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INTRODUCTION

We – the organizing team of this bid for FUSION 2024 – aim at reviving and augmenting the experience of the successful conference in Florence 2006 by proposing to host FUSION 2024 in the beautiful and unique city of Venice.

Our hope is to gather the well-established FUSION community for an unforgettable live event, as well as to enlarge the participation in the conference with an attractive venue and program.

Venice is one of the capital cities of art and architecture in the world. The city is renowned nationally and internationally for its charm and its enchanting landscapes. Churches, museums, and art galleries are present in every corner of the city and visitors can tailor their knowledge of the lagoon city in countless combinations. Venice is a tourist city par excellence, and over the years has perfected its ability to welcome and "pamper" its visitors.





ORGANISATION TEAM

General Co-chairs Lauro Snidaro

Stefano Coraluppi

Program Chair Federico Cerutti

Technical Co-chairs Anne-Laure Jousselme

Paolo Braca

Tutorials Co-chairs Paulo Costa

Jesús Garcia Herrero

Special Sessions Co-chairs Florian Meyer

Galina Rogova

Awards Co-chairs Erik Blasch

Peter Willett

Publications Chair Constantino Rago

Publicity Chair Andrea Salfinger



General co-Chairs: Lauro Snidaro and Stefano Coraluppi



Prof. Lauro Snidaro is an Associate Professor at the Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Udine. His main interests include Data/Information Fusion, Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition, Machine Learning, Multimedia, Video understanding. He actively publishes in international journals and conferences and has co-authored more than 100 papers.

He was the appointed Italian member of the NATO Task Group on Information Fusion since 2003. He is currently the appointed Italian member for the NATO Task Group on "High-level fusion of Hard and Soft Information for Intelligence" for 2018-21. He cooperates with international industries and research centres and has been involved in several international projects on multi-sensor data fusion. He has been an invited speaker at international symposiums and meetings in Armenia, Bulgaria, Spain, U.K., United States. In 2011 he was program co-chair of the 16th International Conference on Image Analysis and Processing (ICIAP). He is special issue organizer and "Fusion for Signal/Image Processing and Understanding" Area Editor of the Information Fusion journal (Elsevier).

He is "High level fusion" Area Editor of the ISIF "Journal of Advances in Information Fusion". He is lead editor of the volume "Context-Enhanced Information Fusion - Boosting Real-World Performance with Domain Knowledge", Springer, 2016. He serves as a computer science project reviewer for the Italian Ministry of University and Research and has served as reviewer for 30 international journals and 29 conferences. He has participated in the International Conference on Information Fusion since 2004, actively organizing special sessions and panels since 2011. He was program co-chair of the 2019 edition in Ottawa, and was part of the award committee in 2020 and 2021. He gave tutorials at the 2020 and 2021 editions.





Dr. Stefano Coraluppi is a Chief Scientist at Systems & Technology Research (STR). He received the BS degree in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics from Carnegie Mellon University in 1990, and MS and PhD degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1992 and 1997. He has held research staff positions at ALPHATECH Inc. (1997-2002), the NATO Undersea Research Centre (2002-2010), Compunetix Inc. (2010-2014), and STR (since 2014). His research interests include multi-target tracking, multi-sensor data fusion, distributed detection and estimation, and optimal and

stochastic control. He serves on the ISIF Board of Directors (having served as ISIF President 2010) and the IEEE AESS Board of Governors, and is Editor-in-Chief for the ISIF Journal of Advances in Information Fusion. He lectures regularly for the NATO Science and Technology Organization and is a Fellow of IEEE.

Dr. Coraluppi has extensive experience with the FUSION conference, having attended nineteen conferences to date. His leadership positions have included: general cochair (2006), technical co-chair (2014, 2015, 2018), program co-chair (2016), awards co-chair (2019), tutorials co-chair (2020, 2021), technical program committee (2006-2021), and awards committee (2006-2007, 2009, 2012-2013, 2015, 2017, 2019-2021). He will be program co-chair in 2023.



Program Chair: Federico Cerutti



Dr. Federico Cerutti is a Rita Levi-Montalcini Fellow at the University of Brescia (Italy), a highly prestigious fellowship from the Italian Ministry of Research with an acceptance rate lower than 8%. He is also an honorary senior lecturer at Cardiff University, where he served first as a lecturer from 2015 and then as a senior lecturer from 2018. He currently holds the Academic Qualification both as Associated and as Full professor from the Italian Ministry of Research (resp. from 2018 and 2019).

He is the Chair of the University of Brescia branch of the Italian National Cybersecurity Laboratory and he serves as a member of the PhD Board for AI for Security course of the Italian National PhD Program in Artificial Intelligence. He is one of the Expert Evaluators for the Evaluation of Research Quality (analogous to UK REF) Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes.

