
[Recommendations]

Bronzini Micol, *Nuove forme dell'abitare. L'housing sociale in Italia*, Roma: Carocci, 2014, pp.270, ISBN: 9788843073467

In Italy homeownership has always been widespread and social housing policies have always played a marginal role. The long-term real estate speculation and the most recent economic crisis have come together and have contributed to a renewed outbreak of housing problems, involving ever broader strata of the population. The text focuses on the new “policies for living” – the updated edition of “housing policy” – aimed at ensuring that citizens not only have access to decent housing, but also the right to live in a “sustainable space”, from the environmental one to the social one, through the promotion of innovative solutions to social housing.

R. Carlini, *Come siamo cambiati*, Roma-Bari: Laterza, 2015, pp. 172, ISBN: 9788858121207

The book examines the “great transformation” that has affected the Italian society over the past decade profoundly changing our individual and social behaviors. After the reconstruction of the main economic and demographic changes, the study devotes some empirical focus to the labour market, with particular attention to the situation of women.

L. Gallino, *Il denaro, il debito e la doppia crisi*, Torino: Einaudi, 2015, pp.200, ISBN: 9788806228347

The crisis of capitalism has many faces: the inability to sell everything that is produced; the reduction of producers of goods and services; the development of a limit-less financial system. From the 1980s onwards, this crisis has also affected the ecological system. In this scenario of double criticality, capitalism has reacted by increasing the irresponsible exploitation of life support systems (through the colonization of the spheres of life from the body and its health conditions to the food and the environment) with an ideology called “neo-liberalism”.

A. Gherardini, *Squarci nell'avorio. Le università italiane e l'innovazione economica*, Firenze: FUP, 2015, pp.178, ISBN: 9788866558712

For a long time, the university has been depicted as an ivory tower: distant, disconnected from the practical concerns of everyday life, detached from society, and particularly far from the economic sphere. With the so-called “third mission” universities will have the new and complex goal of transferring their knowledge to the production system, and to build or strengthen connections with companies and governments. The book, through a rigorous lens of comparative analysis of the national systems of innovation and related case studies, attempts to shed light on this feature of Italian universities: inquiring about the spread of these practices, the effectiveness of different channels of transfer and, more generally, about the contribution that the same universities play in the social construction of innovation.

Saskia Sassen, *Espulsioni. brutalità e complessità nell'economia globale*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2015, pp.296, ISBN: 9788815258007

The book offers an original approach to issues of inequality and poverty. The global economy forcedly pushes workers and small and medium-sized enterprises beyond the confines of the system, making them invisible. Every measure of austerity, economic policies and their borders, and debt consolidation programs are nothing but “disciplinary mechanisms” aimed to support and strengthen the new global economy.

S. Zamagni, *Prudenza*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2015, pp.128, ISBN: 9788815259868

The dominant economic power mistakenly conceives carefulness as risk aversion alone, forgetting the meaning given by the classics: caution as wisdom. The problem of contemporary society is seeing beyond the short-term benefits and to transfer the principle of caution to the public sphere.

