Objective

Financial literacy is necessary to spend our money wisely and understand how financial instruments work. In an increasingly complex financial landscape, today only half of the EU adult population has an adequate understanding of basic financial concepts. EduMoney tackles this issue from a historical perspective to offer the first systematic, comprehensive, and digital analysis of the skills and knowledge underpinning financial literacy during another period of increasing financial complexity: the medieval ‘Commercial Revolution’. The focus is on money ‘itself’, and how this was deployed and represented in Tuscan abacus manuals and merchants’ notebooks, the pedagogical tools of the time. The project analyses the period
between 1202, when Fibonacci completed his Liber Abaci, and 1478, when the first printed abacus manual known as Aritmetica di Treviso was published. By adopting an interdisciplinary approach that combines methods from economic history, medieval literature, and the history of economic thought, with the support of the latest digital platforms for text analysis, I will digitise, transcribe, and translate a selected corpus of abacus manuals and merchants’ notebooks. This will allow a comparative and digital study of these sources to identify (cross-)references to money that will be grouped into ‘typological families’. The resulting categorisation will form the basis for an in-depth analysis leading to an innovative treatment of money as a heuristic and pedagogical instrument, and to a more holistic understanding of how people lived, learnt, and conceptualised their lives as economic actors. The enhancement of financial literacy among different age groups through a series of didactic and outreach activities will empower people by endowing them with the right tools to make informed decisions to improve their economic wellbeing, thus tackling social and gender inequalities for the development of a more inclusive Europe.

**Fields of science**

- social sciences > sociology > social issues > social inequalities > gender inequality
- humanities > history and archaeology > history
- humanities > languages and literature > literature studies > literary genres
- social sciences > political sciences > political transitions > revolutions
- natural sciences > computer and information sciences > artificial intelligence > heuristic programming

**Keywords**

- Money
- Financial Literacy
- Abacus Manuals
- Merchants' Notebooks
- Tuscany
- Digital Humanities
- Monetary History
- Financial History
- History of the Economic Thought
- History of Education

**Programme(s)**

- HORIZON.1.2 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) - MAIN PROGRAMME

**Topic(s)**

2 of 4
Call for proposal

HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01

See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme

HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-GF - HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships

Coordinator

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Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Links

Contact the organisation
Website
Participation in EU R&I programmes
HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding

€ 0,00

Partners (1)
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United States

Net EU contribution

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Links

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Other funding

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