



***The challenges of sustainability in the academic and research environment: a French-Italian joint response***

Milano, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

(Politecnico di Milano – P.zza Leonardo da Vinci 32 – Aula Osvaldo De Donato)

**PROGRAMME**

**h. 14.00-15.25**

**Franco-Italian high-level forum on research and innovation on sustainable development**

*This first part will be devoted to institutional interventions aiming to bring out proposals for joint actions, both in research and training, in the field of the SDGs and could thus contribute to laying the foundations for an annual Franco-Italian Forum on higher education, research and innovation, forum that will be held every year.*

Opening remarks

Prof. **Ferruccio Resta**, Rector of the Politecnico di Milano and President of the Conference of Italian University Rectors-CRUI

Prof. **Manuel Tunon de Lara**, Rector of the Université de Bordeaux and President of the French Conference of University Presidents-CPU

H.E. Amb. **Christian Masset**, French Ambassador in Italy

Moderator: Prof. **Stefano Geuna**, Vice-President of the Franco-Italian University (UIF-UI)

Keynote speeches

**Prof. Nicolas Chaillet**, Deputy General Director Sciences and Technologies - French Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation (online)

Dott. **Gianluigi Consoli**, General Director - Italian Ministry for University and Research (online)

**Mr. Daniele Guadagnolo**

Italian representative at "Youth4Climate: driving ambition" (video)

Discussion with

Dott. **Lidia Armelao**, Director of the Dept. of Chemical Science and Materials Technologies of the Italian National Research Council-CNR

Prof. **Alain Schuhl**, General Director of the French National Centre for Scientific Research-CNRS

Dott. **Roberto Morabito**, Director of the Department for Sustainability ENEA (online)

**Ms. Léna Belly-Le Guilloux**

French representative at "Youth4Climate: driving ambition" (video)



**h. 15.30-17.30**

**Round table “Joint responses of Italian and French universities to the environmental challenges of digitalization”**

*The transition towards a greener, carbon-neutral world has become a leading objective of many universities worldwide, although few have yet defined specific targets, including about their use of digital technologies or student and researcher mobility. Conversely, the launch of a new Erasmus+ Charter setting out environmental objectives, with a green top-up for soberer mobility programmes; or the new SDG's-driven degrees created by European universities alliances testify to a growing awareness as to the need for more efficient, collective forms of action. How can Italian and French universities jointly contribute to furthering the scope of such actions, what has already been achieved in both countries and how can students be empowered to impact the social and environmental trajectories of universities in the years to come?*

**Opening remarks**

Prof. **Maurizio Tira**, Rector of Università Statale di Brescia and CRUI Delegate for International Affairs

Prof. **Emmanuelle Garnier**, Rector of Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès and Chairwoman of the CPU Committee on International and European Relations

**Moderator** Prof. **Stefano Guerrini**, President of the Franco-Italian University (UIF-UI)

**The students' perspective**

**Ms. Federica Gasbarro**

Italian representative at "Youth4Climate: driving ambition" (video)

Ms. **Manon Bourhis**, RESES-Student Network for an Ecological and Solidarity Society – France

Mr. **Giovanni Mori**, Fridays for Future-Italy

**Panelists**

Prof. **Giovanna Sissa**, Università di Genova and Italian University Network for Sustainable Development-RUS

Mr. **Nicola Monti**, CEO Edison

Prof. **Salvatore De Pasquale**, Università di Salerno and Italian University Network for Sustainable Development-RUS

Prof. **Gabriela Pfeifle**, Chairwoman of the Sustainable Development Commission at the University Toulouse Jean Jaurès, speaker for the "Ecological and Societal Transition" working group of the CPU.

Ms. **Anastasia Leaute**, RESES-Student Network for an Ecological and Solidarity Society – France



## PRESENTATION

Franco-Italian scientific and university cooperation is based both on the programs managed by the Franco-Italian University, created in 1998, and on the Framework Agreement signed on 22 October 2020 by the Conférence des Présidents d'Universités (CPU) and the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI).

Following this agreement, the CRUI and the CPU defined a three-year action plan which, in 2021, will focus – among others – on the following topics:

- Sustainable Development Goals, also in relation to the COP 26 co-chaired by Italy
- European Universities (16 of which include both Italian and French partners).

The COP "Youth4Climate: driving ambition", represents the ideal framework for the CRUI and CPU objectives of strengthening the dialogue between the French and Italian ecosystems of education, research, and innovation, to face the challenges of ecological transition.

The event is organised into:

- A **Franco-Italian high-level forum** on research and innovation for sustainable development to define the Franco-Italian research priorities in the field of sustainable development and the key sectors for future academic-scientific collaborations.
- A **round table** on the commitment of universities and their students to sustainable development, on topics related to: digital footprint in the context of digital transformation of universities, "green campus" initiatives, university and student networks for sustainability, and training for sustainable development.

The main research bodies, student associations, young national representatives at Youth4Climate, alliances and networks already active on sustainability issues have been involved, as well as ministerial representatives and academic communities from both countries.

The event will be streamed, recorded, and made available on the website and social media channels of the organisers.