



## **FP7 Project LIVEWHAT**

### **LIVING WITH HARD TIMES**

#### **How Citizens React to Economic Crises and Their Social and Political Consequences**

#### **Final Conference**

The LIVEWHAT Consortium is pleased to announce the LIVEWHAT **Final Conference** to take place in Brussels on **Thursday 24 November 2016**.

This public event will bring together members of the LIVEWHAT Consortium, external scholars and policy-makers with the aim to present and discuss the main project findings and offer both a scholarly and policy-oriented perspective on how citizens react to economic crises fueling public debate.

The LIVEWHAT documentary film ‘Citizens and the Crisis’ will be screened during the conference, followed by a discussion with the audience. Drawing on the LIVEWHAT findings, the documentary film showcases the social and political consequences of the 2008 economic crisis and the responses of citizens in each of the nine countries studied by the LIVEWHAT project: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

## Conference Program

### Thursday 24 November

9:00–9:30 Welcome coffee and address

9:30 –11:30 Presentation of main research findings and policy implications

- ‘The LIVEWHAT Project’  
Marco Giugni (University of Geneva), Project Coordinator
- ‘Workpackage 2: Policy Responses to Crises’  
Katrin Uba (University of Uppsala), Workpackage 2 Leader
- ‘Workpackage 3: Citizens’ Responses to Crises in the Public Domain’  
Manlio Cinalli (Sciences Po), Workpackage 3 Leader
- ‘Workpackage 4: Individual Responses to Crises’  
Maria Grasso (University of Sheffield), Workpackage 4 Leader
- ‘Workpackage 5: the Causal Effects of Crises on Citizens’ Attitudes and Behaviours’  
Eva Anduiza (Autonomous University of Barcelona), Workpackage 5 Leader
- ‘Workpackage 6: Alternative Forms of Resilience’  
Maria Kousis (University of Crete), Workpackage 6 Leader
- ‘Policy Findings’  
Maria Mexi (University of Geneva), Member of the Swiss team

11:30 –12:00 Coffee break

12:00 –13:00 Projection of the documentary film ‘Citizens and the Crisis’

13:00–14:00 Lunch break

14:00–15:15 Discussion panel on ‘Economic Crisis and the Rise of Populisms’

#### Panel Chair

Eva Anduiza (Autonomous University of Barcelona), Workpackage 5 Leader

#### Panel Members

Julie Pal, CEO, CommUNITY Barnet

Guillem Rico, Jean Monet Researcher, Autonomous University of Barcelona

Yannis Stavrakakis, Head of the School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Paul Taggart, Director of the Sussex European Institute, University of Sussex

Benjamin Zeeb, CEO, Project for Democratic Union

15:15–15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:45 Discussion panel on ‘Social Policies in Times of Crisis – Who Carries Burdens, Who Gets Protection?’

#### Panel Chair

Anna Kurowska (University of Warsaw), Member of the Polish team

#### Panel Members

Yiannis Barkas, Special Advisor, Minister's Office - Social and Solidarity Economy Unit, Greece

Deborah Bullivant, Founding Director of Grimm & Co, Rotherham, United Kingdom

Sabine Werth, Founder and Chairwoman of the Berliner Tafel, Germany

16:45 – 17:00 Conference Wrap-Up

Marco Giugni (University of Geneva), Project Coordinator

## Conference Venue

**Studio 5 – Flagey**, [www.flagey.be/en/espaces/studio-5](http://www.flagey.be/en/espaces/studio-5)

Address: Rue du Belvédère 27, 1050 Ixelles, Brussels

## Contact us

For more information about the conference, please contact:

### **Professor Marco Giugni**

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### Objectives

LIVEWHAT is an EU-funded research project on policy responses and citizens' resilience in times of crisis. The project has four main objectives: to advance knowledge regarding the ways in which citizens respond to economic crises and their social and political consequences; to contribute to placing citizens' responses to economic crises and their negative consequences on the political agenda by raising awareness about the situation of groups particularly at risk in situations of economic crisis; to improve the problem-solving capacity of policy-makers and practitioners by providing policy recommendations and a catalogue of good practices; to help develop a more comprehensive and concerted problem-solving approach within Member States and the European Union by promoting knowledge-transfer and policy-learning.

### Scientific approach and methodology

LIVEWHAT's theoretical approach allows for studying resilience along the analytical continuum between the individual level of single citizens who learn how to 'bounce back' and downplay the costs of crises, and the far-reaching forms of collective resilience aimed at entering the public domain so as to challenge inequities and foster common empowerment. The project conceives of resilience as the capacity of European citizens to stand against economic hardship through an active process of contestation and empowerment. Going beyond previous studies that have studied the impact of economic crises on specific groups such as children, youth, and families treated as passive categories, LIVEWHAT puts citizens engaged in alternative forms of resilience at center stage. Alternative forms of resilience include the strengthening of social and family networks and community practices to foster solidarity in the face of crises, change of lifestyles toward more sustainable forms of consumption and production, developing new artistic expressions. Although these transformations in citizen practices (from adapted to alternative) are decisive for citizens' resilience in times of austerity, they have not yet been thoroughly studied.

### Project Coordinator

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### Consortium

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**Budget:** EC contribution: 2,499,366EUR

**Project website:** [www.livewhat.unige.ch](http://www.livewhat.unige.ch)



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