

“Italy under Giorgia Meloni: A ‘Vanguard’ in the Management of Migration and Security Challenges?”

LSE, 15 May 2026

PROGRAMME

10:15 – 10:30 Welcome remarks

10:30 – 12:00 Panel 1: Migration Policy: Externalisation, Securitisation, and Local Actors

- Matilde Rosina (Brunel University): *A Hard Turn Right, or More of the Same? Italy's Migration Externalisation under Meloni*
- Andrea Scalera (University of Glasgow): *A Recipe for Success? Assessing the Securitisation of Migration in Italy, 2015-2025*
- Nora Dezsényi (LSE): *Drones and Biometric Identification: The Role of Surveillance Technologies in the Securitisation of Migration in Italy Between 2020 and 2025*
- Karenjot Bhangoo Randhawa and Nikita Gupta (UC Berkley): *Corridors of Care: Trauma-Informed Governance and NGO Practice in Migration Protection Under Meloni-Era Policies*
- Mohsen Hrizi (University of Manouba): *The Meloni Effect beyond Europe: Layered Hybrid Responses to Italy's Externalization Model in Tunisia and their Implications for EU-Tunisia Migration Governance*

Chaired by Dr Donatella Bonansinga (University of Southampton)

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break (provided)

13:00 – 14:30 Panel 2: Migration, Populism, and the Far Right: Demand and Supply Side

- Gabriel Echeverría (Universidad Complutense de Madrid): *What Is Migration Populism? Concept Development and the Italian Case*
- Alberto Polimeni (Science Po): *Populist Crisis Narratives and Issue-Linking: Giorgia Meloni's Sovereignist Reframing of Immigration Policy*
- Oliviero Angeli (TU Dresden): *From Populist Radical Right Mobilisation to Governmental Practice: Explaining Giorgia Meloni's Migration Agenda in Comparative European Perspective*
- Antonello Boccagna (Humbolt University Berlin): *How Exposure to Anti-Migration Policies Backfires: The Electoral Consequences of the Italian NGO Sea Rescue Policy*
- Konstantin Bogatyrev (LSE): *When Immigration Hurts: Voter Accountability for Far-Right Governments*

Chaired by Dr Marta Lorimer (Cardiff University)

14:30 – 15:00 Coffee break (provided)

15:00 – 16:30 Panel 3: Migration Policy in the Context of the Judiciary and EU Institutions

- Filippo Marinoni (University of Urbino): *Italy-Albania Protocol on Migration Management: Attacking the Judiciary, Influencing Brussels, and Endorsing Albania's EU Integration*
- Alice Lacchei (University of Bologna): *Meloni Government and the Judiciary: The Evolution of the Justice and Politics Conflict. From the Berlusconi Affairs to Asylum and Migration Policies*
- Fabian Müller (LUISS University): *Offshoring Asylum, Moving the Hotspot? The Italy-Albania 'Memorandum of Understanding' and Border Externalisation with/in Europe*
- Margherita de Candia (King's College London): *Asymmetric de-Europeanization in Giorgia Meloni's foreign policy: Playing to two audiences?*

Chaired by Dr Marianna Griffini (Northeastern University London)

16:30 – 17:00 Break

17:00 – 18:00 Roundtable discussion

- Professor Tim Bale (Queen Mary University)
- Dr Caterina Mazzilli (ODI Global)
- Dr Angelo Martelli (LSE)

Chaired by Professor Daniele Albertazzi (University of Surrey)

18:00 – 19:00 Finger food reception TBC

LOGISTICS

- **Venue:** LSE European Institute (Yangtze Lecture Theatre, Centre Building 2.01). Please check-in with the security desk in the Centre Building; they will give you directions to the room.
- **Presentations:** please prepare for a 10-minute presentation and bring your slides in a flash drive.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The event is sponsored by the **Political Studies Association Excellence and Impact Fund**, and it is organised by the **PSA Italian Politics Specialist Group**, in collaboration with the LSE European Institute. The Italian Politics committee: Prof. Daniele Albertazzi (University of Surrey), Dr Donatella Bonansinga (University of Southampton), Dr Marta Lorimer (Cardiff University), Dr Marianna Griffini (Northeastern University London).