His research focuses mainly on learning and reasoning with uncertainty. He received several talk invitations and he gave tutorials at 2015, 2017, and 2019 editions of the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, the foremost venue for artificial intelligence research. He organised several conferences, including COMMA 2008, COMMA 2014, SAFA 2016, UKCI 2017, a Special Track at IEA/AIE 2017, Causal-ITALY 2021. He has co-authored more than 75 peer-reviewed papers, several in past editions of Fusion, including several journal papers, and is co-editor of two books.

Technical co-Chairs: Anne-Laure Jousselme and Paolo Braca





Anne-Laure Jousselme is with the NATO Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE) in La Spezia (Italy) since June 2014. Since 2012, she is member of the Board of Director of the International Society of Information Fusion (ISIF) where she serves as Vice President membership, and of the Board of Director of the Belief Functions and Applications Society (BFAS) where she serves as secretary. She co-organized the Information Fusion (FUSION) conference in Quebec City in 2007 (tutorial chair) and served as international co-chair for FUSION

2015, as technical co-chair for FUSION 2019, 2020 and 2021, and award chair in 2022. She was general chair of the 5th School on Belief Functions and Their Applications in 2019, co-general chair of the Maritime Situational Awareness Workshop the same year, general chair of the Canadian Tracking and Fusion Group workshop in 2014. She is Editor in Chief of the ISIF Perspectives on Information Fusion magazine since 2021. She is area editor of the International Journal of Approximate Reasoning, associate editor of the Journal of Advances in Information Fusion and was guest editor of the special issue on "Evaluation of Uncertainty in Information Fusion Systems". She is cochair of the ISIF working group on Evaluation Techniques of Uncertainty Representation (ETUR). In 2016, she received a DRDC Science and Technology Excellence Award for her contribution to the modernization of the CP-140 related to fusion processes. In 2020, she was one of the recipients of the NATO STO Panel Excellence Award to the System Analysis and Studies (SAS) Panel Research Task Group SAS-114 on "Assessment and Communication of Uncertainty in Intelligence to Support Decision-Making". In 2020, she was one of the leaders of the team who received the NATO STO Scientific Achievement Award, for the "Advances in Artificial Intelligence and Information Fusion for Maritime Situational Awareness." She has been adjunct professor at Laval University (Quebec, Canada) during 10 years. Her current research interests include maritime situational awareness, threat assessment, high-level and hard & soft information fusion, reasoning under uncertainty, information quality and uncertainty assessment.





Paolo Braca (Senior Member, IEEE) received the Laurea degree (summa cum laude) in electronic engineering and the Ph.D. degree (Hons.) in information engineering from the University of Salerno, Italy, in 2006 and 2010, respectively. In 2009, he was a Visiting Scholar with the ECE Department, University of Connecticut. From 2010 to 2011, he was a Postdoctoral Associate with the University of Salerno. In 2011, he joined the NATO STO CMRE, where he is currently a Senior Scientist and a Project Manager. Furthermore, he leaded a number of

research projects funded by the European Commission, by the U.S. Office of Naval Research (ONR), and other institutions. He conducts research in the general area of statistical signal processing with emphasis on detection and estimation theory, wireless sensor network, multi-agent algorithms, target tracking and data fusion, adaptation and learning over graphs, radar (sonar) signal processing, and machine learning. He has coauthored more than 200 publications in international scientific journals, conference proceedings, and NATO technical reports. He was awarded with the National Scientific Qualification to function as Associate and Full Professor in Italian Universities, in 2017 and 2018, respectively. He is in the technical committee of the major international conferences in the field of signal processing and data fusion. He was a recipient of the Best Student Paper Award (first runner-up) at FUSION conference in 2009, and the NATO STO Scientific Achievement Award (SAA) 2017 for its contribution to the "Development and Demonstration of Networked Autonomous ASW". He coauthored the paper received the Best Paper Award (first runner-up) at the SSPD conference in 2019. He was also a recipient of the NATO STO SAA, in 2020, as a Team Leader for the "Advances in Artificial Intelligence and Information Fusion for Maritime Situational Awareness." He co-authored the article receiving the Young Scientist Contest Award at the Signal Processing Symposium 2021. He serves as AE for T-AES, ISIF-JAIF, and IET-RSN. In 2017, he was a Lead Guest Editor of the Special Issue "Sonar Multi-Sensor Applications and Techniques" in IET-RSN. He served as AE for the SP-M, T-SP, and EURASIP-JASP.

