

# Social Research Call 2020

## Selected projects

**Title:** COVID-19 cohort in Spain: social dynamics, mental health and inequalities

**Acronym:** CONTENT

**Project leader:** Manolis Kogevinas

**Host organisation:** ISGlobal

**Main purpose of the project:** The COVID-19 pandemic has wide and long-lasting effects on society. We will evaluate the impact that the pandemic and policies to control it may have on mental health, behaviours and social inequalities. With our social partners we will promote the development of effective responses to social challenges of this crisis

**Design/methodology/approach:** We will follow 20,000 people in Spain, aged between 15-85, who are already included in existing epidemiological cohort studies, for a period of 2 years. We will contact them repeatedly through web-based questionnaires and an app. We will also work with civil society partners to evaluate the scientific evidence and propose priorities in policy.

**Potential results:** We will provide robust evidence in Spain on the wider effects of the COVID-19 crisis, particularly for mental health and social inequalities and will develop methods that can be applied in other studies. Finally, we will develop a wide civil-society consultation to promote efficient policies to address the social crisis.

**Social relevance of the research:** The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to increase the incidence of mental health problems in the population, in particular post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, and self-harm. Social inequalities are expected to modulate the impact on health in particularly vulnerable groups, including women with children and people living in poverty.

**Originality/value of the project:** There exists considerable research on biomedical aspects of COVID-19 but there is little research on long term social and behavioural aspects and health inequalities related to COVID-19. Effects on different population groups are bound to differ and this can only be examined in large population studies like this.