

**DOES MODERNITY RESIST THE INTERNATIONAL CRISIS?
NOTION(S) OF MODERNITY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE OF CHINESE ORIGIN AND
CHINESE STUDENTS IN ITALY**

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This paper undertakes to examine the notion of modernity as it unfolds among two different groups of young Chinese in Italy: those of Chinese origin or living abroad with their families who migrated from China; and those who study abroad but whose families are in China.

The paper will first analyze how modernity is perceived by young people of Chinese origin in some Italian locations (mainly Central Italy) in their search for working opportunities. While working orientations of young Chinese in Italy are strongly dictated by the national/international contexts and by their own family background and needs, the paper will analyze which spaces of choice are accessible to young Chinese in Italy and which jobs are perceived as more modern and in tune with needs and aspirations of the younger generations of the Chinese diaspora. Besides, the paper will also try to understand how much in the eyes of these young people the current international crisis affects and modifies the perception of where and how in the world modernity is best pursued.

To a certain extent, the paper will also try to compare the situation in Italy with trends among young Chinese in some other European countries: are choices of modernity and basic notions of modernity shared by young diasporic members across Europe or does the perception of modern working occupations differ according to different economic performances and different job opportunities arising in the different countries?

The second part of the paper will focus on the perception of modernity among a group of Chinese students in one or more locations in Italy. What role do Italy and Europe play vis-à-vis China in their notion of modernity? How much each of the geographical areas contribute to the self perception as young (Chinese) people in tune with the dictate of modernity?