Other roles

Special sessions Co-chairs: Florian Meyer (UCSD) and Galina Rogova (Encompass

Consulting)

Tutorials Co-chairs: Paulo Costa (GMU) and Jesùs Garcia Herrero (U. Carlos III

Madrid)

Publication Chair: Constantino Rago (STR)

Awards Co-chairs: Erik Blasch (AFRL) and Peter Willett (Univ. of Connecticut)

Publicity Chair: Andrea Salfinger (Johannes Kepler University Linz)





FINANCIAL PLANNING

We propose to have two financial partners: ISIF (80%) and the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) (20%). AESS has financially co-sponsored many past FUSION conferences, most recently at the level of 15%. We have discussed the level of sponsorship with the current IEEE AESS VP Conferences (Prof. Michael Braasch) and have agreed that a 20% participation from AESS is beneficial to both ISIF and AESS, and reflects the significant overlap between our memberships and technical interests. (AESS is recommending this level of sponsorship for ensuing years as well.) Following a successful conference award decision, we plan to reach out to the incoming AESS VP Conferences for 2022 (Dr. Braham Himed) to prepare and sign the ISIF-AESS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In addition to sharing the financial risk associated with FUSION 2024, financial co-sponsorship will allow us to benefit from AESS visibility and IEEE-wide conference advertising. Additionally, FUSION proceedings will be posted free of charge to IEEEXplore, as in past years.

We plan to reach out to potential conference sponsors including large industrial partners, smaller companies, and government entities. This will be a concerted effort for which the General Chairs will take a direct leadership role. We expect to secure sponsorship from Leonardo (the largest Italian defense contractor and eight largest worldwide), and will leverage our contacts with other large defense companies (Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, L3 Harris, Thales, and others). We anticipate support from smaller corporations including STR, Metron, and Telephonics. Further, we will reach out to numerous government entities including ONR, ONR Global, AFOSR, EOARD, and others. Additionally, we plan to pursue sponsorship from commercial entities including Amazon Web Services (AWS) and other organizations active in learning-based fusion technologies. Overall, we expect a healthy level of external sponsorship, thanks to our team's connections in the international defense community and other relevant industries, and leveraging the appeal of holding the conference in Venice at a world-class venue.



Tentative budget

PROPOSED REGISTRA	ATION FEES	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PARTECIPANTS 400	REVENUE	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PARTECIPANTS 350	REVENUE	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PARTECIPANTS 300	REVENUE
EARLYBIRD - REGULAR	900,00€	151	135.900,00 €	138	124.200,00 €	120	108.000,00€
EARLYBIRD - STUDENT	450,00 €	81	36.450,00 €	70	31.500,00 €	57	25.650,00 €
STANDARD - REGULAR	1.000,00€	100	100.000,00€	80	80.000,00€	67	67.000,00 €
STANDARD - STUDENT	500,00€	40	20.000,00€	36	18.000,00€	32	16.000,00 €
ONSITE - REGULAR	1.100,00€	15	16.500,00 €	13	14.300,00 €	12	13.200,00 €
ONSITE - STUDENT	550,00€	15	8.250,00 €	13	7.150,00 €	12	6.600,00 €
TUTORIAL	210,00€	100	21.000,00€	75	15.750,00 €	50	10.500,00€
SPONSORSHIP/PARTNERS			30.000,00€		25.000,00€		20.000,00 €
			368.100,00 €		315.900,00 €		266.950,00 €

Tentative Date: June 30th to July 5th OR July 7th to July 12th				
Preliminary Budget Rev01 - 27th Octob	er 20	21		
Centro Congressi - Palazzo del Casinò - Ve	nezia	Lido		
Services:	Qty	Cost x 400 pax/ 150 tutorial	Cost x 350/ 125 tutorial	Cost x 300/ 100 tutorial
CONGRESS VENUE		Cong	gress Venue	
Palazzo del Casinò - First Floor • Perla room max capacity 594 pax (chairs, stage and screen included) • Volpi room max capacity 150 pax (chairs, stage and screen included) • Atrium (700 mq) Expo area and banqueting Second floor • Amici room max capacity 100 pax • Martinelli, Rossi, Drago, Mangano rooms max capacity 50 pax • Other additional smaller rooms up to 20/30 seats Third floor • Laguna room 700 mq for a served lunch (400/450 pax) • Adriatico room 700 mq as Poster area • Mosaici 1 room 250 mq for max capacity 50 pax • Mosaici 2 room 250 mq for max capacity 50 pax At ground floor (darsena entrance) availability for an additional room for 50 pax Meeting rooms for 4 days (EURO 13.500 PER DAY)	4	54.000,00€	54.000,00 €	54.000,00 €
Rate for installation and misalignment reduced by 50% on the dayily rate (estimated 1 day)	1	6.750,00€	6.750,00€	6.750,00 €
Additional mandatory services:				
Fireman (required during preparation, event and dismantling) hourly cost (estimated 12 hours per 4 days). Cost per hour 26,00 euro	48	1.248,00€	1.248,00€	1.248,00 €
Electrician (required during preparation, event and dismantling) hourly cost (estimated 12 hours per 4 days). Cost per hour 35,00 euro	48	1.680,00€	1.680,00€	1.680,00 €
Cleaning service at the end of the event		650,00€	650,00€	650,00€
Chartering of Dumpsters (20,000 lt) for disposal of bulky material		1.200,00€	1.200,00€	1.200,00 €
TOTAL CONGRESS VENUE		65.528,00 €	65.528,00€	65.528,00 €



AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE				
Palazzo del Casinò: Sala Perla - Audio, Video, 4 microphones, 1 mixer, 1 microphone on the podium, Videoprojector 14000 A/L , screen, podium, laptop, monitor 42"	1	5.300,00 €	5.300,00€	5.300,00 €
SALA PERLA: Technical assistance for 4 hours - costs for 4 days Extra hours: € 50,00 per hour	4	1.000,00€	1.000,00€	1.000,00€
lighting system	1	1.900,00€	1.900,00€	1.900,00€
Breakout rooms 50pax 4 days x 8 meeting rooms Audio, video, 2 microphones, mixer	8	4.800,00 €	4.800,00€	4.800,00€
N. 1 Videoprojector 4500/5500 A/L	8	5.600,00€	5.600,00€	5.600,00€
1 screen for Amici room	1	250,00€	250,00€	250,00€
1 laptop (exluding assistance)	8	2.800,00€	2.800,00€	2.800,00€
1 pointer	8	200,00€	200,00€	200,00€
1 screen monitor 42"/43" preview for speakers	8	2.400,00€	2.400,00€	2.400,00€
Technical assistance for 4 hours - costs for 4 days Extra hours: € 50,00 per hour	32	10.240,00€	10.240,00€	10.240,00€
Slide centre with 4 laptop and office package for the slides presentation Techincal assistance Assistenza n. 1 tecnico informatici in centro slide. Eventuali ore straordinarie € 50,00/ora per persona Manovali per movimentazione attrezzature durante allestimenti, disallestimenti e trasporti Extra per allestimenti in giorno festivo Trasporti a /r, montaggi e smontaggi con personale tecnico.	1	5.300,00 €	5.300,00 €	5.300,00 €
Day 5: board meetings in an hotel meeting room nearby the congress center - including AV equipoment	1	950,00€	950,00€	950,00€
Signages and poster panels - Estimated - TBD				
Miscellaneous (Such as Security Service, Ambulance and Medical Services etc + any other unforseen expense)		3.000,00€	3.000,00€	3.000,00€
TOTAL AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE		43.740,00 €	43.740,00 €	43.740,00 €

CATERING SERVICES and Social Functions			
DAY 1: 2 coffee breaks (AM and PM) during tutorials (14,00 euro)	1.400,00 €	1.050,00€	700,00 €
DAY 1: Lunch Breaks during tutorials (26,00 euro)	2.600,00 €	1.950,00€	1.300,00 €
DAY 1: Ice Breaking Cocktail (20 euro)	2.000,00 €	1.500,00€	1.000,00 €
DAY 2-3-4: breaks (AM and PM) for all the conference participants (7 euro x CB)	16.800,00 €	14.700,00€	12.600,00 €
DAY 2-3-4:Lunch for all the conference participants (26 euro)	31.200,00 €	27.300,00€	23.400,00 €
DAY 2: Welcome cocktail buffet for all the particpants (30 euro)	12.000,00 €	10.500,00€	9.000,00 €
DAY 5: 2 breaks for board meetings (7 euro)	280,00 €	280,00€	280,00 €
DAY 5: LUNCH BREAKS (20 euro)	520,00 €	520,00€	520,00 €
TOTAL FOR CATERING SERVICES at the Congress Venue	66.800,00 €	57.800,00 €	48.800,00 €
DAY 3: GALA DINNER			
Venue Rental - TBD - Estimate according to venue selection -	7.000,00 €	7.000,00 €	7.000,00 €
Dinner Cost - TBD menu	44.000,00 €	38.500,00 €	33.000,00 €
TOTAL COST FOR SOCIAL BANQUET	51.000,00 €	45.500,00 €	40.000,00 €



PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS			
Graphic layout and concept of the course	1.200,00 €	1.200,00 €	1.200,00 €
Printing N. 2.000 Save the date 4 A4 format	1.800,00 €	1.620,00 €	1.440,00 €
Printing of 100 4-color posters of various sizes	900,00 €	900,00 €	900,00 €
EDAS - Costo per i paper 6 dollari x 100 paper + 5 dollari x 400/350/300 paper (based on number of partecipants)	2.500,00 €	2.200,00 €	2.000,00 €
Final program Printing with Abstract book of approximately 20 pages	3.400,00 €	2.975,00 €	2.550,00 €
Badge printings with badge lay nards and badge holder	1.280,00 €	1.225,00 €	1.050,00 €
Other onsite material printings: Chevalier, certificate of attendance, miscellaneous, tickets for lunches and dinners - TBD - estimate	2.000,00 €	1.900,00 €	1.800,00 €
Congress kit: bag, pad and pens	TBD	TBD	TBD
promotion Expenses in FUSION 2023	TBD	TBD	TBD
Shipment of the material	TBD	TBD	TBD
Proceedings - by email - support for preparation	1.000,00 €	950,00 €	900,00 €
Creation and management dedicated web page of Congress program and general information, for online registrations FOR participants + basic Abstract book submission system.	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €
TOTAL FOR PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS	19.080,00 €	17.970,00€	16.840,00€

PLENARY SPEAKERS			
Speakers contact and traval grant Management refund	10.000,00 €	10.000,00 €	10.000,00 €
Fee for tutorials presenters (12X 1000 EURO each)	12.000,00 €	12.000,00 €	12.000,00 €
estimate for conference committee hospitality during the confrence	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €	3.000,00 €
TOTAL FOR PLENARY SPEAKERS	25.000,00 €	25.000,00 €	25.000,00 €
STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES			
Hostesses for the whole period of the Congress estimated 5 Hostesses for 4 days + 2 for one day	4.180,00 €	3.420,00 €	3.420,00 €
First Class Staff during the congress - estimate	1.800,00 €	1.800,00 €	1.800,00 €
Expenses for staff - Eventual travel, meals and accommodation - ESTIMATE	TBD	TBD	TBD
Premeeting costs for site inspections and meetings - estimated tbd upon final balance	TBD	TBD	TBD
Organizing Secretariat general expenses for project management for 3 years	4.500,00 €	4.500,00 €	4.500,00 €
TOTAL FOR STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES	10.480,00 €	9.720,00 €	9.720,00 €

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES				
Administrative costs and bank charges (estimate to be defined as a balance on the basis of the online registration received)		4.000,00 €	3.700,00 €	3.500,00 €
TOTAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES		4.000,00 €	3.700,00 €	3.500,00 €
ORGANISING SECRETARIAT				
Total Management and Co-ordination of the above mentioned services. Management of conference services, site inspections, local assistance.		285.628,00 €	268.958,00 €	253.128,00 €
TOTAL FOR ORGANISING SECRETARIAT	6%	17.137,68 €	16.137,48 €	15.187,68 €
ISIF Membership Fees - 24,00 euro each		9.600,00 €	8.400,00 €	7.200,00 €
TOTAL COST INCLUDING FEE AGENCY		312.365,68 €	293.495,48 €	275.515,68 €
TOTAL INCOMES		368.100,00 €	315.900,00 €	266.950,00 €
Surplus-Loss		55.734,32 €	22.404,52 €	-8.565,68 €



COSTS SUMMARY	Cost x 400 pax/ 100 tutorial	Cost x 350/ 75 tutorial	Cost x 300/ 50 tutorial
CONGRESS VENUE	65.528,00 €	65.528,00 €	65.528,00 €
AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE	43.740,00 €	43.740,00 €	43.740,00 €
CATERING SERVICES and Social Functions	66.800,00 €	57.800,00 €	48.800,00 €
SOCIAL BANQUET	51.000,00 €	45.500,00 €	40.000,00€
PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS	19.080,00 €	17.970,00 €	16.840,00 €
PLENARY SPEAKERS	25.000,00 €	25.000,00 €	25.000,00€
STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES	10.480,00 €	9.720,00 €	9.720,00 €
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES	4.000,00 €	3.700,00 €	3.500,00 €
ORGANISING SECRETARIAT	17.137,68 €	16.137,48 €	15.187,68 €
ISIF Membership Fees - 24,00 euro each	9.600,00 €	8.400,00 €	7.200,00 €
TOTAL COSTS Euro (VAT 22% is not included) - Prices are based on 2021 rates and maybe subject to a small increase according inflation and depreciation	312.365,68 €	293.495,48 €	275.515,68 €





RISK AND SURPLUS

The recent and still ongoing Covid pandemic has changed the landscape of social events and the impact on participation will unfold in unpredictable ways in the next years, thus increasing the risks for the organizers.

