

WOMEN ECONOMIC FORUM ITALIA

PEOPLE. IDEAS. LEADERSHIP. IMPACT.

TURIN • 24-26 OCTOBER 2026



IN COLLABORATION WITH



WITH THE SUPPORT OF



WELCOME TO TURIN.

Marilena Citelli Francese

President, WEF Italy



Welcome to Turin, a city that has long known how to turn ideas into industry, and industry into culture.

My deepest gratitude goes to Donna Laura Mattarella, Honorary President of our Forum, whose presence honours us. My heartfelt thanks also go to Fondazione CRT, our partners and speakers, and each of you joining us here.

For three days, Turin becomes our Agorà: a place where different voices meet, where we listen as carefully as we speak, and where ideas take shape through exchange. "Women Who Move the World. Come Move It With Us" is both the spirit of this gathering and an invitation. Each of us brings something valuable. Together, we have a responsibility to turn that contribution into action.

We meet at a time of profound uncertainty. Artificial intelligence is changing how we learn, work and make decisions. Conflict is testing our capacity for peace and cooperation. The climate crisis demands urgency and resolve. Too many young people struggle to find a sense of belonging and confidence in their future.

These challenges concern us all. Women help address them every day through research and education, enterprise and public service, care and community leadership. Their knowledge and experience must help shape the decisions that determine our shared future.

Our conversations will span trust and education, work and leadership, culture and identity, water, food, energy and health. We will bring disciplines, generations and perspectives together, making room for honest disagreement, fresh thinking and shared ambition.

Women and men alike have a part in this work. No future worth building can be shaped by half of humanity alone.

My hope is that we leave Turin with a clearer sense of what we can contribute, new partnerships and the determination to follow through. The value of this Forum will be measured in what we do next.

Let us move the world together, with courage, competence and care.



**WOMEN WHO
MOVE IDEAS.**

A SHARED VISION FOR THE FUTURE.

Anna Maria Poggi

President, Fondazione CRT



The arrival of the Women Economic Forum in Turin represents an important opportunity to come together, exchange perspectives and build a shared vision for the future. At a time of far-reaching economic, social and technological change, the full participation of women in economic and cultural life, as well as in decision-making processes, is not only a matter of equality. It is an essential condition for the development and competitiveness of our territories.

We are especially pleased that the Forum will take place in two landmark venues of Fondazione CRT: Palazzo Perrone di San Martino, built in the late 17th century and deeply connected to the history of Turin and Fondazione CRT, whose memory and roots it preserves, was acquired by Cassa di Risparmio di Torino in 1883 and has been the home of our philanthropic activities since 1991. The second venue is OGR Torino, an international hub for culture and innovation, whose regeneration and transformation were entirely promoted and carried out by Fondazione CRT.

How can we address the challenges of our time without fully recognising the contribution, skills and perspectives of women? The transformations we are experiencing call for a broader sharing of responsibilities and for the ability to identify and

overcome the barriers that still limit access to opportunities and leadership roles.

At Fondazione CRT, which today is led by a woman, a unique case among Italy's foundations of banking origin, we feel a strong responsibility to contribute to this change.

For us, this commitment takes shape through initiatives that bring together development and inclusion: from impact investing to tackling educational poverty, from widening access to culture and knowledge to projects dedicated to schools and younger generations, enriching educational pathways and helping young people discover and develop their talents.

We believe in the power of networks and in collaboration among institutions, businesses, universities, the research community and civil society. It is by bringing together different experiences, knowledge and expertise that we can create new opportunities for participation, entrepreneurship and development, benefiting women and society as a whole.

I hope these days will be an opportunity for inspiration, meaningful dialogue and new ideas, but above all, that they will mark the beginning of concrete collaborations able to grow and continue well beyond the Forum.



**BEYOND
BOUNDARIES.
TOWARDS
POSSIBILITY.**



HONORARY COMMITTEE

LAURA MATTARELLA

Honorary President, WEF Italia

HARBEEN ARORA RAI

Founder and President, G100, ALL Ladies League, Women Economic Forum, WICCI, SHE-Economy

MICHELA FAVARO

Deputy Mayor, City of Turin

ALBERTO CIRIO

President, Regione Piemonte

ANNA MARIA POGGI

President, Fondazione CRT

PATRIZIA POLLIOTTO

Secretary General, Fondazione CRT

MARCO GIOVANNINI

President, OGR Torino

DAVIDE CANAVESIO

CEO, OGR Torino

TIZIANA MELE

Managing Director, Lundbeck Italia

SIMONE VERDE

Director, Uffizi Galleries, Florence





SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

GISELLA BORIOLI

President and Co-founder, Gruppo Superstudio

BARBARA CAPUTO

Full Professor, Polytechnic University of Turin; Adviser to the Dean on Artificial Intelligence; Director, Hub AI@PoliTo

F. ALBERTO CARRARA

Reverend Professor and Dean, Faculty of Philosophy, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum

CHIARA CORAZZA

President, Women Economic Forum Europe; Representative for France, G20 EMPOWER

SHARON CITTONE

CEO, Edible Planet Ventures; CEO, Milan Longevity Summit; Global Chair for Food Systems and Resilience, G100

MILENA LERARIO

Head, Leonardo Space Services

DATIN HARTINI OSMAN

President and Group Managing Director, Prihatin Ehsan Group of Companies; Global President, G100; President, ASEAN

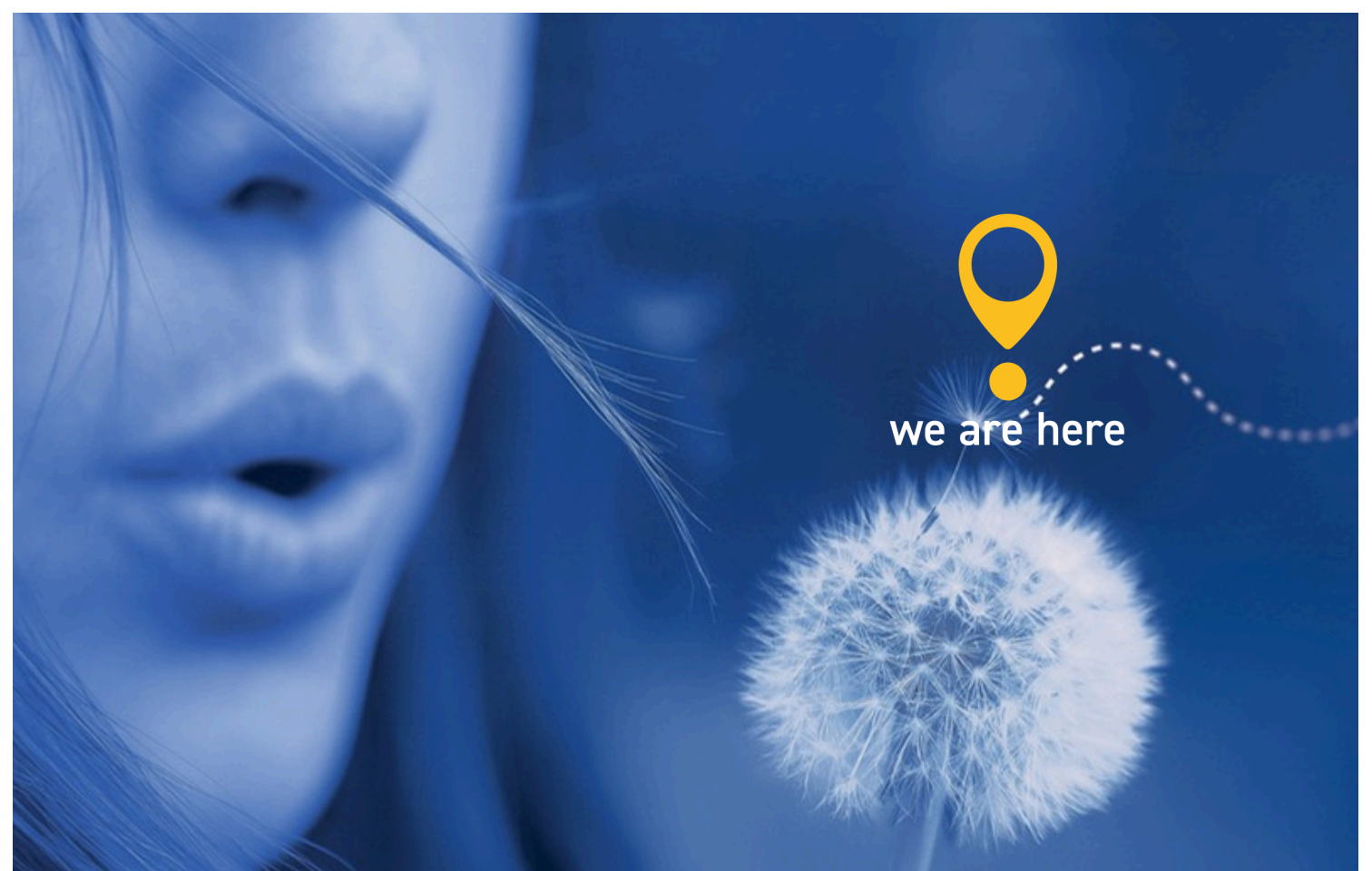
ERSILIA VAUDO

Special Advisor on Future Talents, European Space Agency; President, Il Cielo Itinerante Association

GIUSEPPINA ZARRA

Former Italian Ambassador to Bulgaria; Head of the PNRR Unit, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)





we are here

We are here, alongside your needs and your desires. We're right by your side because we believe in **CARE for, GROWTH of** and the **WONDERful** qualities of people and our community. With over two billion euros, we have accomplished more than 50,000 projects in the fields of art, research, training, welfare, the environment and innovation. **We've been here** for 35 years and still have a long road ahead of us, which we'll continue to travel - **together.**



35

YEARS



Fondazione
CRT

CARE | GROWTH | WONDER



OUR PROGRAMME

9:00 – 10:00 Registration and Badge Collection

Palazzo Perrone di San Martino

10:00 – 11:00 Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony will feature introductory remarks by:

Marilena Citelli Francese, President, Women Economic Forum Italia

Michela Favaro, Deputy Mayor, City of Turin

Anna Maria Poggi, President, Fondazione CRT

Laura Mattarella, Honorary President, WEF Italia

Simone Verde, Director, Uffizi Galleries, Florence

Moderated by: **Jole Saggese**, Deputy Director, ADN Kronos

11:00 – 11:30 Guided Tour of Palazzo Perrone

11:30 – 12:00 Transfer to OGR

12:00 – 14:30 Welcome Reception and Luncheon

14:30 – 14:35 Welcome Remarks

Host: Carola Salvato, CEO, KeaConnecta; President, GWPR Italia; Vice President, Diplomatia

