



Ca' Foscari University of Venice

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: GYNODICY - Gender-egalitarian fictions of origin in eighteenth-century philosophical culture

FUNDING PROGRAMME: HORIZON EUROPE

CALL: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01 (MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022)

KEYWORDS: *Gender egalitarianism; early modern political philosophy; querelle des femmes*

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Marco Sgarbi

FELLOW: Natalia Lorena Zorrilla

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 187.248,96	€ 187.248,96

ABSTRACT:

This project aims at producing the first comprehensive study of the philosophical problem of “gynodicy”, i.e., the incompatibility of, on one hand, a rational defence of women as naturally equal in capacities and in rights to men and, on the other, their factual subjection to men. GYNODICY concentrates on gender-egalitarian texts from the early modern period that circulated within European philosophical culture and specifically on the gender-egalitarian fictions of origin these texts put forth with the objective of arguing against the naturalisation of women’s submission to men. This study is important because the authors of said sources developed the intellectual foundations of the defence of the “equality of the sexes”, which lead to women’s civic and political enfranchisement. These writings on gynodicy have been generally overlooked in academic research, thus contributing to consolidate an incomplete panorama of early modern political thought. GYNODICY seeks to counter this by proposing a new narrative that recovers a body of literature comprised of both printed works and unedited manuscripts, which has hitherto received scanty attention. The project promotes a transnational approach to the circulation of gender-egalitarian ideas and an interdisciplinary perspective. Natalia Zorrilla’s experience studying fictions of origin in early modern political thought and women philosophers make her the ideal researcher for this project. She will benefit from the expertise of her supervisors: Marguerite Deslauriers (McGill University, outgoing phase) and Marco Sgarbi (Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, return phase). Thanks to the training planned during this GF, Zorrilla will acquire new skills and establish an international scientific network connecting Europe and the Americas, thus becoming a leading scholar in early modern philosophy

Planned Start date	Planned End date
01/09/2024	01/09/2026

PARTNERSHIP

1. Ca' Foscari University of Venice	Italy	Coordinator
2. Simon Fraser University	Canada	Associated Partner