

European Social Science Genetics Conference 2026

21-22 May 2026

📍 Palazzo Malvezzi Campeggi

PROGRAM – Day 1

0830-0900 *Coffee and welcome*

0900-1030 Sala delle Armi, Chair: Pietro Biroli

Plenary Keynote: Daphne Martschenko (Stanford) – Thinking Through Risk, Benefit, and Social Responsibility in Social Science Genetics

1030-1100 *Coffee*

1100-1230 **Parallel Session 1**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Laurel Raffington

Patrick Turley (USC) – Scientific Efficiency, Author Concentration and Barriers to Entry for Genetic Cohort Studies

Damien M. Morris (King's College) – Behavioral Genetics and Human Agency: How Selectively Deterministic Theories of Free Will Drive Unwarranted Opposition to Behavioral Genetic Research and Undermine Our Moral and Legal Conventions

Camille M. Williams (ENS Paris) – Public science in behavioral genetics: Scientists' views on engagement, misunderstandings, and

Courtroom, Chair: Niels Rietveld

Eric A. Slob (Erasmus) – A Linear Mixed Model with Multiple Moderators Affecting Genetic and Environmental Variance

Ralph Purneso (Oslo) – Longitudinal modeling reveals widespread non-additive genetic effects underlying developmental plasticity

Ronald de Vlaming (VU Amsterdam) – Genome-wide Cross-trait

incentives

1230-1330 **Lunch break and poster session 1**

Lyydia Alajääskö (VU Amsterdam) – Genetic contributions to brain drain and social inequality in the Netherlands

Emanuele Esposito (ENS Paris) – Interaction between genetic predisposition and perinatal factors in the prediction of Special Educational Needs in the Born in Bradford cohort

Stephanie von Hinke (Bristol) – The long-term effects of whooping cough: Evidence from the introduction of a vaccine

Evie Stergiakouli (Bristol) – Common Variant Contributions to Neurodevelopmental Risk in Orofacial Clefts

Perline Demange (Oslo) – PGI-by-Environment interactions: practical guidelines for robust research

Rita Dias Pereira (Nova BSE) – Genetic susceptibilities towards social media use

Gaia Ghirardi (WZB) – Family income volatility, children's education, and genotype: Why instability hurts the middle-class children most

1330-1500 **Parallel Session 2**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Dilnoza Muslimova

Margherita Malanchini (Queen Mary) – From genetic disposition to academic achievement: The mediating role of non-cognitive skills

concordance Analysis Tool

Yujing Lin (King's College) – Genetic nurture effects across trait domains from childhood to early adulthood

Quan Zhou (Queen Mary) – Examining the specific predictive utility of spatial ability for STEM success and subject choice

Tim Wienand (Erasmus) – Within-family dynamics of human capital formation: Experimental evidence on parental time investment

Henriette Bering (Bremen) – The Lack of Enhancement: Socioeconomic Status, Genetic Propensity, and the Unequal Effects of Parental Separation on Educational Achievement

Kerli Ilves (Tartu) – Disentangling causal associations between personality and health behaviours: A Mendelian randomisation study

Luca Donghi (Minnesota) – Ranking versus Homophily in Assortative Mating: A Structural Model with Stable Matching and Implications for Social Stratification

Sverre Ofstad (Oslo) – Gene-environment Interaction in the Diagnosis and Treatment of ADHD

Courtroom, Chair: Gaia Ghirardi

Amanda Hughes (Bristol) – Does maternal genotype modify the developmental consequences of prenatal alcohol exposure? An

across development

Leandro Carvalho (USC) – Personality Traits, Human Capital Formation, and Economic Behavior: Exploiting Random Genetic Variation to Study the Causal Effects of Personality Traits

Sjoerd van Alten (VU Amsterdam) – Parents' externalizing behavior and children's human capital

1500-1530 *Coffee*

1530-1700 **Parallel Session 3**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Rita Dias Perreira

Giovanni S. Bentivoglio (Groningen) – The interaction of genes and parenting in the formation of socioemotional skills

Vinh Phan (Erasmus) – Genetics and the Cognitive Costs of Air Pollution

Shutian Liu (Imperial) – The Unequal Weight of Genes: How Early Life Environments Modify the Effects of Genetic Predispositions

1800-2000 *Aperitivo at* 📍 NU Lounge Bar

analysis in MoBa

Jonathan P. Beauchamp (George Mason) – Genetic Prediction and Adverse Selection

Alessandro Steccanella (USI Lugano) – Beyond Chronological Age: Blood-Based Biological Age as a Predictor of Healthcare Utilisation

Courtroom, Chair: Rafael Ahlskog

Emil Sorensen (Bristol) – The Long-Term Impacts of Dietary Policy: Evidence from the National Loaf

Alexandros Giannelis (Erasmus) – A large-scale adoption study on the intergenerational mobility of education and income

Deniz Fraemke (MPI Berlin) – Developmental Correlates of Polygenic and Epigenetic Indices of Cognition and Educational Attainment from Birth to Young Adulthood

PROGRAM – Day 2

0830-0900 *Coffee*0900-1030 **Parallel Session 4**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Eleanor Sanderson

Kaito Kawakami (King's College) – Combining Advances in Polygenic Scoring**Aysu Okbay** (Amsterdam UMC) – Dissecting the Predictive Accuracy of Polygenic Indexes for Behavioral Phenotypes Across Genetic Ancestries**Qiongshi Lu** (UW-Madison) – One score to rule them all: regularized ensemble polygenic risk prediction with GWAS summary statistics