14:35 – 16:30 Education and Truth in the Age of AI

Preparing the Next Generation for a World Yet to Be Imagined

Chair: Ersilia Vaudo, Special Advisor on Future Talents, European Space Agency; President, Il Cielo Itinerante Association

Speakers:

Juan Carlos De Martin, Co-director, Nexa Center for Internet & Society, Full Professor, Polytechnic University of Turin

Catherine de Vulpillières, General Manager and Co-founder, EvidenceB

Fiona Hunter, Associate Director at the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan

Francesco Profumo, Emeritus Professor of Electrical Machines, Polytechnic University of Turin

Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Donatella Sciuto, Rector, Polytechnic University of Milan

16:30 –18:00 Governing Trust: The Rules of Artificial Intelligence

Who Governs AI? Power, Ethics, and Democracy

Chair: *Professor Barbara Caputo*, Full Professor, Polytechnic University of Turin; Adviser to the Dean on Artificial Intelligence; Director, Hub AI@PoliTo

Speakers:

Ann Aerts, Head, Novartis Foundation

Beatrice Baldaccini, Group Chief People Officer and Vice President of the Board of Directors, UMBRAGROUP

Patrizia Lombardi, Vice-Rector for Sustainable Campus and Living Lab, Polytechnic University of Turin

Manni Nagi, Champion for Innovation & Human Progress

Paksy Plackis-Cheng, Founder, Co-Chief.io; EU-funded AI High-Risk Systems Researcher

Thavi Achharya, Founder, True North Marketing

Special Talk

Manni Nagi, Champion for Innovation & Human Progress

Special Talk

Morgane Kendregan, Programme and Event Manager, Time Givers

18:00 – 18:20 Transfer to Hotels

19:30 – 23:00 An Evening of Music and Celebration

Palazzo Perrone di San Martino

9:30 – 10:00 Welcome Breakfast

OGR

10:00–11:30 Society & the Future of Work

AI, Women, Work and the Future of Opportunity

Chair: *Chiara Corazza*, President, Women Economic Forum Europe; Representative for France, G20 EMPOWER

Speakers:

Monica Cerutti, Secretary General, Co-founder and Board Member, UN Women Italy

Alberta Di Giuli, Dean, ESCP Business School Turin Campus; Professor of Finance

Silvia Merlo, CEO, Merlo Group

Carlo Paris, Non-Executive Board Member of public companies in Italy

Paola Scarpa, Chief Digital Transformation Officer, Lavazza Group

Veronica Sosa, Founder, SHE – Sociedad para Hispanas Emprendedoras

11:30 –13:00 Economic Leadership & Financial Power

From Invisible to Investible: Women Rewriting the Rules of Capital

Chair: *Datin Hartini Osman*, President and Group Managing Director, Prihatin Ehsan Group of Companies; Global President, G100; President, ASEAN

Speakers:

Michelle Ferrari, Founder, CEO and Strategic Partner, Great Culture to Innovate; President, Women Economic Forum Ibero-America

Monica Lucarelli, Member of the Board of Directors, Investimenti S.p.A.

Petra Moog, Head of the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Professor, ZHAW School of Management and Law, Winterthur, Switzerland

Patrizia Polliotto, General Secretary, Fondazione CRT

Vladislava Magaletska, President, Women Economic Forum (WEF), Ukraine; Senior Adviser, Global Agricultural Value Chain, Enterra Solutions

Claudia Segre, Elected Member of the GREVIO Committee, Council of Europe; Co-President, Women7 Italy (G7); Delegate, Women7/G7 France

Elisabetta Vignando, CEO, Auxilia Foundation

Paksy Plakis-Cheng, Founder, Co-Chief.io; EU-funded AI High-Risk Systems Researcher

13:00 –14:30 Networking Luncheon

14:30 –16:00 Natural Resources in a Changing World

Feeding the Future: Rethinking Food, Water, and Planetary Resilience

Chair: Sharon Cittone

CEO, Edible Planet Ventures; CEO, Milan Longevity Summit; Global Chair for Food Systems and Resilience, G100

Speakers:

Simona Caselli, *President, Granlatte; Head of European Affairs, Legacoop Agroalimentare*

Francesca Dangelico, *Vice President of Food Development and Innovation, Lavazza Group*

Claudia Laricchia, *Co-founder and President, SMILY Academy*

Nicola Tagliafierro, *Scientific Director, EIIIS; Author*

16:00–17:30 Cracks in the Peace

Women Confronting a Fragmenting World Order

Chair: Giuseppina Zarra, *Former Italian Ambassador to Bulgaria; Head of the PNRR Unit, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)*

Speakers:

Patricia Elias, *Chair, Government & Ministerial Advocacy, G100*

Yevheniia Izmaylova, *Founder, Save Beauty*

Nigara M. Omar, *Afghan Diplomat; International Law Professional; Women's Rights Advocate*

Elena Palloni, *Government Official; Reserve Navy Officer; Italy Country Chair, G100*

Viktoriia Savitska, *Chief Global Affairs Officer, Epicentr Group of Companies*

Ala Talabani, *Adviser to the Prime Minister of Iraq for Women's Affairs*

17:30–19:00 Fashion, Identity and Cultural Transformation

What We Wear, Who We Are

Chair: ***Gisella Borioli**, Co-founder and President, Gruppo Superstudio*

Speakers:

Daniela Fedi, *Fashion Critic and Columnist, il Giornale*

Michela Gattermayer, *Fashion Creative Director, Donna Moderna*

Simona Segre Reinach, *Cultural Anthropologist and Fashion Scholar; Professor, Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna*

Anastasiya Yahuzhynska, *Founder and International Coordinator, AY Consulting*

Patrizia Luchetta, *Founder, Imagine Tomorrow*

19:00 – 19:30 Transfer from OGR to Ristorante Arcadia

20:00 – 22:30 Dinner

Ristorante Arcadia

Return transfers will be available to the designated meeting points at Torino Porta Nuova and Torino Porta Susa.

8:30 – 9:30 Arrival

OGR

9:30 – 11:00 From Energy Security to Climate Leadership

From Insight to Action: Closing the Climate Gap

Chair: Milena Lerario, Head, Leonardo Space Services

Speakers:

Andrea Marinoni, Research Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Science and Technology, University of Cambridge, UK

Giuliana Panieri, Director, Institute of Polar Sciences, National Research Council of Italy (CNR)

José Romo, Managing Director and Partner, Carbonless Agency

Mariana Romo, Business Development Analyst, Carbonless Agency

Nana Yaa Serwaa Sarpong, Founder, Women in Sustainability Africa

Carlotta Ventura, Chief Communications, Sustainability and Regional Affairs Officer, A2A Group

11:00–12:30 The Future of Health and Prevention

Protecting Young Minds: The New Frontier of Prevention

Chair: Alberto Carrara, Reverend Professor and Dean, Faculty of Philosophy, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum

Speakers:

Donatella Marazziti, Full Professor of Psychiatry, University of Pisa

Giuseppe Maina, Full Professor of Psychiatry, University of Turin

Manni Nagi, Champion for Innovation & Human Progress

Antonia Rizzuto, Full Professor of General Surgery, Magna Graecia University of Catanzaro

12:30 – 14:00 Closing Luncheon and Farewell Ceremony

Looking Ahead to Women Economic Forum Italia 2027 at the Uffizi Galleries in Florence

14:30 – 16:00 Cultural Visit: Museo Egizio

One of the world's most important collections of ancient Egyptian art

16:30 – 18:30 Cultural Visit: Palazzo Reale

Royal Palace of Turin – UNESCO World Heritage Site



**MAKE
YOUR VOICE
COUNT.**



OUR SPEAKERS: THE VOICES OF WEF

Ann Aerts

Head, Novartis Foundation



Ann Aerts is the Head of the Novartis Foundation, where she leads efforts to transform the health of urban populations through data, digital technology, and AI.

With a career defined by innovation and partnerships, she works to shift health systems from reactive care to proactive, predictive, and ultimately preventive approaches— helping build true health systems that keep people healthy.

A medical doctor by training, Ann brings deep expertise in population health and technology innovation. She holds a Degree in Medicine and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Leuven, as well as a Degree in Tropical Medicine from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp.

Known for pioneering multisector partnerships and scalable digital and AI-driven solutions, Ann is passionate about leveraging technology to close health disparities worldwide. She chairs the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development Working Group on Digital and AI in Health and serves on the Boards of the Philips Foundation and the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp.

Before leading the Novartis Foundation, Ann held senior positions at Novartis Pharma— including Franchise Medical Director Critical Care in Basel and Therapeutic Area Head for Cardiovascular and Metabolism in Belgium. Earlier in her career, she led the Lung and Tuberculosis Association in Belgium and was Head of Health Services at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva, after having served with ICRC as a health coordinator in several countries.

Across her career, she has championed equitable, data-and technology driven solutions that help build healthier, more resilient communities around the world.

Beatrice Baldaccini

Group Chief People Officer and Vice President of the Board of Directors, UMBRAGROUP



Beatrice Baldaccini is a second-generation entrepreneur.

After earning a master's degree in work and organizational psychology from Sapienza University of Rome with honors, Beatrice Baldaccini completed an intensive management development program at SDA Bocconi.

She joined UMBRAGROUP—a company founded by her father, Valter—in January 2008 with the goal of establishing a Human Resources department.

UMBAGROUP is a multinational company providing mechatronic motion solutions for the aerospace, defense, space, and industrial sectors. It generates approximately €300 million in revenue and employs over 1,700 people worldwide.

Beatrice Baldaccini currently serves as Group Chief People Officer and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

Since 2015, Beatrice Baldaccini has served as President of the Valter Baldaccini Foundation. Established to uphold the values of her father, Valter, the Foundation carries out social development projects for vulnerable individuals, aiming to offer them a chance to turn their lives around.

Gisella Borioli

Co-founder, President and Creative Director, Superstudio Group



Gisella Borioli is a Milanese journalist and art director whose work brings together fashion, design and contemporary art. She is President and Creative Director of Superstudio Group, which she has led since the 1990s.

