



## Goals of the First Summer School in Padua

We have agreed that the priority of the first summer school – and perhaps all summer schools – should be on research. Since demonstrating the capacity to conduct original research is the central achievement of a PhD, we want to primarily support the development of research competences. Here we have decided to keep the following two points in mind, which need to be balanced, with both of them receiving enough time. The additional parts of the summer school will focus on important transversal competences and skills needed for a successful career at the forefront of our academic discipline and the CGC profession.

### Conceptual Research

*We want to support you<sup>1</sup> in finalizing your research projects.*

The summer schools should provide you with **space to reflect** about your own work, **present** it to others and **discuss** it with other researchers. By working together with other doctoral researchers and giving them **feedback** on their work, you should also develop your general abilities to deal with your own research problems more effectively. We want you to return home with good ideas on how to improve what you are already doing, and **enhanced abilities for dealing with conceptual research problems**. Each doctoral researcher will have the opportunity to present and discuss a piece of PhD research for one hour at the summer school.

### Research Methodology

*We want to introduce you to state-of-the-art research approaches and methods and engage you in deliberating about general scientific standards.*

This is ideally achieved through **interactive methodological training**: In advance of the summer school, we want you to **read materials** on the quantitative and qualitative methods or approaches which will be at the centre of the summer school. At the summer school, you will actively engage in **testing out** these research methods or approaches, **discussing** and **reflecting** them together with others. The presented research approaches and methodologies will be wide enough, for you to be able to relate them to their own work. Also, their relevance for CGC-related research will be safeguarded.

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<sup>1</sup> We have formulated the concepts as a proposition to doctoral researchers in our field.



### Food for Thought and Reflection

*We want to support you in developing your competences in shaping relevant policies and innovating your field of practice, so we can establish a new discipline in Europe together.*

Next these research-oriented activities, we want to dedicate a part of the summer school to the development of transferable skills (leadership, personal development etc.). At the first summer school we will concentrate on the **theme of innovation**, relating it to policy, practice and science in our field. Through an **interactive workshop**, we want you to work together in developing innovative ideas and thinking about how they could be implemented, addressing general challenges for the field of career guidance and counselling, related policies, the training of career counsellors, the use of new technologies etc.

Through this workshop we want to support you in developing your **entrepreneurial and conceptual skills**, especially related to networking and communication skills, innovation skills (how to identify, develop and realize innovative ideas), but also intercultural competence (understanding diversity, exchanging values etc.), which is highly important in realizing new ideas in Europe.

### Building Bridges for the Future

*We want to stimulate the development of a European research community in our field by offering you opportunities to work together and identify joint research ideas.*

What we are working towards is not just a series of independent summer schools which are offered regularly on different topics. We also need to invest time into the identification and realization of joint, international and interdisciplinary research projects. After all, a priority of the ECADOC project is to **set up structures for international, collaborative research on larger ('grand') research themes**. Through the development of a **European Research Agenda (ERA)**, which is an important target of the ECADOC project, we want to set up these kinds of structures to increase research collaboration between our different institutions, to tackle grand research questions, and to offer adequate career development opportunities to doctoral and post-doctoral researchers in Europe.

At the summer school, we want to engage you in becoming part of a European research community in our field, in identifying grand research themes for the future and in developing innovative research strategies for large-scale international projects.