SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION BRIEF

STSM start and end date: 2022-05-01 – 2022-06-05

Grantee name: Álvaro Domínguez Armas

Home institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisboa, PT

Host Institution: Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milano, IT

Research interest:

Álvaro Domínguez-Armas is a PhD candidate specialising in argumentation theory and philosophy of language, as well as political philosophy. His work focuses on researching communicative strategies to confront the harms of hate speech to political protests in deliberative contexts. He has published work on how speakers can transmit hate messages by surreptitious means.

STSM Summary

The main purpose of the visit was to investigate argumentative methods to confront the effects of hate speech in public discussions. In particular, to investigate the argumentative strategies that victims of hate speech can develop to deal with hate speech in the public sphere. The visit was more directly related to the objectives of WG2, whose chief purpose is to apply an inventory of tools of public argumentation that determine the extent to which contributions to an argumentation facilitate rational solutions to problems of public policy disagreement.

During the grantee’s visit to U. Vita-Salute San Rafaele (UniSR), he had numerous meetings with Bianca Cepollaro to discuss hypothetical communicative strategies that could be implemented. In addition, he held various meetings with UniSR PhD students and participated in academic activities such as reading groups and lectures that enriched the research project.

The main results of the visit are the following. Firstly, the presentation of a joint proposal on counterspeech for the congress organised by the Spanish Society of Analytical Philosophy (SEFA) in December (2022). The notion of counterspeech studies communicative ways of confronting hate speech. The proposal for the symposium includes the participation of Bianca Cepollaro (UniSR), Laura Caponetto (U. of Cambridge), Claudia Picazo (UNED) and Álvaro Domínguez-Armas (U. Nova de Lisboa). Secondly, the project carried out during the STSM will form part of the grantee’s dissertation and may become a paper about strategies for dealing with hate speech.