Courtroom, Chair: Eivind Ystrom

Solveig Løkhammer (Norwegian Institute of Public Health) – Developmental Dynamics of Direct and Indirect Genetic Effects on Sleep Duration**Francesca Meli** (Bristol) – Circadian preferences and work shift: Testing occupational sorting and implications**Silvia Helena Barcellos** (UW-Madison) – Effect of Genetic Risk for Dementia on Work, Income and Wealth of Individuals and their Families1030-1100 *Coffee*1100-1230 **Parallel Session 5**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Paul Hufe

Weilong Zhang (Cambridge) – Revisiting the Fetal Origins Hypothesis: Gene-by-Environment Interactions and Biological Aging**Jessica S. Knott** (MPI Berlin) – Associations among prenatal stress, socioeconomic status, and infant epigenetic aging

Courtroom, Chair: Felix Tropf

Meseret Bazezew (Oslo) – Estimating direct and indirect genetic effects on emerging variation in depressive symptoms in adolescence: a trio PGS analysis in the MoBa cohort**Carson Zhang** (UCLA) – The Long-Run Health Effects of Universal Childhood Health Insurance Coverage and Health Inequality from Genetic Background: Evidence from the UK National Health Service

Nancy D. Báez (UCL) – Nature and Nurture in the Production of Childhood BMI

Perline Demange (Oslo) – Assessing the effects of parent-child genetic similarity and mismatch on personality and psychopathology development

1230-1330 Lunch break and poster session 2

Nicolai Vitt (Bristol) – Estimation of networks of causal effects using Mendelian randomization in a system instrumental variable approach

Henrik Dobewall (Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare) – The triple burden of mental illness? A sibling analysis of parental education, polygenic scores, and gene-environment interactions

Mar Talens Martín-Borregón (Bologna) – Are Cohabiting Couples Epigenetically Similar? Evidence from the UK Household Longitudinal Study

Qinya Feng (Uppsala) – What's the Nature of Genetic Effects on Immigration Policy Preferences? Within-Family PGI Models in a Large Swedish Twin Sample

Pietro Biroli (Bologna) – The biological trace of public health policies: how Medicaid improved epigenetic aging in adolescence

Samuel Berry (Royal Holloway) – Educational experiences and mental health in childhood and early adolescence: evidence from a genetically sensitive investigation in a Norwegian cohort

Eirik H. Kvalvik (Oslo) – Beyond years of schooling: Shifting genetic influences across educational milestones in two Norwegian cohorts

Yuxin Liu (Princeton) – Genetic Selectivity in Migration: Polygenic Insights into Heterogeneous Outcomes of Domestic Migration in the US

Britt Min (Oslo) – Sex, parental educational attainment, and birth month relate to ADHD diagnosis beyond symptoms and genetic liability

Bennett McIntosh (UW-Madison) – The Social Construction of “Race is a Social Construct” in Social Genomics

Johannes Hollenbach (RWI Essen) – Education, Genetic Predisposition, and Health in Old Age

Asya Bulbul (Uppsala) – Genetic Explanations, Group Boundaries, and Welfare Deservingness

Robert Campbell (Oxford) – GLP1R expression protects against 58 diseases but raises risks for 34

1330-1500 **Parallel Session 6**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Nicolai Vitt

Nurfatima Jandarova (Tampere) – Effects of Genetic Propensity for Education on Labor Market and Health Trajectories across the Working Life

Tomeu López-Nieto Veitch (Bologna) – Genetically Informed Estimation of Marginal Returns to Education

Fergus McCormack (Cambridge) – The "Depression Trap": Genetics, Mental Health and Labour Supply

Courtroom, Chair: Hans van Kippersluis

Richard K. Linnér (Leiden) – HAPR: Quantifying the clinical utility of polygenic risk scores with Heritability-Adjusted Prediction

Luyin Zhang (Princeton) – Utilizing DNA to Measure Within-Race Skin Tone Gradients

William D. Hill (Bristol) – Multi-Scale examination of Pleiotropy and common and specific Genetic Influences on socioeconomic status in the UK

1500-1530 *Coffee*

1530-1630 Sala delle Armi, Facilitated by Lydia Alajääskö (VU Amsterdam) and Nadia Harerimana (MPI Berlin)

Plenary panel: Ethical Horizon Scanning – Best Practices in Social Science Genetics

Muna Aikin (MPI Berlin)

Margot van de Weijer (Amsterdam UMC)

1800-2000 *Aperitivo at* 📍 *Frida nel Parco*

FINDING YOUR WAY

Meeting venue:  Palazzo Malvezzi Campeggi

Train: Directions from Bologna Centrale. The venue is approximately a 20–25 minute walk from the train station. Exit the station towards “Piazza delle Medaglie d’Oro”, walk towards Via Indipendenza, continue to the city centre, then turn onto Via Zamboni. Alternatively, take a bus (lines 20, 25, 27, or 30) from the station area and hop off near the city centre (e.g. Teatro Comunale / Porta Zamboni stops), followed by a short walk (5–10 minutes). A taxi from the station takes about 10 minutes and typically costs €10–15.

Plane: Take the Marconi Express monorail to Bologna Centrale (approx. 7 minutes, around €12.80 one way). From Bologna Centrale, follow the directions above (walk, bus, or taxi). Alternatively, a taxi from the airport to Via Zamboni 22 takes about 20–25 minutes and costs approximately €20–25.

Taxis: +39 051 372727

Any questions? essgnconf@gmail.com

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