

# Molecular

# Transformations

## Gramsci, Subaltern Groups, and Prospects of Systemic Change in the Arab World

8/9 May 2025

Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Cagliari



**Thursday 8th May 2025** Welcome & opening remarks  
15:00-16:00

**Marco Pitzalis**, Director of SPOL, Department of Political and Social Sciences,  
University of Cagliari

**Gianni Fresu**, Director of GramsciLab, University of Cagliari

**Gianfranco Bottazzi**, President of the Istituto A. Gramsci della Sardegna

*Session 1*  
16:00-18:30

Chair: **Patrizia Manduchi**, GramsciLab, University of Cagliari

**John Chalcraft**, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)

*Translatability in Gramscian Languages of Popular Mobilization*

**Alessandra Marchi**, University of Cagliari

*On Subaltern Social Groups in the Middle East (19th-20th Century): Towards and Beyond a Gramscian Inventory*

**Roberto Roccu**, King's College London

*Revisiting Subaltern Social Groups in an Age of Augmented Fragmentation: Relative Surplus Populations and Political Subject Formation after the Arab Uprisings*

**Andrea Teti**, University of Salerno, and **Gennaro Gervasio**, Roma Tre University

*Gramsci's Southern Question as Method: Nested Patterns of Epistemic and Material Exploitation in EU Policies towards the Southern Neighbourhood*

**Aula Magna, Department of Political and Social Sciences**  
**Viale Sant'Ignazio 78, Cagliari**

**Friday 9th May 2025**

*Session 2*  
9:00-11:30

**Aula Magna, Department of Political and Social Sciences**  
**Viale Sant'Ignazio 78, Cagliari**

Chair: **Alessandra Marchi**, GramsciLab, University of Cagliari

**Hisham Bustani**, Sciences Po - CERI, Institut Français du Proche-Orient

*Preparing for Revolutionary Times? Chronic Crisis of Authority and Constructive Subversion in Contemporary Jordan*

**Baccar Gherib**, El Manar University, Tunis

*La question sociale et l'échec de la transition démocratique en Tunisie (2011-2021)*

**Yasmine Kherfi**, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)

*Revolutionary Afterlives and Epistemic Struggles: SWANA Knowledge Production and Cultural Labour from Berlin*

**Patrizia Manduchi**, University of Cagliari

*Resistance and Resilience in a Gramscian Perspective: Palestinian sumud in the Occupied Territories as 'Molecular Transformations'*

**Mehdi Shakarchi**, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)

*Iraq's 2019 Tishreen Uprising: Good Sense, Self-Activity and Conceptions of the World*

**Coffee break**

11:30-12:00

*Session 3*

12:00-13:00

**What next?** Brainstorming and planning meeting

Meeting and debate among workshop participants, GramsciLab, and Editors-in-Chief of *Notebooks. The Journal for Studies on Power* (Brill)

*Book launch*

17:00-18:30

**Biblioteca Fondo Gramsciano (Gramsci Fund Library), Viale Sant'Ignazio 84, Cagliari**

**John Chalcraft**, *From Subordination to Revolution: A Gramscian Theory of Popular Mobilization* (University of California Press, 2025)

In dialogue with **Roberto Roccu**, King's College London

