



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
**REGGIO CALABRIA**  
MEDITERRANEA UNIVERSITY



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## CALL FOR SESSIONS

The Call for Sessions of the *Networks, Markets & People* International Symposium is now open. This edition faces the challenge of “Communities, Institutions and Enterprises towards post-humanism epistemologies and AI challenges”.

### SESSION PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Session proposals must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. CST, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**.

Sessions may be theoretical, methodological, thematic, interdisciplinary and have broadly conceived or more narrowly focused subjects. Sessions exploring the urban resilience, regional economic evolution, territorial cohesion and innovation ecosystems are encouraged.

Please send the proposal form to [nmp@unirc.it](mailto:nmp@unirc.it) and indicate the corresponding author if there is more than one organizer. Remember, the official language of the conference is English and all submissions should be in English. The Session will be approved if it will receive at least 6 contributions. After the manuscripts reviewing process, the thematic sessions that will not maintain at least 6 contributions, will be merged according to the related topics.

Please bear in mind that each participant cannot be author, alone or with others, of more than 2 papers per session. More details are contained in the call for papers.

The sessions' chairs are entitled to 1 free publication and have the task of identifying two referees for each paper with the support of the Scientific Organizing Committee; they will also receive a certificate for their work. For details on past editions visit the Conference website: [www.nmp.unirc.it](http://www.nmp.unirc.it)

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## SESSION ORGANIZER(S)

### NAME AND SURNAME

- 1) Carmen Bizzarri
- 2) Maria Grazia Cinti
- 3) Lisa Scafa

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### SHORT BIO (MANDATORY)

50 words (maximum)

Carmen Bizzarri is an associate professor of geography at the European University of Rome in economic geography. She is a member of the management committee in the research center "Generative Welfare, Sustainability, and Rights" at the European University of Rome, as well as a member of the scientific committee of the International Forum of Gran Sasso, BTO, and Tourism Root supported by Maeci, Foreign Affairs Ministry. She is also Vice President of Confassociazioni Turismo.

Maria Grazia Cinti is a research fellow in Geography at the University of Rome Tor Vergata, where she attained a PhD in Cultural Heritage, Education and Territory. She is geography instructor in Higher Technical Institutes (ITS) with twenty years of experience in the travel trade sector; her research focuses on applied tourism geography, cultural tourism, participatory local development, peripheral areas, and the geography of sport, with particular attention to the territorial processes generated by major events.

Lisa Scafa, research fellow in Geography, obtained her PhD from the University of Rome Tor

## THEMATIC SESSION PROPOSAL

### TITLE

PARTICIPATIVE TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION MANAGEMENT: PLANNING, NETWORKS AND PEOPLE IN TRANSITION

### KEYWORDS

(no. 5)

Sustainable tourism planning; Destination management; Collaborative governance; Digital innovation; Territorial regeneration

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION

200 words (maximum) The ecological, digital, and socio-cultural transitions currently unfolding are profoundly transforming the conceptualisation, organisation, and governance of European and Mediterranean territories and tourism destinations (Morazzoni, Zavettieri, 2023; Pultrone, 2024). In a macro-region marked by climate change, demographic transformations, pressures on heritage (Peinhardt et al., 2024), and new forms of mobility, the need emerges for more collaborative, inclusive, and multi-level governance models capable of engaging public and private actors, local communities, and, increasingly, digital tools and platforms (Katsoni, Spyriadis, 2020; Romano, 2023). The session welcomes contributions that critically investigate how networks, markets, and people shape contemporary territorial planning and destination management processes, highlighting:

- the construction of shared territorial visions;
- the role of communities and place-based practices in the production of space;
- the emergence of innovative destination governance models oriented toward sustainability, territorial justice, and alignment with the SDGs.

In this framework, particular attention is given to studies that examine:



Vergata. She has taught at university in Italy and conducted research in Italy and abroad, with experience as a scholar visiting at the UNESCO Chair for Aflaj Studies (University of Nizwa - Oman). Her research focuses on cultural geography, tourism, cartography and urban geography. She participates in national projects funded by PNRR (National Recovery and Resilience Plan) and PRIN (Projects of Significant National Interest) funds. She is the author of scientific publications and a speaker at national and international conferences.



- Destination Management Organizations (DMOs) and new models of integrated governance;
- tools and approaches for participatory, collaborative, and adaptive planning;
- territorial policies and complex decision-making scenarios from a multiscalar perspective;
- territorial regeneration processes based on culture, creativity, tourism, and sport;
- destination management strategies in peripheral, rural, or peri-urban areas;
- digital innovation (platforms, big data, extended reality) in destination governance and management;
- new geographies of tourist mobilities and their impact on tourism planning;
- narrative, heritage, and place branding as tools for coordination and participation.

The session aims to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and comparative analysis across Euro-Mediterranean, urban, rural, and cross-border contexts. Theoretical, applied, and methodological contributions are encouraged, with particular emphasis on comparative, interdisciplinary, and multiscalar approaches.

References:

- Katsoni, V., & Spyriadis, T. (2020). Cultural and tourism innovation in the digital era. Berlin/Heidelberg, Germany: Springer International Publishing.
- Morazzoni, M., & Zavettieri, G. G. (2023). Geografia, nuove tecnologie e turismo. Carocci.
- Peinhardt, K., Garzillo, C., Lückerath, D., Egusquiza, A., Michalis, P., & Istrati, D. (2024, April). The EU R&I Task Force for Climate Neutral and Resilient Historic Areas. In EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts (p. 20296).
- Pultrone, G. (2024). Transition Pathways and Cultural Itineraries for Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Tourism. In INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: New Metropolitan Perspectives (pp. 266-275). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Romano, A. (2023). L'intermediazione digitale nella città post-pandemica tra radicamento, adattamento e ibridazione (eds.) M. Lazzeroni, M. Morazzoni, P. Zamperlin, Geografia e tecnologia: transizioni, trasformazioni, rappresentazioni Società di Studi Geografici. Memorie geografiche NS 22, 2023, pp. 791-796.