



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

PROGRAM

XX Conference of Italian Researchers in the World

Thursday, June 18th, 2026

Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Sala Polifunzionale, Via Santa Maria in Via 37A, Roma

09:30 – 13:00 (Local Time) –

Moderated by

Incoronata Boccia

Journalist RAI, Director of the Press Office

09:45 Welcome/National Anthem

PDC Italian Government Representative (TBA)

Antonella Polimeni

Rector

Sapienza Università di Roma

Andrea Giuffrida

President Texas Scientific Italian Community (TSIC)

10:15 Opening Remarks

Vincenzo Arcobelli

Founder & Conference Chairman
Rep. General Council Italians Abroad

Ignazio La Russa

President of the Senate of Italian Republic

Anna Maria Bernini (video message)

Minister of University and Research

Francesca Mariotti

Presidente ENEA

10:45 Associations of Italian Researchers Abroad - "Their Role"

Introduction

Simone Lucatello

Ph.D., Member of the CRIM Scientific Committee, Senior Researcher at Istituto Mora, Mexican Ministry for Humanities, Science and Technology

Carla Molteni

Association of Italian Scientists in the UK (AISUK)

Fernando Ciaramitaro

Associazione Ricercatori Italiani in Messico (ARIM)

Ignazio Scimemi

Association of Italian Researchers in Spain (ARIS)

Vincenzo Di Bartolo

Rete dei Ricercatori Italiani in Francia (RÉCIF)

Chiara Saracini

Associazione Ricercatori e Studiosi Italiani in Cile (ARSIC)

11:20 Sessions Presentation

AEROSPACE

Moderators

Veronica Bindi

Ph.D., Chair of Physics and Astronomy Department, University of Hawaii

Francesco Fusco

FISE- Executive Director Foundation for International Space Education-USA

Walter Villadei

ITAF Colonel Walter Villadei, Astronaut, Head of ITAF Representative Office for commercial spaceflight and access to space at Axiom, Houston, Texas
"Commercial Spaceflight in the New Space Economy. Opportunities and Challenges. The Ax-3 Mission Case"

Gabriele Carugati

Station Leader Glaciologist

Erika Rea

Astronomer

Andrea Galletto

ICT Manager

Andrea Traverso

Scientific Electronics

Concordia Station, Antarctica

"Enabling Science at the Edge of Human Exploration: Over Twenty Years of Italian Antarctic Logistics at Concordia Station"

Maria Giovanna Dainotti

Ph.D., National Astronomical

Observatory of Japan

"Gamma-Ray Bursts as An Independent High-Redshift Probe of Dark Energy"

AI/INNOVATION

Giuseppe Loianno

Ph.D., Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences (EECS), University of California, Berkeley

"AI-Driven Super Autonomous Flying Robots"

Luca Tagliaretti

Executive Director of the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre, Romania

"The ECCC Role in Promoting Research and Innovation"

STEAM

Moderator

Stefano Boccaletti

Ph.D., Director of Research at the Institute of Complex Systems of the Italian CNR, Florence.

Member of the *Accademia Europea*
Fellow of the *American Physical Society*

Editor in Chief of *Chaos Solitons and Fractals*



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Simone Napolitano

Ph.D., Polymer and Soft Matter Dynamics, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

“Tiny Movements, Big Changes: A New Route to Predicting Material Performance and Lifetime”

Ludovico Minati

Ph.D., Director of the Interdisciplinary Nonlinear Dynamics Laboratory (INDLab), School of Life Science and Technology, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Chengdu, China

“Chaos and Synchronization: Possible Bases for Innovation in Analog Design and Computing”

Charo del Genio

Ph.D., Trakia University, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

“Intrinsic Disorder and Isomerization Control in Auxin Co-Receptors”

Paola Comparin

Ph.D., Researcher at Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, Chile

“Symmetry and connections: a geometric journey from Italy to Chile”

13:15-13:55 Lunch Break

14:00 Sessions Presentation

MEDICINE

Moderators

Antonella Fioravanti

Ph.D, Université libre de Bruxelles, and Expert Evaluator for European agencies, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

Graziano Pinna

Ph.D., The Psychiatric Institute, Department of Psychiatry, UI Center on Depression and Resilience (UICDR), Center for Alcohol Research in

Epigenetics (CARE), Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago

Alessandro Frigiola

Ph.D., Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Director of International Cooperation -Training Center, Pres. Gruppo San Donato East Europe

“Corsi di Simulazione Chirurgica Razionale”

Andrea Natale

Ph.D., Executive Medical Director of the Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute, Austin, Texas, USA, Director Cardiovascular Diseases Residency Program, Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata

“A Journey to Improve the Management of Cardiac Arrhythmias”

Valeria Ricotti

University College London CEO & Co-Founder Vesalic Limited London UK

“Redefining Neurodegenerative Disease: From Systemic Biology to Transformative Therapeutics”

Camillo Ricordi

Ph.D., Director Emeritus of the Cell Transplant Center and Diabetes Research Institute, University of Miami.

“40 Years of Global Impact The Ricordi Chamber and Automated Method for Human Islet Isolation and Transplantation”

HUMANITIES

Moderator

Georgia Cardoso

Ph.D., Architect at the University of Montreal (UdeM), Canada

Simona Martorana

Ph.D., Australian National University, (Canberra), Australia

“Dante’s Vergil: Classical Poetry and Its Afterlife in the *Divina Commedia*”

15:15 International research excellence agreements and opportunities

Giuseppe Ciccarone

Moderator

Deputy Rector for International Relations Sapienza University of Rome

Antonio Giordano

Ph.D., Founder and Director of Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine at Temple University, Philadelphia.

“SHRO: Over Twenty Years of Science, Solidarity and Breakthroughs”

Angela Lombardi

Ph.D., Director of the Center for Cultural Sustainability at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Anna Irene Del Monaco

Ph.D., Faculty of Architecture, Sapienza University of Rome.

“International Agreement between University of Texas at San Antonio and Sapienza University of Rome”

Discussion About Projects, Investments, Incentives and Opportunities for the Scientific Research and Italian Researchers

David Della Morte Canosci

Ph.D., Personal Adviser to the Minister for University and Research (MUR), Direttore UOC Epatologia, Nutrizione Clinica e Geriatria, Policlinico Universitario di Tor Vergata, Roma



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Flavia Riccardo

Ph.D., Coordinator External Relations
Office and Centre for International
Affairs, Istituto Superiore di Sanità

Marco Silvi

Cons. Amb., Head of Bilateral
Scientific Cooperation Office (MAECI)

Q&A Session

17:30 Conclusion

Vincenzo Arcobelli

Founder & Conference Chairman