She studied visual communication with Giancarlo Iliprandi in Milan and new media at UCLA in Los Angeles, and has taught at the Brera Academy and on other specialist courses. She began her editorial career at the launch of the architecture and design magazine l'Ottagono before joining Condé Nast.

As editor-in-chief of several fashion publications, she has also written books on visual culture and style and developed television programmes, artistic projects and visual work.

Through Superstudio's two venues in Milan's Tortona district, she helped establish Fuorisalone across the city's design districts and transform a former industrial area into a creative hub.

She was featured in the exhibition 'W. Women in Italian Design' at Triennale Milano in 2016. Her awards in Italy and abroad include Milan's Ambrogino d'Oro, which she received in 2014.

Barbara Caputo

Full Professor, Polytechnic of Turin and Rector's Advisor on Artificial Intelligence



Barbara Caputo is Full Professor at the Polytechnic of Turin, where she serves as the Rector's Representative for Artificial Intelligence.

She earned her PhD in Computer Science from the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and has built an international research career in artificial intelligence, computer vision, and robotics.

In 2014, she became the first Italian researcher to receive a prestigious European Research Council (ERC) Grant in the field of computer vision. She is a co-founder of the European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS) and an ELLIS Fellow.

She contributed to the design of Italy's National PhD Program in Artificial Intelligence and led the National PhD Program "AI & Industry." She was also a member of the expert group of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development (MISE) that drafted Italy's National AI Strategy.

In 2022, she co-founded FocoosAI, a spin-off of the Polytechnic; since April 2025, she has been Artificial Intelligence Advisor to the Italian Minister of Defense.

P. Alberto Carrara

Reverend Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum



Alberto Carrara, born in 1980, is a Catholic priest, academic, and Corresponding Member of the Pontifical Academy for Life. He has a background as a Chemical-Biological Laboratory Technician, a Doctorate in Medical Biotechnology from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Padua, a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Mind and Neuroethics, and a Bachelor's degree in Catholic Theology.

At the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum in Rome, he serves as Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Director of the Interdisciplinary Research Group in Neurobioethics, Full Professor of Philosophical Anthropology and Neuroethics, and Fellow of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights.

Since 2017, he has also been Full Professor of Anthropology and Neuroethics at the Faculty of Psychology of the European University of Rome. In addition, he is a M.I.U.R.-recognized Professor and Member of the Scientific Council of S.I.S.P.I. (International School of Specialization with Imaginative Procedure), as well as a Member of the Scientific Committee of the Brain Research Foundation Onlus, and an active member of both the International Neuroethics Society and the Italian Society of Neuroethics.

Since October 2021, he has served as President of the International Institute of Neurobioethics (IINBE). Collaborating with Stephen M. Stahl since 2017 in the field of neuroethics of severe psychiatric disorders, he is also a Founding Member of ICONN — the International College of Neuroethics and Neuroscience.

Simona Caselli

President, Granlatte and Head of European Affairs, Legacoop Agroalimentare



Graduated with honours in Economics and Commerce, Auditor, and Academic Correspondent of the Italian National Academy of Agriculture, she is currently President of Granlatte coop - parent company of Granarolo Spa - and Head of European Affairs of Italian Legacoop Agroalimentare.

She is also President of CRPA – Research Center for Animal Productions and President of AREFLH - European Network of Fruit and Vegetable Regions.

She was Councillor for Agriculture, Hunting and Fisheries of the Emilia-Romagna Region in the period 2015-2020.

She is, at present, also board member of CIRFOOD coop, a leading company in HoReCa sector, and of Consorzio Il Biologico, representing the leading companies in organic Italian food, and Honorary member of the National Association of Women in Fruit and Vegetables and the National Association of Women in Wine.

During her long involvement in the Italian cooperative system, which began in 1984, she worked for decades in the financial sector at the National Consortium CCFS.

In 2011 she was elected President of Legacoop of Reggio Emilia and of Legacoop Emilia Ovest until 2014, a period in which she also represented the cooperative economic system on the Board of Directors of Parma University.

Monica Cerutti



Secretary General, co-founder and Board Member, UN Women Italy

Monica Cerutti works at the intersection of gender equality, artificial intelligence, and digital transformation, bringing together research, public policy and social innovation. She is Secretary General, co-founder, and Board Member of UN Women Italy, where she coordinates the Scientific Committee, and an Ambassador for Women in AI Italy.

At the University of Turin's Department of Computer Science, she focuses on civic technologies, digital participation and inclusive innovation. She contributes to the European Commission's Connecting Women in Digital Forum, with a particular focus on women's leadership, lifelong learning and workforce re-entry in an AI-transformed labour market. With a background in computer science and experience as a regional minister in Piedmont, she combines technical expertise with a strong understanding of public institutions and social change. Her work spans research, training, advisory roles and advocacy, helping organisations translate gender equality and responsible AI into concrete strategies. She champions an interdisciplinary approach to innovation that connects technological progress with rights, participation and inclusion, ensuring that women help shape the decisions driving the digital future.

Sharon Cittone



Founder and CEO, Edible Planet Ventures; CEO, Milan Longevity Summit; Global Chair for Food Systems and Resilience, G100

Sharon Cittone works at the intersection of food, agriculture and sustainability, drawing on her background in communications and business to connect people and ideas. Recognised by Forbes as one of the most influential women shaping the future of food, she has spent over a decade bringing together start-ups, corporations, investors, policymakers, institutions and young leaders to drive systemic change.

In 2021, she founded Edible Planet Ventures to convene industry leaders and develop collaborations addressing food system challenges. She hosts the FoodTech Junkies podcast, serves on the World Agriculture Forum's Council and holds board roles with several organizations in Europe and the USA.

Sharon teaches agrifood and sustainability as a faculty member at the European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability. She also mentors entrepreneurs through programmes including Rockstart Agrifood, EIC Scaling Club, Open Food Chain, 4WardVC and the FoodTech Accelerator.

As G100 Global Chair for Food Systems and Resilience, she champions opportunities for women and greater gender equality. A TEDx speaker and regular contributor to international conferences, she advocates for a more innovative, inclusive and resilient food system.

Chiara Corazza

President, Women Economic Forum Europe; Representative for France at the G20 EMPOWER



Chiara Corazza is President of the Women Economic Forum Europe, Representative for France at the G20 EMPOWER, appointed by President Emmanuel Macron, and has been a member of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council. Former CEO of the Women's Forum for the Economy and Society (2017-2021), she previously served as Managing Director of Paris-Ile de France Capitale Economique, promoting the international attractiveness of Greater Paris.

She has championed women's economic empowerment and leadership at the highest international levels, including the European Union, OECD and Paris Peace Forum.

She is the author of the report Women at the Hearth of the Economy, commissioned by the French government in 2019.

An Affiliate Professor at ESCP Business School, she is member of the European Economic and Social Committee for France and chairs Tabiano Talks, which hosts the Women Economic Forum Europe.

She is a Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur and an Ufficiale dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia.

Francesca Dangelico

Food Development & Innovation VP, Lavazza Group



Francesca Dangelico is a Food Development & Innovation executive with over 15 years of international experience. As Food Development & Innovation VP at Lavazza Group, she leads global product development across roasted and ground coffee, single-serve systems and beverages, combining scientific research, design thinking and emerging technologies.

Working with international research centres, she translates sustainability ambitions into innovation. Recent projects span biodiversity, regenerative agriculture and post-harvest fermentation techniques to enhance coffee quality. La Reserva de ¡Tierra! Selection, made with coffee sourced from regenerative agriculture, brings this approach to market.

She also contributed to the development and launch of Tabli, combining coffee expertise, technology and design to rethink how coffee is prepared and enjoyed.

Previously, at Barilla Group, she led projects in smart cooking, personalised experiences, new technologies and pulse-based pasta. Her work champions collaboration and knowledge exchange to create lasting impact.

Juan Carlos De Martin

Co-director, Nexa Center for Internet & Society, Full Professor, Polytechnic University of Turin



Juan Carlos De Martin is a full professor of computer engineering at the Polytechnic University of Turin, where he co-directs the Nexa Center on Internet and Society (established in 2006). He is also a Faculty Associate at Harvard University's Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society. In 2019, he ideated and organized "Biennale Tecnologia, a cultural festival on technology and society, of which he curated, with Luca De Biase, the first four editions. De Martin is a member of the Academy of Sciences of Turin, of the Scientific Council of the Italian Encyclopedia and of the Scientific Committees of Biennale Democrazia and BergamoScienza. He has also been a member of the Study Commission on Internet Rights (2014-2018), established by the President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies; an expert for Italy's Prime Minister's Office; a member of several Ministerial Expert committees; and an expert for the European Commission. Author of over 170 scientific publications, De Martin authored the books "Università futura: tra democrazia e bit" (2017) and "Contro lo smartphone: per una tecnologia più democratica" (2023; an updated and expanded edition will be published in English by Pluto Press in 2027 under the title: "The Compulsory Machine: Power, Exploitation, and the Fight for a Democratic Smartphone".)

Catherine de Vulpillières

Co-founder, General Manager and Chief Innovation Officer, EvidenceB



Catherine de Vulpillières is Co-founder, General Manager and Chief Innovation Officer of EvidenceB, an EdTech company that develops AI-powered adaptive learning solutions to help K–12 students master the fundamentals of language and mathematics. Since 2017, she has led its research and development strategy, bringing together cognitive science and artificial intelligence in close collaboration with research laboratories and universities.

Her role draws on experience in academic research and education. A graduate of the École Normale Supérieure (Ulm) and an agrégée in modern literature, she conducted doctoral research at Paris-Sorbonne under Michel Delon and has published on the 18th-century libertine novel.

She has taught at every level of the French school system, including literary and scientific preparatory classes for the Grandes Écoles. She has also written textbooks and served on national teacher recruitment panels.

As an entrepreneur, she has championed women in entrepreneurship. She served on the Board of Directors of Willa, an incubator dedicated to women founders, and has been active in the community of women tech entrepreneurs. She won the Amplify/Girls in Tech France–Singapore award in 2018 and was a global finalist in She Loves Tech in Beijing in 2019.

Alberta Di Giuli

Dean, ESCP Business School Turin Campus and Professor of Finance.