For these reasons, the FUSION 2024 organizing team has investigated alternative solutions on the campus of the University of Ca' Foscari in Venice that would considerably abate the risks associated with the renting of private structures.

The team has also secured the possibility to organise the conference using the facilities of the University of Brescia—2 hours by train from Venice, 40 minutes by train from Milan—as an additional alternative.

We believe that holding the conference at the Palazzo del Casinò at the Lido will provide a memorable experience for the attendees and that is our primary proposed solution. At the same time, given the current situation, we consider a sensible option to have contingency plans that could offer a fully satisfactory solution while being cost-effective.

The Ca' Foscari University is suitable in case of 300 to 350 attendees. In the following we provide full details for this option.



Tentative Date: June 30th to July 5th OR July 7th to July 12th Preliminary Budget Rev01 - 27th October 2021 Università CA FOSCARI - VENICE CITY CENTRE Cost x 350/ Cost x 400 pax/ Cost x 300/ Services: Qty 150 tutorial 125 tutorial 100 tutorial **CONGRESS VENUE** Congress Venue CA FOSCARI UNIVERSITY: The University offers different meeting rooms: Atrium for expo or catering (for a maximum of 700 people) 20 Breakout rooms (from 20 up to 150 seats each) Auditoriums Gardens ** This venue will be the PLAN B in case of less partecipants and less budget Meeting rooms for 4 days Rate for installation and misalignment reduced by 50% on the dayily rate (estimated 1 day) 1 Additional mandatory services: Fireman (required during preparation, event and dismantling) Electrician (required during preparation, event and dismantling) Cleaning service at the end of the event Chartering of Dumpsters (20,000 lt) for disposal of bulky material **TOTAL CONGRESS VENUE** 20.000,00€ 20.000,00€ AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE AV for Atrium for expo or catering, Breakout rooms (from 20 up to 150 seats each). It will be include: Projector, audio, screens, microphones. 1 25.000,00 € 25.000,00 € Auditoriums. This is an estimate price based on the rooms used and request. The cost will be confirmed after a Site ispection and a confirmation by the supplier. Signages and poster panels - Estimated - TBD Miscellaneous (Such as Security Service, Ambulance and Medical Services etc.. + any other 3.000,00€ 3.000,00 € TOTAL AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE 28.000,00€ 28.000,00 € **CATERING SERVICES and Social Functions** DAY 1: 2 coffee breaks (AM and PM) during tutorials (14,00 euro) 1.050,00 € 700,00 € DAY 1: Lunch Breaks during tutorials (26,00 euro) 1.950,00 € 1.300,00 € 1.500,00 € 1.000,00 € DAY 1: Ice Breaking Cocktail (20 euro) DAY 2-3-4: breaks (AM and PM) for all the conference participants (7 euro x CB) 14.700,00 € 12.600,00 € 27.300,00 € 23.400,00 € DAY 2-3-4:Lunch for all the conference participants (26 euro) DAY 2: Welcome cocktail buffet for all the particpants (30 euro) 9.000,00 € 10.500.00 €



280,00 €

520,00€

57.800.00€

280.00 €

520,00 €

48.800.00 €

DAY 5: 2 breaks for board meetings (7 euro)

TOTAL FOR CATERING SERVICES at the Congress Venue

DAY 5: LUNCH BREAKS (20 euro)

