



Crises, disasters, destructions

In recent decades, the topic of environmental disasters and climate crisis has attracted increasing interest, not only among researchers and scholars, but also and above all among the public, especially the younger generations.

Recent environmental disasters such as (to name but a few) the drought in Catalonia, the fires in Canada and Australia, and the floods in Italy and China, underline the urgency of the subject and the direct involvement of every single citizen in an issue that is becoming more and more pressing every day.

In addition to this, the precarious geopolitical balances further aggravated by the Russian-Ukrainian conflict and the wars in the Middle East, as well as the Covid-19 pandemic and its socio-economic consequences, have contributed to fuelling a sense of uncertainty and instability in many ways.

Starting from these thematic cues, the second meeting of the European Graduate Collaboration Conference intends to investigate the themes of disaster, crisis and destruction from both a physical and metaphorical point of view, from an interdisciplinary and international perspective. Contributions may cover different disciplines and investigate not only the underlying causes of sudden and disastrous change, but also the consequences, solutions and reactions that such changes may cause from a physical, moral, psychological, cultural and social perspective.



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI VERONA
Dipartimento Culture e Civiltà

Crisis, disaster and destruction, therefore, not only as a negative experience, but also as an opportunity for rebirth and renewal according to the etymological meaning of the term from the Greek *κρίσις* “choice, decision, decisive phase”.

Topics may include but are not limited to thematic fields such as the following:

- Humanities in times of crisis and crisis in the humanities
- Forms and narratives of contemporary uncertainty: from pandemic to new wars
- Crisis and prospects for revival
- Institutions and citizenship in times of crisis
- Age of anxiety, age of new possibilities
- Climate change and social identity

The conference will be opened by a keynote lecture, details of which will be finalized in the coming weeks.

We look forward to meeting you in Verona,
best regards

Massimo Natale

Ph.D. Coordinator – Philology, Literature and Performing Arts
University of Verona