Alberta Di Giuli is Dean of the ESCP Business School Turin Campus and Professor of Finance at ESCP. She was previously based at the ESCP Paris Campus, where she held several key roles, including Head of the Finance Department. She is a Research Member of the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI) and a Louis Bachelier Fellow. She is also an Affiliated Researcher at the Hong Kong Research Institute on Governance, Environment and Social Issues. In addition, she is the Editor of the Finance Section of the Journal of Business Ethics. Her research interests include ESG, climate finance, corporate governance, and political connections. Professor Di Giuli earned her MSc, cum laude, in Business Administration, specializing in Finance, as well as her PhD from Bocconi University. She has presented her research at numerous leading academic and practitioner conferences. Her work has been published in renowned journals such as the Journal of Financial Economics, Management Science, and the Journal of Financial Intermediation.

Patricia Elias

International Lawyer, Senior Gender Expert and G100 Global Chair for Governments and Ministerial Advocacy



Patricia Elias is an international lawyer, former UN Women Senior Advisor and women's rights advocate. Her work advances women's leadership, the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and the elimination of violence against women and girls through the rule of law.

As former Chief of Global Diplomatic Campaign at Every Woman, she led advocacy negotiations with governments, UN entities and civil society. She helped increase support from four to 18 countries and expand its coalition to more than 4,000 NGOs and activists across 165 countries.

A certified UN Women trainer and public speaker, she combines strategic diplomacy with humanitarian work, including building an orphanage in Cameroon and supporting street children in Gabon. She received the French Medal of Associative Commitment from the mayor of Paris and Île-de-France.

As G100 Global Chair for Governments and Ministerial Advocacy, she initiated the Global Petition: No Peace Without Women, launched at the UN in Vienna and the French Senate, with a live broadcast from UN Headquarters during CSW70.

In 2026, she received the 'Exceptional Women of Peace' award.

Daniela Fedi

Fashion Critic and Columnist, Il Giornale



Daniela Fedi is a prominent Italian fashion critic, journalist, and author. Born and raised in Milan, she began her career in 1980. After gaining early experience in fashion styling, she transitioned fully to writing, contributing to prestigious publications such as Elle, Harper's Bazaar, Panorama, and Class.

Since 1998, she has written for [il Giornale](ilgiornale.it "Daniela Fedi - il Giornale"), covering fashion, culture, and society, while reporting from major runway shows in Milan, Paris, and New York. Her journalism stands out for its unique blend of technical expertise and sharp, witty irony. She approaches fashion not merely as luxury, but as a direct mirror of macroeconomic and cultural shifts.

Alongside her journalism, she is a successful author. Together with her colleague Lucia Serlenga, she has co-authored several books tackling progressive social issues like body positivity and ageism:

- Curvy, a manifesto celebrating diverse body types.
- Donne 6.0, which honors the strength and independence of women over sixty.
- Io che nasco immaginaria (2023), the acclaimed biography of designer Chiara Boni, curated by Fedi.

Today, she continues to demystify the fashion industry through both her newspaper columns and her popular Instagram profile @abbifiedi.

Michelle Ferrari

CEO, Founder & Strategic Partner, Great Culture to Innovate; President of the Women Economic Forum Ibero-America



With more than 30 years of experience, Ferrari Michelle is recognized as one of the most influential leaders in organizational culture, innovation, diversity, and inclusion in Mexico and Spain.

She has been awarded two Honorary Doctorates and multiple distinctions, including the Great Place to Work Global Innovation Award (2018), the title of Woman of the Decade in Business and Leadership by the WEF (2019), her inclusion in the list of the 500 most influential people in LATAM by Bloomberg (2022–2023), and her appointment as Peace Ambassador by The Gandhi Mandela Foundation (2025).

As Representative of the G100 Women Leaders for Corporate Boards, she has led social and business impact programs that have benefited more than one million people. She also serves as a Board Member of Hecho en México and the Diversity and Inclusion Council of the Mexican Ministry of Economy. In addition, she has participated in high-level global strategic councils such as AmCham, YPO, and the Global Leadership Council of Great Place to Work.

Fiona Hunter

Associate Director at the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan



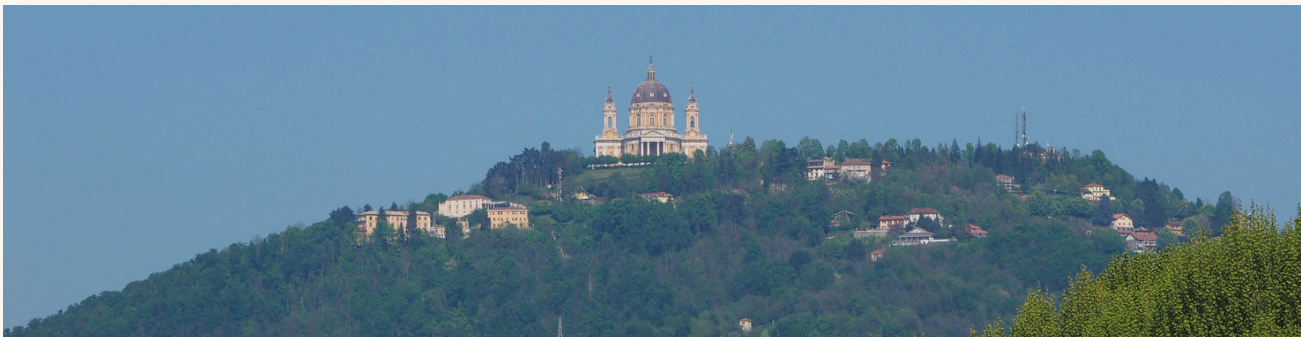
Dr. Fiona Hunter is Associate Director at the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (CHEI) at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan, Italy, where she manages the PhD Programme. She is a Faculty and Scientific Council Member for the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) in Higher Education Leadership and Management Programme at LUISS Business School, Rome, Italy, and a Visiting Tutor at the University of Bath, United Kingdom, where she supervises students on the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) in Higher Education Management. She is also a higher education consultant working with private, public, and faith-based institutions around the world on strategic change and a Scientific Council member of AVEPRO (Holy See's Agency for the Evaluation and Promotion of Quality in Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties).

Yevheniia Izmaylova

Founder of Save Beauty



Yevheniia Izmaylova is the founder of Save Beauty, a Ukrainian charitable foundation providing free reconstructive surgery and psychological support to civilians and military personnel injured in the war. She has over 13 years of experience in management, business development and international partnerships. In 2026, Save Beauty presented Cocoon of Life, a photo exhibition portraying patients' journeys of recovery, at the European Parliament in Brussels.



Morgane A. Kendregan

Programme and Events Lead, TimeGivers



Morgane Kendregan is Programme and Events Lead at TimeGivers, where she leads school partnerships and helps deliver safe, high-quality volunteering programmes that offer young people meaningful experiences and opportunities to make a difference. She also supports the organisation's strategy and expansion across London.

She holds a degree in international relations from the University of Warwick and a master's degree in social and public policy from the London School of Economics, where she specialised in education policy. With more than five years of experience in operations, project management and team leadership, she has worked across a range of organisations and start-ups.

Her commitment to volunteering began in her teenage years, including work at an orphanage in the Himalayas. She also led an Amnesty International youth group in Milan and, in 2017, delivered an opening address ahead of Barack Obama's keynote at Seeds&Chips. After working in start-ups and team leadership roles, she chose to pursue her passion for the non-profit sector, bringing her operational and leadership experience to TimeGivers.



Matteo Lancini

President, Minotauro Foundation; Author



Matteo Lancini is a psychologist, psychotherapist and author. He serves as President of the Minotauro Foundation and teaches at the University of Milano-Bicocca and Università Cattolica in Milan. He also curates Crescere (Growing Up), a section of the Turin International Book Fair dedicated to the challenges of growing up.

His latest book, *A volte ti amo. La rivoluzione dei rapporti nel mondo fragile delle nuove generazioni* (Einaudi, 2026), explores the changing nature of relationships among younger generations.

Claudia Laricchia

Co-founder and President, SMILY Academy



Claudia Laricchia is an international public affairs leader, strategist and climate activist with over thirty years of experience across sustainability, innovation and AgriFoodTech.

She is President and Co-founder of SMILY Academy, which develops educational programmes and eco-business strategies for the green transition. As President for International Cooperation at the Indigenous Peoples' Climate Justice Forum, she is the first woman and representative from the Global North to lead this division. She is also a Climate Reality Leader, certified through former US Vice President Al Gore's climate action network.

Claudia teaches at Rome Business School, the European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability (EIS) and Istituto Europeo di Design (IED). She has also advised Women7 (W7), the G7's official civil society engagement group focused on women.

A regular contributor to Fortune Italia, she writes about biodiversity, resilient agriculture and regenerative lifestyles. She holds a degree in economics from the University of Siena and has received four Italian national awards for innovation and public affairs.

C. Milena A. Lerario

Head, Leonardo Space Services.



An aerospace engineer specialising in aerodynamics, she graduated from the University of Pisa and began her career at Airbus Deutschland in 2008. She subsequently held management positions in Germany, France and the UK, gaining international experience across several functions within Airbus Group, including serving as a corporate auditor in the Human Resources Department in Toulouse.

From 2018 to 2022, she served as Head of Space Production at Airbus Spain in Madrid, leading the transformation of industrial processes, with a focus on innovation and digitalisation. In April 2022, she was appointed CEO of Airbus Italia, a position she held until 2024.

In September 2024, she was appointed CEO of e-GEOS and Senior Vice President of Telespazio's Geoinformation Line of Business, roles she held until October 2026.

With strong roots in Basilicata and a European outlook shaped by her education and professional experience, she considers herself a citizen of the world. A strong advocate of women's leadership and giving back, she is committed to creating opportunities for others, particularly talented young women, through coaching and mentoring.

Patrizia Lombardi

Vice Rector for Sustainable Campus and Living Lab at Polytechnic University of Turin



Patrizia Lombardi is a Full Professor at Politecnico di Torino and Vice-Rector for Sustainable Campus and Living Labs, where she leads strategic initiatives on decarbonisation, biodiversity, circular resource management, and campus-based innovation.

Her academic and institutional work bridges research, public policy, higher education, and collaboration across disciplines to accelerate practical pathways toward more sustainable and inclusive cities and communities.

She was the first woman in Italy to become Full Professor in the field of Estimate and Project Evaluation and previously served as Deputy Rector and Head of the Inter-University Department of Urban and Regional Studies and Planning.

