

# MEND THE GAP IN ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Rome, May 14-15, 2026  
Venue: EIEF - Via Sallustiana 62, Rome

## Preliminary Program

Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2026

10:00 – 10:30 Registration and Welcome coffee

10:30 – 10:40 Openings

### SESSION I

10:40 – 11:10 *What Shapes Disadvantaged Women's Labor Market Choices? Evidence from Discrete Choice Experiments in Eastern Europe*

[Tomasz Gajderowicz](#) (University of Warsaw) with V. Morrica and C. Ferre

11:10 – 11:40 *Self-Confidence of Job Market Candidates: Is there a Gender Gap?*

[Patricia Funk](#) (Università della Svizzera Italiana) with A. Marchese and R. Intinghero

11:40 – 12:00 Small Coffee break

12:00 – 13:00 Keynote Speech by Prof. [Kjell Gunnar Salvanes](#) (Norwegian School of Economics)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

### SESSION II

14:00 – 14:30 *Who Runs the Business? Gender Bias in SME Lending and Beliefs about Female Ownership*

[Aletheia Donald](#) (World Bank) with A. Fruttero and C. Broccolini

14:30 – 15:00 *Start-up Visas Around the Baltics*

[Helena Schweiger](#) (EBRD) with T. Deisemann

15:00 – 15:30 *Board Gender Quotas and Female Borrowing: Evidence from Loan-Level Data*

[Fabrizio Core](#) (LUISS Guido Carli)

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

### SESSION III

16:00 – 16:30 *Family Planning and Ethnic Heritage: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa*

[Graziella Bertocchi](#) (Università di Modena e Regio Emilia & President- EIEF) with A. Dimico and C. Falco

16.30 – 17:00 *Agricultural Income Growth and Gender Inequality in Education: Evidence from a Cotton Price Shock in Tajikistan*

[Angelina Nazarova](#) (University of Essex)

17:00 – 18:15 POLICY DISCUSSION ROUNDTABLE

18:15 – 18:30 Group Photo

18:30 – 20:00 Cocktail Dinner (Apericena)

Poster Session I (throughout the day)

Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2026

09:30 – 10:00 **Women Business and The Law 2026 - Benchmarking Laws for Jobs and Inclusive Growth**  
[Ana Maria Tribin](#) (World Bank)

SESSION IV

10:00 – 10:30 *Stay Home, Return to Work, or Go for Another Baby? Working From Home Availability and Decisions After Childbearing*

[Dzsamila Vonnák](#) (ELTE KRTK) with R. Peto and A. Szabo-Morvai

10:30 – 11:00 *Expanding Paternity Leave: Effects on Beliefs, Norms, and Gender Gaps*

[Philip Rosenbaum](#) (Copenhagen Business School) with H. Kleven, C. Landais, A. S. Lassen, H. Steingrimsdottir and J. Sogaard

11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

SESSION V

11:30 – 12:00 *Mapping the Gender Dimension in Taxation and Budgeting: A Cross-Country Study of Laws, Policies and Practices*

[Hannelore M. L. Niesten](#) (World Bank) with A. Sakhonchik and L. Ferraz di Ricco

12:00 – 12:30 *Beyond Time: Unveiling the Invisible Burden of Mental Load*

[Francesca Barigozzi](#) (Università di Bologna) with P. Biroli, N. Montinari, S. Vitellozzi and E. Pisanelli

12:30 – 15:00 *Closing Lunch*

Poster Session II (throughout the day)

POSTER SESSION I – MAY 14

*Joint Taxation and Intra-Household Inequality: Evidence from Same-Sex Couples in Germany*

[Elena Herold](#) (LMU Munich) with L. Koch and C. Neisser

*Intergenerational Mobility in Welfare: Wages and Amenities*

[Natalia Khorunzhina](#) (Copenhagen Business School) with J. Wedewer and R. Wu

*Fast-Track to Family? Evidence from the G8 High School Reform in Germany*

[Olivia Masi](#) (Università Bocconi) with H. Alm and M. Stockburger

*Subjective Survival Beliefs, Cognitive Skills and Investments in Risky Assets*

[Francesco Maura](#) (Università Bocconi) with C. Dal Bianco, F. Parodi, and G. Weber

FINGROW: Evidence to Action

[Martin Meleck](#) (World Bank)

*Who Cares? Parental Leave Benefits and Household Division of Childcare*

[Federica Meluzzi](#) (Università Bocconi) with P. Molitor and J. Wegmann

*Gender Norms, Family, and Career: A Survey Study in Italy*

[Natalia Montinari](#) (Università di Bologna) with F. Barigozzi and G. Righetto

*Dissatisfied and Gone? Gendered Patterns in Job Satisfaction and Employment Histories*

[Monika Oczkowska](#) (Warsaw School of Economics)

POSTER SESSION II – MAY 15

*The Forgotten NEETs”*

[Pietro Galeone](#) (Università Bocconi) with T. Boeri and E. Cattaneo

*Firms, Sorting, and the Gender Pay Gap in Morocco's Formal Sector”*

[Louise Rita Paul-Delvaux](#) (World Bank) with F. Marzo and M. Fregoni

*Improving Women’s Participation in STEM: Evidence from Tajikistan”*

[Juni Singh](#) (World Bank)

*Parental Leave Uptake in Denmark: Fathers and Workplace Constraints”*

[Sina Johanna Smid](#) (Università Bocconi) with S. A. Koob

*Gender Identities and Relative Income in Polish Households: Implications for Marriage, Labor Supply and Marital Stability”*

[Aleksandra Sojka](#) (Universidad Carlos III) with K. Goraus-Tanska and Z. B. Liberda