DAY 3: GALA DINNER			
Venue Rental - TBD - Estimate according to venue selection -		7.000,00€	7.000,00 €
Dinner Cost - TBD menu		38.500,00€	33.000,00€
TOTAL COSTFOR SOCIAL BANQUET		45.500,00 €	40.000,00€
PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS			
Graphic layout and concept of the course		1.200,00€	1.200,00€
Printing N. 2.000 Save the date 4 A4 format		1.620,00€	1.440,00€
Printing of 100 4-color posters of various sizes		900,00€	900,00 €
EDAS - Costo per i paper 6 dollari x 100 paper + 5 dollari x 400/350/300 paper (based on number of partecipants)		2.200,00€	2.000,00€
Final program Printing with Abstract book of approximately 20 pages		2.975,00€	2.550,00 €
Badge printings with badge laynards and badge holder		1.225,00€	1.050,00€
Other onsite material printings: Chevaller, certificate of attendance, miscellaneous, tickets for lunches and dinners - TBD - estimate		1.900,00€	1.800,00€
Congress kit: bag, pad and pens		TBD	TBD
promotion Expenses in FUSION 2023		TBD	TBD
Shipment of the material Proceedings - by email - support for preparation		TBD	TBD
Procedings - by emair-support for preparation Creation and management dedicated web page of Congress program and general information, for online		950,00€	900,00€
creator and management deducated web page or congless program and general mormation, for ornine registrations FOR participants + basic Abstract book submission system.		5.000,00€	5.000,00€
TOTAL FOR PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS		17.970,00€	16.840,00€
PLENARY SPEAKERS			
Speakers contact and traval grant Management refund		15.000,00 €	15.000,00 €
Fee for tutorials presenters (12X 1000 EURO each)		12.000,00 €	12.000,00 €
estimate for conference committee hospitality during the confrence		6.000,00 €	6.000,00 €
TOTAL FOR PLENARY SPEAKERS		33.000,00 €	33.000,00 €
STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES			
Hostesses for the whole period of the Congress estimated 5 Hostesses for 4 days + 2 for one day		3.420,00 €	3.420,00 €
First Class Staff during the congress - estimate		1.800,00 €	1.800,00 €
Expenses for staff - Eventual travel, meals and accommodation - ESTIMATE		TBD	TBD
Premeeting costs for site inspections and meetings - estimated tbd upon final balance		TBD	TBD
Organizing Secretariat general expenses for project management for 3 years		4.500,00 €	4.500,00 €
TOTAL FOR STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES		9.720,00€	9.720,00 €
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES			
Administrative costs and bank charges (estimate to be defined as a balance on the basis of the online registration received)		3.700,00€	3.500,00 €
TOTAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES		3.700,00 €	3.500,00 €
ORGANISING SECRETARIAT			
Total Management and Co-ordination of the above mentioned services. Management of conference services, site inspections, local assistance.		215.690,00 €	199.860,00 €
TOTAL FOR ORGANISING SECRETARIAT	6%	12.941,40 €	11.991,60 €
ISIF Membership Fees - 24,00 euro each		8.400,00 €	7.200,00 €
TOTAL COST INCLUDING AGENCY FEE		237.031,40 €	219.051,60 €
TOTAL INCOMES		315.900,00 €	266.950,00 €
Surplus (Loss)		78.868,60 €	47.898,40 €



COSTS SUMMARY	Cost x 400 pax/ 100 tutorial	Cost per 350/75 tutorials	Cost x 300/ 50 tutorial
CONGRESS VENUE	0,00€	20.000,00€	20.000,00 €
AV EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES AT THE VENUE	0,00€	28.000,00€	28.000,00 €
CATERING SERVICES and Social Functions	0,00€	57.800,00 €	48.800,00 €
SOCIAL BANQUET	0,00€	45.500,00 €	40.000,00 €
PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS	0,00 €	17.970,00€	16.840,00 €
PLENARY SPEAKERS	0,00 €	33.000,00€	33.000,00 €
STAFF & OTHER EXPENSES	0,00€	9.720,00€	9.720,00 €
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BANK CHARGES	0,00 €	3.700,00 €	3.500,00 €
ORGANISING SECRETARIAT	0,00€	12.941,40 €	11.991,60 €
ISIF Membership Fees - 24,00 euro each	0,00 €	8.400,00€	7.200,00 €
TOTAL COSTS Euro (VAT 22% is not included) - Prices are based on 2021 rates and maybe subject to a small increase according inflation and depreciation	0,00 €	237.031,40 €	219.051,60 €





WHY VENICE?



Beautiful, Absorbing, Romantic. And it is most definitely Unique.



The connection between Past & Present



Venice, an island city, was once the centre of a maritime republic. It was the greatest seaport in late medieval Europe and the continent's commercial and cultural link to Asia. Venice is unique environmentally, architecturally, and historically, and in its days as a republic the city was styled la serenissima ("the most serene" or "sublime"). It remains a major Italian port in the northern Adriatic Sea and is one of the world's oldest tourist and cultural centres.

The visitor arriving in Venice is still transported into another world, one whose atmosphere and beauty remain incomparable.

Today Venice is recognized as part of the artistic and architectural heritage of all humanity. It is considered one of the capital cities of art and architecture in the world. The city is renowned nationally and internationally for its charm and its enchanting landscapes. Churches, museums, and art galleries are present in every corner of the city and visitors can tailor their knowledge of the lagoon city in countless combinations. Venice is a tourist city par excellence, and over the years has perfected its ability to welcome and "pamper" its visitors.





Its **FORMATION** - Venice was founded over 1,500 years ago on 117 different islands that are linked by 150 canals and around 400 bridges and pavements.

It is a **SURVIVOR** - It survived Napoleon, and World War I, when it became a naval base, which increased its risk of enemy attack. It also came

through World War II, and an Allied attack on German naval operations in the city.

It is a **PIONEER** - Venice is a pioneering city because it has been built on water. It is a unique way to construct a city.

WATER is at the heart of the city - When you visit Venice, you will see that water is incorporated into the life of the city since Venice is made up of 117 different islands.