With around 30 years of international research experience, her work focuses on sustainable urban development, climate mitigation and adaptation, decision-making, social impact, and systems thinking. She has coordinated and contributed to numerous European and international research projects and is responsible for New European Bauhaus initiatives at Politecnico di Torino.

She is Chair of SDSN Italy, co-founder and former President of the Italian Network of Universities for Sustainable Development, and co-founder of the Global Alliance for Sustainable Energy.

Monica Lucarelli



Member of the Board of Directors of Investimenti Spa

Monica Lucarelli is a mechanical engineer, manager, and public administrator with over 25 years of experience in innovation, sustainability, and public-private governance. She is the Founder and CEO of Ipazia Invest.

From 2021 to 2026, as Councilor for Economic Development, Investment Attraction, and Equal Opportunities for Roma Capitale, she coordinated policies for commerce, urban and cybersecurity, innovation (promoting the "Houses of Emerging Technologies" network), and youth and women's empowerment.

In the private sector, she was CEO and Sustainability Director of Passoni Titanio SB, leading its transition into a Benefit Corporation. For over a decade, she was a Board Member and Commercial Director of ISED S.p.A., operating in the ICT sector for Public Administration. She also gained experience as a Sustainability Advisor at NTV-Italo and as a Project Manager at Fiat Auto.

Active in business associations, she was President of the Young Entrepreneurs of the Rome Industrial Union. She holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Sapienza University, an MBA from Tor Vergata, and a Master in Ethic in Institutional Relationships from the European University of Rome. Her profile integrates technical and institutional skills, focused on responsible innovation.

Patrizia Luchetta



Founder, Imagine Tomorrow

Patrizia Luchetta is a Luxembourg-based strategist, corporate board member and cultural innovator specialising in sustainable business transformation and creative governance. Her work connects economic strategy with culture, creativity and visual storytelling.

For over a decade, she served as Director of Biomedical Life Sciences Strategy at Luxembourg's Ministry of the Economy, helping shape the country's innovation ecosystem. She is an Independent Director and Chair of the Sustainability and Governance Committee at Eurofins Scientific SE.

She founded Imagine Tomorrow, a strategic advisory platform supporting organisations in developing sustainable business models. She also co-founded Charlotte in Red, a non-profit organisation connecting female artists and "artists" with the corporate world.

She holds master's degrees in Biotechnology Management from IE Business School and Arts and Culture Management from Rome Business School, alongside an ESG Diploma from the Corporate Governance Institute.

Fluent in five languages, Patrizia champions the role of identity, culture and ethics in shaping modern business.

Vladyslava Magaletska

President, Women Economic Forum (WEF), Ukraine 2026; Senior Advisor, Global Agricultural Value Chain, Enterra Solutions



Dr. Vladyslava Magaletska is a former Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture of Ukraine and former Head of the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection, where she led one of the largest government agencies (30,000 employees) through a major reform, opening over 35 new export markets and advancing transparency, digitalization, and food safety standards.

She has been recognized among the 100 Most Influential Women in Ukraine for her leadership in public service, business, and international cooperation.

Previously, she served as Vice President at SigmaBleyzer, a \$1B US investment fund, and AgroGeneration, a leading agribusiness company, where she led acquisitions and strategic development across multiple sectors. She also served as Vice President of the Union of Ukrainian Entrepreneurs and as a Member of the National Council of Reform.

Currently, Dr. Magaletska is a Senior Advisor at Enterra Solutions, supporting innovation and resilience in global agricultural value chains. She also serves on multiple supervisory and management boards across the public and private sectors, contributing to governance, sustainability, and strategic transformation.

She holds a Ph.D. in Cybernetics from Taras Shevchenko National University and is an alumna of the Emerging Leaders Program at Harvard University.

Giuseppe Maina

Full Professor of Psychiatry, University of Turin



Giuseppe Maina, MD, is Full Professor of Psychiatry at University of Turin and Chairman of the Psychiatry Unit at the University Hospital San Luigi Gonzaga.

He has published over 300 books and papers and seats in the Editorial Board of several peer reviewed international journals. He is member of the steering committee of the Italian Society of Neuropsychopharmacology (SINPF) and of the Italian Society of Psychopathology (SOPSI).

Research Focus & Clinical Interests

Complex psychiatric comorbidities: Investigating the neurobiological and the psychosocial overlap between mental disorders and substance use disorders.

Suicide prevention in clinical populations: Dedicated to addressing the highest-stakes crises in mental health, Prof. Giuseppe Maina operates a translational research program specifically aimed at predicting and preventing suicide in adults and young adults (ages 18–25).

Sex differences in mental health trajectories: Evaluating how the presentation of mental disorders impacts differently across genders.

Donatella Marazziti

Psychiatrist, Adjunct Professor of Psychology, UniCamillus University; Head of Research, Brain Research Foundation



Donatella Marazziti is a psychiatrist, a physician at Pisa University Hospital, Adjunct Professor of Psychology at UniCamillus University in Rome and Head of Research at the Brain Research Foundation. She graduated in medicine and surgery from the University of Pisa in 1981, specialising in psychiatry in 1985 and clinical biochemistry in 1990. She has qualified for appointment as a Full Professor of Psychiatry.

She is Field Editor of CNS Spectrums, Editor-in-Chief of Clinical Neuropsychiatry and Associate Editor of BMJ Psychiatry, and serves on numerous scientific editorial boards.

Her research focuses on biological markers in psychiatry, emotions, psychopharmacology and clinical psychiatry. Internationally recognised for first demonstrating a neurobiological change associated with falling in love, she has helped explain the biological foundations of romantic attraction and emotional attachment. Her findings have attracted extensive international media coverage.

Her more recent research explores behavioural addictions, radiation-related brain injury and the psychological effects of war and terrorist attacks. She has held research fellowships and visiting professorships in Norway and the United States and received national and international awards.

Andrea Marinoni

Full Professor; Arctic University of Norway; Affiliated Lecturer; University of Cambridge



Andrea Marinoni is a research associate professor with the Dept. of Computer Science and Technology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. From 2018 to 2025, he was a full professor of Environmental Data Science and Applied Remote Sensing at Dept. of Physics and Technology, UiT, the Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, Norway. He has been a visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA, in 2022, and at the Earth Observatory of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore in 2023.

His main goal is to assess, infer, and predict the interactions between humans and the environment.

His research is focused on the development of innovative data analysis methods to provide decision-makers with reliable and accurate information about Earth processes and anthropogenic activities, and their impact on human welfare, so that appropriate frameworks for sustainable development and climate change adaptation and mitigation can be implemented.

Recently, his research interests focused on improving the efficiency and impact of AI on humans and the environment by developing new strategies for data processing, algorithmic modulation and energy-aware computation.

This activity led to the first quantification at scale of the impact of AI data centres on local communities and proximal regions worldwide: the “data heat island effect.”

Silvia Merlo

Entrepreneur and Corporate Director



Silvia Merlo is an Italian entrepreneur and corporate director with extensive experience in industrial leadership, governance and sustainability. A business economics graduate and second-generation member of the family leading Merlo Group, she serves on the boards of Merlo S.p.A. Industria Metalmeccanica and other Group companies.

She is a Board Director and Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee at FinecoBank, and a Board Director at Sanlorenzo, serving on its Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee and Remuneration Committee.

She also chairs Fondazione Azienda Ospedaliera Santa Croce e Carle Cuneo ETS, supporting healthcare, medical research and innovation.

Previously Chair of Saipem and its Sustainability, Scenarios and Governance Committee, she has held board and committee roles at Leonardo, BNL, GEDI, ERG and Banca CRS.

Her honours include the Marisa Bellisario Foundation's Mela d'Oro Award, the Amelia Earhart Award and appointment as an Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic in 2024.

Petra Moog

Head and Professor of the Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship, ZHAW School of Management and Law in Winterthur, Switzerland



Petra Moog holds the Chair for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (IIE) at ZHAW, University of Applied Sciences in Zurich, Switzerland. She is also the Director of the IIE Institute, where she manages a team of 30 researchers and educators focusing on macro, meso, and individual research. Prior to her current position, she was for 15 years full professor in Entrepreneurship & Family Business at Siegen University.

ZHAW is a partner in the EELISA EU Alliance. Here she is responsible for the work package on innovation and entrepreneurship, focusing on building a European ecosystem and promoting impact, social, and sustainable entrepreneurship, and so-called missing entrepreneurs (women, people with disabilities).

She studied Economics at University of Cologne and completed her CEMS/MIM at the Bocconi University, Milan, Italy. She was a research fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA.

Her research and teaching interests include entrepreneurship (academic spinoffs, ecosystems), social innovation and family business. In recent years, her interest has been values of entrepreneurs, social impact, sustainability, and the connection between democracy, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Petra Moog has been a guest professor at Baku University in Azerbaijan, King's College London in the UK, and Cornell University in the USA. She sits on the editorial board of the Journal of Technology Transfer and Small Business Economics.

Manni Nagi

Champion for Innovation and Human Progress



Manni Nagi is a technology executive and strategist with more than two decades of experience. As Head of Vobile Europe and Vice President of Global Services, he leads European expansion, global client relationships and digital media solutions. He played a key role in Vobile's successful IPO in 2018 before relocating from California to the UK.

He mentors entrepreneurs through the King's Trust and serves as Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Haydn Green Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, helping turn complex challenges into practical solutions.

A founding supporter of Alliance 4 Children, he chairs its working group on social media, online safety, AI ethics and digital wellbeing, working with MPs on legislative reform. He is also an Ambassador for Sport in Mind and a global ambassador and major sponsor of a girls' orphanage in India.

In 2025, he received the honorary title of Humanitarian Civil Diplomat, recognising more than 20 years of philanthropic service supporting education, wellbeing and opportunity worldwide. His work reflects a commitment to ensuring that innovation serves humanity.

Nigara Mirdad Omar

Afghan Diplomat; International Law Professional; Women's Rights Advocate



Nigara Mirdad Omar is a senior Afghan diplomat, international law professional and advocate for human and women's rights. From 2021 to 2024, she was Chargé d'Affaires and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Warsaw.

Her previous roles in Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomatic missions include Deputy Director General of the Third Political Department and Head of the China Section (2017–2020), Third Secretary at Afghanistan's Embassy and Permanent Mission in Geneva (2015–2016), and Head of the Political and Economic Section at the Afghan Embassy in Paris (2013–2015). She represented Afghanistan in bilateral and multilateral negotiations at state level.

