



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 21st, 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 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

Please fill out the following form in English and mail it to: nmp@unirc.it



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SESSION ORGANIZER(S)

NAME AND SURNAME

- 1) Marco Maggioli
- 2) Simone Bozzato
- 3) Giovanna Giulia Zavettieri
- 4) Pierluigi Magistri

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SHORT BIO (MANDATORY)

50 words (maximum)

Marco Maggioli

Full Professor whose scientific work focuses on research methodology in geography, as well as cultural and urban geography, visual geography, and tourism geography. His interests also include participatory processes, territorial cooperation, environmental and landscape-related conflicts, and forms of spatial representation. He has long been engaged in research and teaching aimed at critically interpreting territorial transformations and developing methodological tools for contemporary geographical analysis.

Simone Bozzato

Full Professor, Chair of the DTC Lazio Centre of Excellence, working in the fields of cultural and urban geography, landscape studies, sustainable tourism, slow mobility, and cultural routes. His scientific activity explores the relationships between communities, territories, and practices of sustainable development, with particular attention to inner areas and local development processes. He is involved in research projects and laboratories dedicated to territorial education

THEMATIC SESSION PROPOSAL

TITLE

RE-IMAGINING PERIPHERAL TERRITORIES: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, HERITAGE VALORISATION, AND REGENERATIVE APPROACHES TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

KEYWORDS

(no. 5)

1. PERIPHERIES AND MARGINAL TERRITORIES
2. COMMUNITY-BASED GOVERNANCE
3. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TERRITORIAL REGENERATION
4. UNIVERSITIES AND KNOWLEDGE CO-PRODUCTION
5. SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

200 words (maximum)

This session explores the evolving condition of peripheries understood in a broad sense, conceived as places shaped by the relationships that human communities develop over time with their territorial context (Dematteis, 2001), and encompassing urban outskirts, marginal territories, and socioeconomically fragile areas. These contexts, often marked by structural imbalances (Pugh, Dubois, 2021) yet endowed with significant latent resources, function as laboratories of innovation (Zukin, 2020) where new forms of governance, community engagement, and territorial regeneration can take shape. Within these peripheral landscapes, understood as places with multiple identity configurations (Bonesio, 2007; Maggioli and Morri, 2010), the attribution of meaning to space is closely intertwined with power relations, making them critical arenas for negotiating collective visions of development and belonging.



and contributes to the design of innovative geographical tools and training pathways applied to tourism and landscape studies.

Giovanna Giulia Zavettieri

Tenure-track Researcher working in the fields of cultural and political geography of the Middle East. Her interests include migration flows between the SWANA region and Europe, visual geography and propaganda (terroristic, political, and touristic), as well as marginality in the Italian context, from inner areas to urban peripheries. She also develops research using GIS applied to territorial studies, integrating qualitative and quantitative approaches to examine spatial representations and transformations.

Pierluigi Magistri

Associate Professor whose research focuses on the processes of new territorialization generated by migratory and emigration dynamics. He studies the Italian geographical space in particular, examining the cultural and religious components that shape identities, settlement practices, and forms of integration. His work also includes the analysis of socio-spatial transformations, international mobility, and the relationships between cultural belonging, territories, and the construction of urban and local landscapes.

The discussion focuses on how processes of cultural heritage enhancement, socioecological resilience building, community-based governance (Ostrom, 2010), and artistic practices understood as catalysts for civic engagement and spatial regeneration, contribute to redefining the role and identity of peripheral territories, strengthening their capacity to adapt and innovate (Gernot, 2018). In this framework, universities are explored as key actors in these transformations: catalysts for knowledge co-production, facilitators of participatory planning, and promoters of inclusive development models rooted in local values and competencies (Lazzeroni, 2019).

The session invites interdisciplinary contributions that examine the range of regenerative approaches capable of intersecting with creative economies, cultural routes, and emerging best practices, and that explore how integrated strategies can transform marginality into opportunity, enhance socioecological resilience, and foster cohesive, adaptive, and future-oriented peripheral communities.

References:

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- Lazzeroni, M. (2019). *Università e innovazione nelle aree periferiche: dinamiche di sviluppo, inclusione sociale e progetti di rigenerazione urbana*. *Geotema*, 59, 25-59.
- Maggioli, M., & Morri, R. (2010). *Periferie urbane: tra costruzione dell'identità e memoria*. *Geotema*, 37, 62-69.
- Ostrom, E. (2010). *Beyond markets and states: polycentric governance of complex economic systems*. *American economic review*, 100(3), 641-672.
- Pugh, R., & Dubois, A. (2021). *Peripheries within economic geography: Four "problems" and the*



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Zukin, S. (2020). Seeing like a city: how tech became urban. *Theory and society*, 49(5), 941-964.