. Social workers and intercultural mediators: Challenges for collaboration and intercultural awareness. European Journal of Social Work 10.1080/13691457.2018.1452196.

2018 Genova A., [L’innovazione nel welfare regionale: la governance dell’agricoltura sociale nel caso studio delle Marche. In ARGOMENTI - ISSN:1971-8357](https://ora.uniurb.it/preview-item/66654?queryId=mysubmissions&)

2018 Genova A., Viganò E., [Agricoltura sociale: i mercati nidificati invisibili nelle aree fragili della provincia di Pesaro Urbino. In Culture della Sostenibilità - ISSN:1972-5817.](https://ora.uniurb.it/preview-item/66652?queryId=mysubmissions&)

2017 Genova A., La scuola degli Elfi e la scuola del paese: il villaggio ecologico come potenziale contrasto alla fragilità. Culture della Sostenibilità - ISSN 1972-5817 (print), 1973-2511 (online) Anno X - N. 19/2017 - I semestre: 29-38 - DOI 10.7402/CDS.19.003