She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in international law from Tajik National State University, completed a one-year programme at Afghanistan's Institute of Diplomacy and undertook international professional and diplomatic development programmes.

She founded the Afghan Women Female Diplomats Network, co-founded the Association for Coordination of Diplomats and belongs to the EU-supported Afghan Women Leaders Group. At the UN Human Rights Council, she addressed Afghanistan's human rights situation and proposed 'gender sanctions' in 2022 and 2024. She also served on Afghanistan's CEDAW delegation, contributing to its 2025 state report.

Her humanitarian work includes supporting the evacuation and safe transfer of vulnerable Afghans during COVID-19, following the fall of Kabul in 2021 and during the conflict in Ukraine.

Datin Hartini Osman



G100 Club Global President; President & Group Managing Director, Prihatin Group

Datin Dr. (h.c.) Hajah Hartini Binti Osman is a Malaysian entrepreneur, philanthropist and international leader with decades of experience in business, social impact and women's leadership.

She began her entrepreneurial journey at the age of 23, building her career through resilience, determination and a strong commitment to continuous learning. She later attended the Advanced Management Program (AMP 190) at Harvard Business School, further strengthening her leadership and strategic perspective.

Today, Hartini serves as President of Women Economic Forum – ASEAN and as G100 Global Chair for Philanthropy, Business & Poverty Eradication. Alongside her business and leadership roles, she has been actively involved in philanthropy since 1990, with a particular focus on supporting disadvantaged communities and creating opportunities for those in need.

Her work is guided by a belief in the power of business, leadership and philanthropy to generate meaningful social change. Through her international engagements, Hartini advocates for compassionate leadership, collaboration and collective action, encouraging individuals and organisations to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable society.

Elena Palloni



Government Official; Reserve Navy Officer; Italy Country Chair, G100

Elena holds a PhD in political theory and international relations, master's degrees in peacekeeping and security studies and procurement management, and a degree in international business management.

Following experience in the private sector and five years with the Provincial Administration of Rimini, she joined the Ministry of Defence in 2001. She held national and international assignments, primarily in negotiation, while developing academic and professional expertise in leadership and cross-cultural competences.

She served in the Cabinet of the State Secretary for European Affairs in 2014–2015, during Italy's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and again in 2018–2019. In 2021, she joined the Presidency of the Council of Ministers' Department for European Affairs, supporting Italy's participation in EU policymaking, with a focus on competitiveness, strategic autonomy and strategic interests.

Since 2024, she has worked at the Department for Equal Opportunities, handling international engagements and negotiations and representing Italy in multinational forums.

She is also a reserve officer in the Italian Navy and an independent EU expert evaluating strategic projects.

Giuliana Panieri

Director of the Institute of Polar Sciences, National Research Council of Italy



Professor Giuliana Panieri is an Italian geologist and Director of the Institute of Polar Sciences at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR-ISP). Her research focuses on extreme marine environments, polar climate change and methane emissions from the ocean floor.

A graduate of the University of Bologna, she earned her PhD from the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in 2001. She spent over a decade as Full Professor of Geology at UiT The Arctic University of Norway and has served as President of the Biogeosciences Division and General Secretary of the European Geosciences Union.

She uses fossil foraminiferal shells to reconstruct past ocean conditions and methane release events. She has led numerous Arctic expeditions, including coordinating the team that discovered the Borealis Mud Volcano in the Barents Sea, a finding published in Nature Communications.

An advocate for science diplomacy, polar biodiversity and ocean literacy, she develops inclusive outreach projects, including OceanSenses and educational comics for children, to make ocean science accessible to wider audiences.

Carlo Paris

Non-Executive Board Member of public companies in Italy



Mechanical Engineer cum laude by training in Rome, Carlo Paris got a master's degree in business administration by American University, Washington D.C., an Executive master's degree in social Entrepreneurship and a Master in No profit Entities Administration, by Università Cattolica in Milan, Italy. For the last decade, Carlo Paris has been focusing on Sustainability and corporate governance-certified studies.

In 1984, he worked for the Bureau of Political Economies of the U.S. Department of the Interior, in Washington, D.C. From 1985 to 2003, he worked for the Chase Manhattan Bank, in Rome and London, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro and Unicredit Bank Group, as Managing Director of Fincor Merchant Bank. Main activities Corporate Finance; Private Equity; Board Member.

From 2003 to 2015, Carlo Paris worked as CEO of Paris&Partners, an advisory company specialized in International Business with a focus on the Italy-India business and offices in Mumbai and Delhi.

Since 2017, Carlo Paris has been working as a non-executive Board Member in public Companies like ENAV SpA, Banca Farma Factoring, FILA, LU-VE, and Gefran.

For years, Carlo Paris has been deeply involved in women's empowerment through publications, social media, and public speeches.

Paksy Plackis-Cheng

Founder, Co-Chief.io; EU-funded AI High-Risk Systems Researcher



Paksy Plakis-Cheng, founder of CoChief and impactmania, is an award-winning business-tech executive with two decades of commercializing (deep) tech globally. Paksy helped drive \$200M+ in tech sales at a pioneering mobile internet startup that went public in a \$6.9 billion IPO.

Most recently, Paksy led a German startup break-even in 3.5 years and delivered a landmark public-private consortium, creating the industry's first drone corridor for monetizing trusted and verifiable data, winning the Berlin State Deep Tech Award (2024).

Her work focuses on strengthening human agency in the rapid-evolving machine economy, advancing the commercialization of frontier technologies, and building strategic public-private partnerships, with an emphasis on accelerating market adoption of responsible AI and Web3. Paksy, previously a Senior Fellow at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), recipient of a US State Department grant and currently an EU-funded researcher on AI high-risk systems, works with global leaders through www.cochief.io.

Patrizia Polliotto

Secretary General, Fondazione CRT



Patrizia Polliotto is Secretary General of Fondazione CRT and a business lawyer admitted to practise before the Italian Supreme Court and higher courts. Throughout her career, she has developed extensive expertise in corporate governance, compliance and strategic oversight, holding senior positions across listed companies, financial institutions and major organisations. Her current appointments include roles at Reply, Juventus, Italconsult and Aurora Growth Capital, alongside institutional assignments from Italian Ministries. Previously, she served on the General Council and Management Committee of Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, as CEO of Icarus within the Finmeccanica Group, as a board member of FSU, controlling shareholder of IREN, and as Chair of Ospedale Galeazzi, part of Gruppo San Donato.

Francesco Profumo



Emeritus Professor of Electrical Machines, Polytechnic University of Turin

Francesco Profumo is a prominent Italian engineer, academic, and executive who has spent decades at the intersection of higher education, corporate governance, and public policy. Widely recognized for his leadership in fostering technological innovation, Profumo served as Italy's Minister of Education, Universities, and Research from 2011 to 2013 under the technocratic government led by Prime Minister Mario Monti.

Profumo graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering from the Politecnico di Torino in 1977. He began his career in the private sector at Ansaldo before transitioning into academia. He climbed the ranks at his alma mater, eventually serving as the Rector of the Politecnico di Torino from 2005 to 2011. Under his guidance, the university significantly expanded its international footprint and strengthened its ties with the global tech industry. His academic prestige led to his appointment as the President of the National Research Council (CNR) in 2011, shortly before he was tapped for his ministerial role.

In the corporate and financial sectors, Profumo has held numerous high-level governance positions. He served as the President of the influential banking foundation Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo (2016–2024) and led ACRI, the association representing Italian foundations and savings banks. Currently, he channels his expertise into the digital transition and infrastructure sectors as the Chairman of Isybank (Intesa Sanpaolo's digital bank) and Chairman of Società Gasdotti Italia (SGI). He is also a member of the European Innovation Council (EIC) board, continuing to champion European research and technological advancement.

Antonia Rizzuto



Full Professor of General Surgery, Magna Graecia University of Catanzaro

Antonia Rizzuto is Full Professor of General Surgery at Magna Graecia University of Catanzaro, Director of the General Surgery Unit at Renato Dulbecco University Hospital and Director of the Residency Programme in General Surgery.

She graduated in medicine and surgery summa cum laude, completing her specialisation in general surgery and a PhD in surgical sciences applied to oncology. Her international experience includes clinical and academic roles in Heidelberg, Erlangen, Mannheim and Tübingen, working in general, visceral and transplant surgery, with senior responsibilities in surgical emergencies and trauma care.

A Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS), she holds ACS certifications in Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM) and Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS). She has served as faculty and instructor in ACS educational activities, including trauma training in Colombia, and helped introduce the ACS TEAM™ Trauma Evaluation and Management programme in Catanzaro. She also qualified as a general surgeon with EMERGENCY.

Her recent work includes ongoing clinical and educational collaborations in Libya, serving as international faculty in Tripoli and Misurata. These initiatives focus on minimally invasive surgery, emergency and trauma surgery, damage-control principles and surgical education.

José Alberto Romo



Managing Director and Partner, Carbonless Agency

José Alberto Romo is a strategic leader and a prominent figure in the field of corporate sustainability in Mexico. He currently serves as a Partner and Managing Director at Carbonless Agency, a forward-thinking organization based in Monterrey dedicated to accelerating the ecological transition of businesses.

With extensive experience in managing high-impact environmental projects, Romo stands out for his ability to transform sustainability goals into concrete operational realities. Under his leadership, Carbonless Agency develops "turnkey" solutions designed to reduce carbon footprints and integrate eco-responsible practices into traditional business models. A cornerstone of his work is the application of the DEV Standard (RTD), a rigorous methodology that ensures transparency and effectiveness in environmental mitigation projects.

Beyond executive management, Romo is a key bridge-builder in the green sector. He actively manages strategic alliances and coordinates networks of environmental project integrators, fostering a culture of collaboration essential for tackling climate change at an industrial scale. His vision successfully combines ecological responsibility with corporate profitability, positioning him as a vital advisor for companies aiming to lead the market toward a net-zero future.

Mariana Romo



Analyst, Carbonless Agency

Mariana Romo is a Business Development Analyst at Carbonless Agency, where she supports strategic partnerships around high-integrity carbon credit projects developed under the DEV standard.

She holds a bachelor's degree in international relations from the University of Monterrey. Her work sits at the intersection of climate action, sustainable investment and social justice. She was selected as a Youth Climate Ambassador for Operation COP 2024, a national programme led by UNICEF and Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs that prepares young leaders to engage in the UN Climate Change Conferences (COP).

