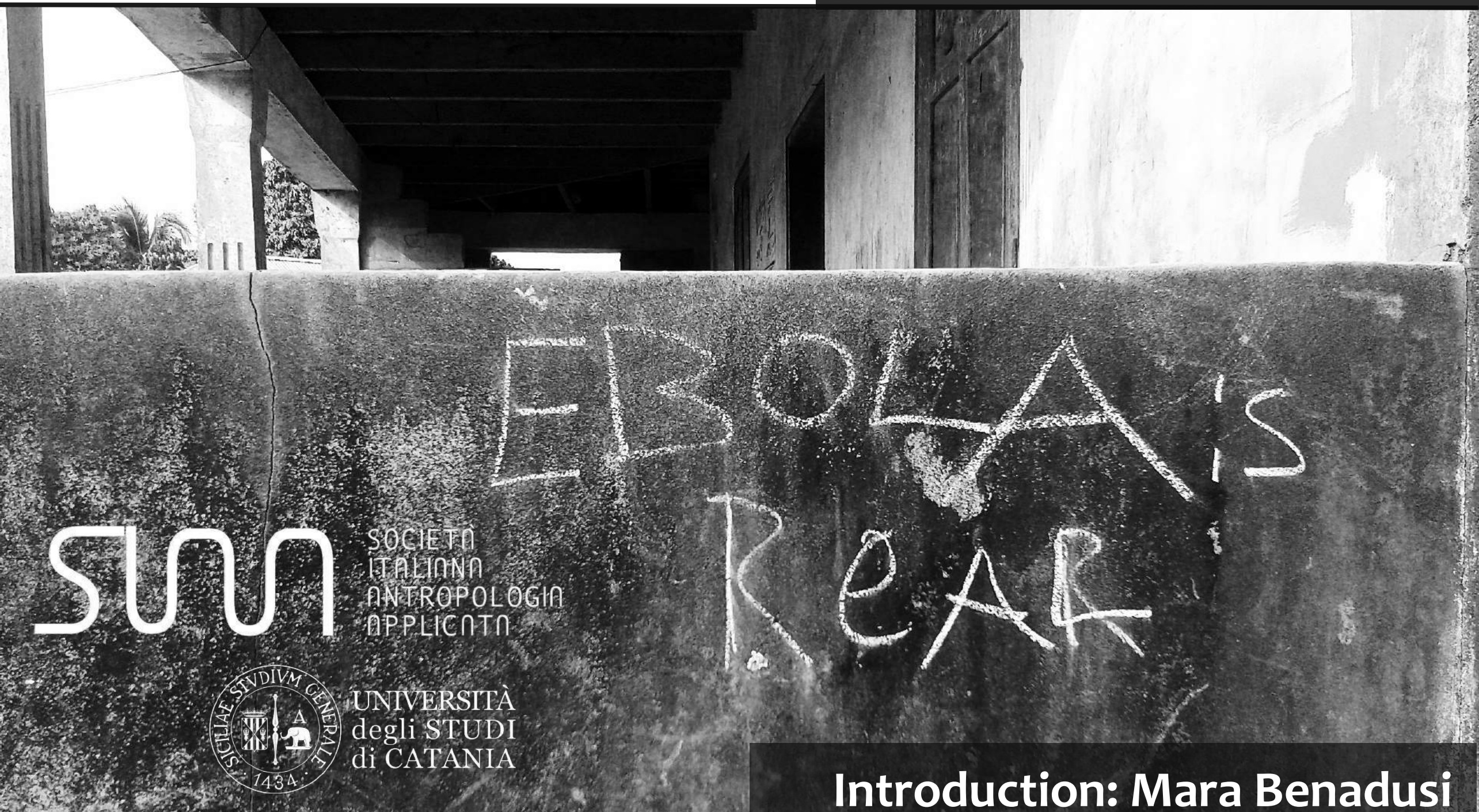


QUARANTINE AND ITS MALCONTENTS: LESSONS FROM THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC

Italian Society for
Applied Anthropology
Speakers' Corner n. 4



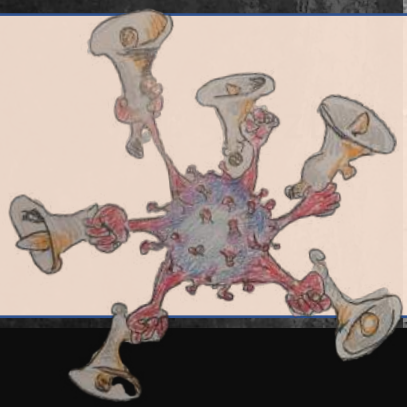
Umberto Pellecchia
June 15, 17:00 | 19:00
(UTC+2 Rome)

Introduction: Mara Benadusi
Moderator: Luca Rimoldi

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Umberto Pellecchia has been working as anthropologist for various NGOs in South Sudan, Egypt, Malawi, Liberia, Italy, Belgium, mainly on forced migrations, outbreaks and access to care. In 2012 he joined Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) during the Ebola Epidemic emergency. He is currently Qualitative Research Advisor for MSF Operational Center in Bruxelles.

Based on a fieldwork experience within *Médecins Sans Frontières* during the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, this webinar focuses on the deployment of the State-enforced quarantine in Liberia. In that circumstance local communities responded with resistance to an institutional lockdown imposed from above. However, rather than a form of indifference to virus-spreading control measures – as imagined by local authorities and international NGOs –, this resistance did translate in community-driven practices aimed at containing the epidemic while keeping networks of solidarity. This helped both institutions and transnational health agencies to shape the epidemic's control in a more inclusive manner. A result that will give us a ground for comparison with the current Covid-19 pandemic.