

### **Intergenerational Equity: a new social norm**

by Pierpaolo Donati

The essay develops a relational perspective of intergenerational equity. According to the author we should recognise the morpho-genetic process of generational relations and overcome the dominant model based upon the primacy of the State: every social system (State, market, Third Sector) uses a different symbolic code in connecting generations and the author points out how they can be really fair among generations.

### **Sustainability and Intergenerational Justice**

by Brian Barry

According to the author it is possible to adapt the classical principles of distributive justice (equal rights, responsibility, vital interests, mutual advantage) to the case of generational relations. The crucial concept to face the dilemmas of generational equity is one of sustainability, which is interpreted as a normative concept: the author claims that we are morally obliged to preserve an equal stock of opportunities for future generations.

### **Intergenerational Equity: notes for a sociological analysis**

by Fabio Piancastelli

After a brief description of the different meanings of the term “generation”, the paper discusses the theoretical difficulties which are connected with the application of the traditional theories of justice to the case of the generational relations. These difficulties are basically due to an individualistic and utilitarian approach which frames justice as mutual advantage and doesn't value the importance of family. The author analyses some criteria of generational equity operating in the political-administrative system, focusing on pensionistic systems and means-testing techniques.

### **Framing the debate over generational equity, generational interdependence and social security reform in the United States**

by John B. Williamson, Tay K. McNamara, Stephanie A. Howling

The article analyzes the differences between the generational equity and generational interdependence conceptual packages used to frame arguments in the debate over Social Security reform in the United States. It begins with a history of the generational equity debate. This is followed by an analysis of the assumptions,

values, and beliefs that inform each of these two ideological frames. It presents an analysis of why the generational equity frame has dominated the debate and highlights some of the limitations of this perspective. Recent applications are discussed with particular attention to the proposal to partially privatize Social Security.