She later moderated a post-COP29 forum supporting the Mexican Congress in monitoring climate legislation and has facilitated dialogues at the XIX World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates. She also holds a diploma in Human Rights and Groups in Situations of Vulnerability from the Human Rights Commission of the State of Nuevo León.

A committed feminist, Mariana has led gender-focused initiatives such as Girl Up Santa Catarina and Parlamento Rosa. Her research examines environmental inequality and the right to a healthy environment in northern Mexico. She brings a Latin American and intersectional perspective to the conversation on how climate finance can be both credible and fair.

Carola Salvato

President of GWPR Italia, Vice President of Diplomatia



Carola Salvato is Founder and CEO of KEA Connecta, a strategic advisory and innovation firm connecting expertise, relationships and opportunities to support growth, develop partnerships and create shared value.

Drawing on extensive experience in international business, she advises companies, institutions and organisations on transformation, innovation and strategic development, with a particular focus on collaborative ecosystems and sustainable growth.

She is President and Co-founder of GWPR Italia and Vice President of Diplomatia. She also holds governance and advisory positions in foundations and organisations working across innovation, healthcare and social development.

Her approach to leadership brings together strategy, responsibility and the human dimension, grounded in the belief that value grows through relationships and the ability to create new possibilities.

Ala Talabani

Adviser to the Prime Minister of Iraq for Women's Affairs.



Ms. Ala Talabani is Adviser to the Prime Minister of Iraq for Women's Affairs, advising the Government on women's rights and gender policy. A veteran Kurdish politician with over three decades of experience in Iraqi politics and women's rights advocacy, she served four consecutive terms in the Iraqi Council of Representatives (2005–2021), where she headed the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) parliamentary bloc and chaired the cross-party Iraqi Women Parliamentarians' Assembly. She is the Founder and Chairwoman of the Laylan Foundation for Democracy and a founding member of the Supreme Council of Iraqi Women. She holds a Bachelor of Laws and Harvard University certificates in Women and Public Policy and Women in Security.

Nana Yaa Serwaa Sarpong

Founder , Women in Sustainability Africa



Nana Yaa Serwaa Sarpong is a Ghanaian media executive, entrepreneur, pastor, and advocate focused on women’s empowerment, youth development, sustainability, and international trade.

She currently serves as General Manager of EIB Network, a prominent Ghanaian media conglomerate, and founded Women in Sustainability Africa to promote gender-inclusive environmental initiatives across the continent. With over 26 years in the media industry, Sarpong has built a career marked by leadership in broadcasting, marketing, and communications, including roles in program management and content strategy at major outlets.

She has earned multiple awards for her contributions, notably being honored as the Most Outstanding Female in Media and Corporate Affairs in 2025 for her strategic oversight and impact on public discourse.

As a global speaker and moderator, she addressed the 80th United Nations General Assembly in 2025, leading panels on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), media leadership, and sustainability challenges.

Sarpong’s advocacy extends to education and humanitarian efforts, where she has pushed for reforms to address gender disparities in schooling, particularly for girls in underserved regions, during engagements such as a 2025 address at the UK House of Lords. Her work as an international trade consultant and humanitarian practitioner underscores a commitment to practical economic empowerment, though she has publicly defended innovative revenue assurance models in Ghana’s energy sector against entrenched interests.



Viktoriia Savitska



Chief of Sustainability & Strategic Engagement, Epicentr Group of Companies

Viktoriia Savitska is the Chief of Sustainability & Strategic Engagement at Epicentr Group of Companies — Ukraine's largest multi-sector business ecosystem, integrating retail, agriculture, manufacturing, and energy. She leads strategic partnerships and sustainability initiatives with a strong focus on renewable energy, community resilience, and post-war recovery. Viktoriia actively represents Epicentr internationally, including at forums such as COP and Davos, and advocates for innovative solutions in reconstruction, rural development, and crisis-affected areas.

Paola Scarpa



Chief Digital Transformation Officer, Lavazza Group

A graduate in management engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Paola Scarpa has built solid experience in digital strategy, gained over more than 15 years at Google, where she held leadership roles and became Managing Director of the Client Solutions, Data & Insights business unit. In this role, she led digital strategic consulting initiatives across several sectors, including Telco, Lead Generation, Retail, Luxury, FMCG, and Healthcare.

In addition to her experience at Google, Paola has worked in strategic consulting and in managerial roles at leading organizations such as Monitor Company, Vodafone, and Boston Consulting Group. Since September 2025, she has been Chief Digital Transformation Officer of the Lavazza Group, responsible for leading the digital transformation of the entire Group by promoting the adoption of advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence.

Long committed to promoting Women & STEM, Paola is an ambassador for projects both within her company and in the Italian and European context. In 2022, she received the Standout Woman Award; in 2020, Forbes included her among the 100 most successful women in Italy, and she is also among the 18 winners of the 2018 "Merito e Talento" award.



Andreas Schleicher

Director for Education and Skills, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)



Andreas Schleicher is Director for Education and Skills at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). He initiated and oversees the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and other international instruments that have created a global platform for policy-makers, researchers and educators across nations and cultures to innovate and transform educational policies and practices.

He has worked for over 20 years with ministers and education leaders around the world to improve quality and equity in education. Former U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said that Schleicher “understands the global issues and challenges as well as or better than anyone I’ve met, and he tells me the truth” (The Atlantic, July 11). Former UK Secretary of State Michael Gove called Schleicher “the most important man in English education” – even though he is German and lives in France.

Before joining the OECD, he was Director for Analysis at the International Association for Educational Achievement (IEA). He studied Physics in Germany and received a degree in Mathematics and Statistics in Australia. He is the recipient of numerous honours and awards, including the “Theodor Heuss” prize, awarded in the name of the first president of the Federal Republic of Germany for “exemplary democratic engagement”. He holds an honorary Professorship at the University of Heidelberg.

Donatella Sciuto

Rector, Polytechnic University of Milan



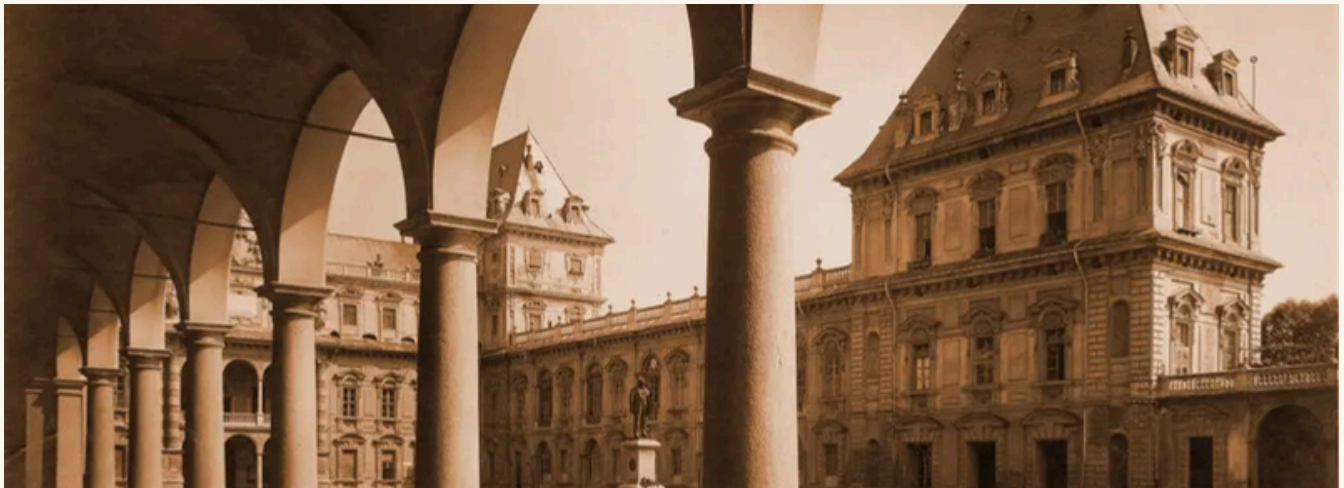
Donatella Sciuto is Rector of Politecnico di Milano, where she is Full Professor in Computer Science and Engineering. She graduated in Electronic Engineering at the same university, received her PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder (USA) and a Master's Degree in Business Administration at Bocconi University.

She serves on the Board of Directors of the Bank of Italy, Dassault Systèmes, Fila, Gruppo Ferretti, Gruppo Feltrinelli, Fondazione Tech Europe (TEF), Fondazione La Triennale, Fondazione Corriere della Sera, Fondazione TOG onlus, Fondazione Anthem and the National Center of Research in High- Performance Computing, Big Data e Quantum Computing.

She serves on the Scientific Committees of Fondazione Enel, Fondazione Terna, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Chalmers University and Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology.

She has co-authored more than 400 scientific articles and holds 4 international patents. She was named President of the IEEE Council of Electronic Design Automation and member of the Academia Europaea. She has been appointed IEEE Fellow, IBM Women Leader in Artificial Intelligence and Inspiring Fifty Italy.

She collaborates in various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) initiatives aimed at girls. She has launched the Diversity & Inclusion program at Politecnico di Milano (POP – Politecnico Equal Opportunities), where, as former Executive Vice Rector, she oversaw research strategies and teaching innovation (POK – Polimi Open Knowledge).



Claudia Segre

Member Elected GREVIO Committee - Council of Europe; Co-President, Women7 Italy (G7), Delegate Women7/G7 France



Claudia Segre built a 33-year career as a trader and financial executive at major Italian banking groups, including Intesa, UniCredit and Credem. Specialising in international markets, she has long explored the links between geopolitics, human rights, economics and finance.

In 2016, she founded Global Thinking Foundation in Italy, France and Belgium to advance financial education, gender equality and the prevention of economic violence. She works with the UN, IMF and OECD and is a recognised voice in sustainable finance, FinTech and FemTech.

She is a member of the Advisory Body of the Ombudsman for the Protection of Crime Victims of the Lombardy Region and of the Technical Scientific Committee of the Observatory on Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence at the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. She also advises the Bicameral Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry on Femicide and all forms of gender-based violence.

Co-Chair of Women7/G7 Italy in 2024 and Vice President of Fondazione Pubblicità Progresso, she was appointed to the Council of Europe's GREVIO in 2026. Forbes named her among Italy's 100 most successful women in 2019.

