

# 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) – Locating Social Responsibility in Social Genomics

1030-1100 *Coffee*

1100-1230 **Parallel Session 1**

Sala delle Armi, Chair: Stephanie von Hinke

**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 concordance Analysis Tool

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) – Copy Number 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

**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

### 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

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

**Daniel T. Santos** (Universidad de La Laguna) – Alcohol Culture, Childhood Peers, and Intimate Partner Violence

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: Emil Sorensen

**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

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

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

## 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

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

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](mailto:essgnconf@gmail.com)

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