Simona Segre-Reinach

Cultural Anthropologist, Alma Mater Professor, University of Bologna



Simona Segre-Reinach is a cultural anthropologist and Alma Mater Professor at the University of Bologna, where she taught Fashion Studies. Her work explores fashion as a cultural language through which identities, belonging and encounters between cultures take shape. Her global and transcultural approach informs her research, writing and curatorial practice, as reflected in *Fashion in Multiple Chinas* (Bloomsbury, 2019). Exhibitions such as 'Facing Beauties: Italian Fashion and Japanese Fashion at a Glance' (Rimini Museum 2013) and 'Jungle: The Animal Imaginary in Fashion' (Venaria Reale 2017) brought her interest in bringing fashion research into dialogue with wider audiences. In recent years, she has turned her attention to fashion's relationships with animals and nature, explored in her latest book, *Animal* (Bloomsbury, 2026).

Alongside this work, she studies the cultural heritage of Italian fashion and co-curates the Biki-Jacques Reynaud Archive at the University of Milan. She is the author of *Biki. French Visions for Italian Fashion* (Rizzoli, 2019) and co-writer of the documentary film *Biki. La donna che rese divina Maria Callas*, directed by Michele Mally. She is currently writing a book on fashion designer Romeo Gigli for Anthem Press.

She was Editor-in-Chief of *ZoneModa Journal* from 2018 to 2025 and serves on the editorial and advisory boards of leading international fashion studies journals.

Veronica Sosa

Founder and President of SHE —Sociedad para Hispanas Emprendedoras



Verónica Sosa is an entrepreneur, philanthropist and founder and president of SHE —Sociedad para Hispanas Emprendedoras—, an international ecosystem with 10 chapters connecting Spanish-speaking professionals, entrepreneurs and business leaders across Europe.

Originally from Venezuela and based in Belgium, she has spent 11 years advancing women's leadership, education and business development through SHE Academy, SHE Magazine, Business Fit Magazine and international congresses. SHE Academy offers integral leadership programmes with certification from the University of Valencia.

Her publishing portfolio includes eight collaborative books that bring together personal stories, professional expertise and entrepreneurial journeys. Through these projects, she amplifies diverse voices and creates a lasting record of experiences and lessons that others can learn from.

Through her concept of Emotionally Intelligent Connections®, Verónica promotes trust, self-awareness, relational capital and international collaboration as foundations for effective leadership and sustainable business growth. Her work brings together entrepreneurs, companies, universities and institutions to turn shared knowledge into opportunities.

Nicola Tagliafierro

Scientific Director, EIS; Author



Nicola Tagliafierro is an Italian author, sustainability expert and Scientific Director of the Master in Circular Economy Management at EIS – European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability.

His latest book, *Insostenibile – Il prezzo nascosto della rivoluzione verde* (Chiarelettere, 2026), examines the environmental, social and economic costs often overlooked in the global green transition. He previously co-authored *Circular Economy Manager* (Hoepli, 2023), focused on how circular economy principles are reshaping companies, professions and business models.

Over more than twenty years, Tagliafierro has built an international career in senior management roles within major multinational companies, working across energy, sustainability, innovation and business transformation.

He was selected as a Fellow of the Aspen Institute US First Movers Program and has also founded sustainability ventures including EcoSost and YouRec. Alongside his business and academic work, he is active as a speaker and communicator and has collaborated with Will Media on content related to sustainability, cities and the economic transformation driven by the transition.

Ersilia Vaudo

Special Advisor on Future Talents, European Space Agency



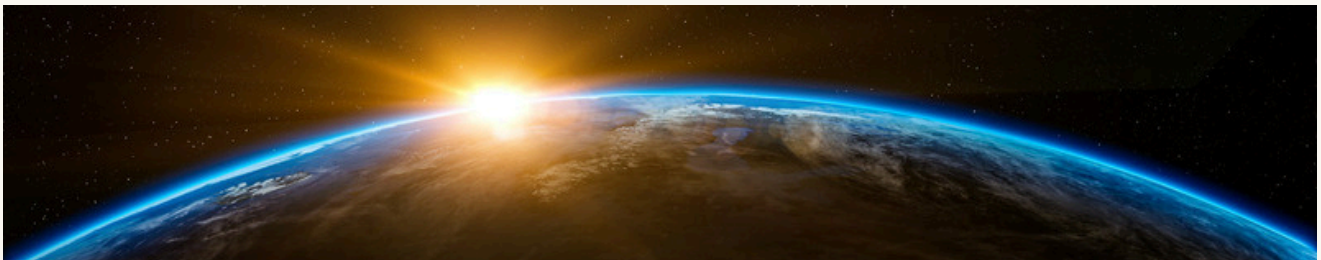
Ersilia Vaudo is an astrophysicist with a three-decade career at the European Space Agency (ESA), where she is Special Advisor on Future Talents. A physics graduate of Sapienza University of Rome, she began in cosmology with research on CMB anisotropy experiments and was awarded the Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship. She later earned an Executive Certificate from the Harvard Kennedy School (2020).

From 2002–2006 she served as Deputy Head of ESA's Washington, DC office, liaising with NASA, and sat on the Women in Aerospace US Board. In 2020 she joined Italy's national "Women for a New Renaissance" task force, contributing proposals on Research, STEM and skills, and was appointed by the Minister for Equal Opportunities as an expert member of the technical-scientific committee of the national Observatory on gender-equality policies. At European level, President Emmanuel Macron named her co-chair for Talent & Diversity within Scale-Up Europe, helping deliver the June 2021 recommendations to strengthen Europe's tech and talent ecosystem—from deep-tech scale-ups to inclusive skills pipelines.

Her public work bridges science, culture, and design. She curated the XXIII Triennale di Milano (2022–23), Unknown Unknowns; co-curated "A Satellite Symphonie" for the Venice Architecture Biennale 2025; and co-designed "Lune d'acqua" (Artemide, 2025), winner of the Rethinking the Future award. She is the author of MIRABILIS (Einaudi, 2023; translated into English, Spanish, French, and Arabic) and Perché studiare fisica (non) è complesso (Mondadori Scuola, 2024).

Honors include Commendatore of the Order of the Star of Italy (2022), Tecnovisionarie – Special Europe Award (2020), EWMD "She Made a Difference" (2023), and the Carla Fendi STEM Award (2024). She has been listed among InspiringFifty Italy 2021, Fortune Italy 50 Most Powerful Women 2022, Forbes 100 Italy 2024, Unstoppable Women Italy (since 2022), and StartHer's "20 Femmes à suivre" in French Tech.

Vaudo is President and co-founder of Il Cielo Itinerante, which brings telescopes and STEM camps to underserved communities—winner of the Financial Times WE Award 2023. A frequent TEDx speaker and essayist, she champions science as a driver of inclusion, opportunity, and future-ready talent.



Ventura Carlotta

Chief Communications, Sustainability and Regional Affairs Officer, A2A Group



Chief Communication Officer in Large Corporates, encompassing automotive, telecommunications, digital, mobility, and energy.

Currently holding the roles CCO and Chief Sustainability Officer at A2A, the leading Italian multi-utility company known for its pioneering integration of ESG factors into corporate strategy and governance.

Her career has been marked by extensive global leadership communication experience, beginning with pivotal roles at General Motors and Ford, where she played a key role in shaping international communication strategies during Telecom/TIM's expansion across four European countries, Latin America, and Turkey. After leading communications at Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane, she made the move to EY, where she assumed responsibility for Marketing, Brand, and Communication in the Mediterranean Region.

Alongside her corporate career, she is an Alumna of Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, directed the Center for American Studies, and is a part-time Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University and LUISS Business School. In addition, she serves as a board member for UPA (Utenti Pubblicità Associati), Audicom, and A2A Energia.

Elisabetta Vignando

Managing Director, Auxilia Foundation



Elisabetta Vignando is an international economic development professional with twenty years of experience at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and in international cooperation. Her expertise spans international economic relations, industrial development, investment promotion and public-private partnerships, connecting institutions, businesses and international organisations to advance sustainable growth.

She is Managing Director of Auxilia Foundation, an Italian non-profit foundation promoting sustainable development, gender equality and opportunities for vulnerable communities through international cooperation and cross-sector partnerships. Her work also focuses on innovation ecosystems, SMEs, advanced manufacturing and sustainable economic transformation.

She founded We Are The People, an innovative initiative addressing migration through an integrated approach that connects migrant integration with host-community development, turning shared challenges into opportunities for social and economic progress. Her work has also contributed to initiatives recognised by the European Commission's RegioStars Award in 2015.

Her approach to economic leadership combines international experience with a commitment to inclusive growth, women's economic participation and partnerships that deliver lasting impact.

Anastasiya Yahuzhynska

Founder & International Coordinator, AY Consulting



Founder of Ville & Dimore (2008–2022), a company providing real estate, architecture, design and Made in Italy services to Italian and international clients, coordinating a network of professionals and partners across international markets.

In 2022, she founded AY Consulting, focused on developing business relations and international partnerships between Ukraine and Europe, connecting companies, investors, institutions and professional networks and facilitating market access, business opportunities and cross-border projects.

Her work includes the development of commercial and institutional relations, with a particular focus on Ukraine's European integration and international cooperation. She actively participates in international business and institutional forums and contributes to initiatives related to Ukraine, reconstruction, investment and European cooperation.

Through AY Consulting, she supports the development of practical connections between Ukrainian and European businesses, investors and institutions, with the aim of turning international relations into concrete partnerships and projects.

Giuseppina Zarra

Former Ambassador of Italy to Bulgaria, Head of PNRR Unit, MAECI



Giuseppina Zarra is an Italian diplomat with more than three decades of experience in international relations, multilateral negotiations, European affairs and economic diplomacy. She joined the Italian Diplomatic Service in 1991 after graduating with honours in Political Science and International Relations.

Since April 2025, she has served as Head of the PNRR Unit and Coordinator for relations with the private financial sector. From 2021 to 2025, she was Ambassador of Italy to Bulgaria, a country where she had also served earlier in her diplomatic career.

Throughout her career, she has held senior positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government institutions, including Diplomatic Advisor to the Minister for European Affairs and to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. She has worked extensively on multilateral economic and political negotiations, representing Italy in organisations including the OECD, WTO and UNCTAD.

At Italy's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, she focused on peacekeeping and peacebuilding and served as a member of the Italian delegation to the UN Security Council in 2007–2008. She is a Knight Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic.

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