The **UNESCO** city - In 1987 Venice and its lagoon were collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

VENICE is one of the best KNOWN and most visited city in the world



Easy to reach from all of Europe



Good and healthy food







Unique historical heritage





CONFERENCE SIZE ESTIMATE

Year	Location	Attendees	Year	Location	Attendees
1998	Las Vegas, USA	161	2011	Chicago, USA	364
1999	Sunnyvale, USA	211	2012	Singapore	450
2000	Paris, France	253	2013	Istanbul, Turkey	362
2001	Montréal, Canada	261	2014	Salamanca, Spain	386
2002	Annapolis, USA	289	2015	Washington, DC, USA	389
2003	Cairns, Australia	256	2016	Heidelberg, Germany	429
2004	Stockholm, Sweden	300	2017	Xi'an, China	399
2005	Philadelphia, USA	249	2018	Cambridge, UK	491
2006	Florence, Italy	397	2019	Ottawa, Canada	391
2007	Quebec, Canada	377	2020	Virtual Conference	278
2008	Cologne, Germany	429	2021	Sun City, South Africa	TBD
2009	Seattle, USA	432	2022	Linkoping, Sweden	TBD
2010	Edinburgh, Scotland	402	2023	Charleston, SC, USA	TBD

As we can see from above, the number of participants in the last ten years has increased slightly over earlier years (excluding the digital edition during the Covid period).

We expect to have a minimum of 300 attendees with a chance of exceeding 400 attendees. Both Congress venues proposed are suitable for all scenarios.





TRANSPORTATION



By Airplane

With more than 1.300 weekly flights for the major European and international cities, "Marco Polo" International Airport ranks third in Italy for passenger transport after Rome and Milan airports.

The Airport is connected to Venice by water taxi and it takes about 30 minutes to the city centre.

TO/FROM	FREQUENCY	TO/FROM	FREQUENCY	TO/FROM (VIA	
AMSTERDAM	5/ PER DAY	MADRID	2/ PER DAY	ROME-MILAN)	FREQUENCY
BARCELONA	2/ PER DAY	VIENNA	2/ PER DAY	ATLANTA	DAILY
BERLIN	1/ PER DAY	MUNICH	4/ PER DAY	LOS ANGELES	DAILY
BRUXELLES	2/ PER DAY	PARIS	6/ PER DAY	MIAMI	DAILY
FRANKFURT	6/ PER DAY	ROME	4/ PER DAY	SAN DIEGO	DAILY
GENEVE	2/ PER DAY	ZURICH	1/ PER DAY	BOSTON	DAILY
NSTANBUL	2/ PER DAY	Day Calendar		NEW YORK	DAILY
LONDON	3/ PER DAY	TEL AVIV	1/ PER DAY	CHICAGO	DAILY
DUBAI	1/ PER DAY	ATHENS	2/ PER DAY	CHICAGO	DAILI
		MOSCOW	1/ PER DAY		





By train

With more than 200 trains from the major cities of Italy, Venice Santa Lucia is among one of the main stations of the Italian high speed railway network.

The Venice Santa Lucia train station is located walking distance from the city centre.







By car

Venice is a main junction of the Italian highway system.

From Milan city centre – 2h 30'.

From Rome city centre – 5h 32'.

The Venice car parks in Piazzale Roma and Tronchetto offer more than 7.000 parking spaces.

Venice Piazzale Roma parking to Venice city centre is about 30 minutes by Water Taxi.





CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1: Tutorials + Icebreaker

• DAY 2: Plenary and technical sessions + Welcome Reception

DAY 3: Plenary and technical sessions + Gala Dinner

DAY 4: Plenary and technical sessions

DAY 5: Board meeting



Following established FUSION tradition since 2011, DAY 3 will start with the FUSION 5K race that will be held in the early morning on the Venice Lido, with an out and back, flat, fast course along the water. Exact course details have yet to be defined. Race prizes will be presented in conjunction with the Awards Program as part of the Gala Dinner the same day.

The conference program will provide a carefully constructed balance between the different areas of data and information fusion, from high-level information Fusion systems and situational awareness to low-level tracking algorithms, with contributions relevant to theorists and industry

practitioners. We made sure that our conference committee represented all of the major strands in data and information fusion.



The program will include the following activities:

- Tutorials
- Plenary talks
- Special sessions
- Regular oral paper presentations
- Panel discussions
- Exhibitions

We will specifically welcome advancements in the following areas of information fusion:

- Theory and representation
- Algorithms for data and information fusion
- Fusion systems design
- Modelling, simulation and evaluation
- Applications
- Emerging areas

FUSION 2024 will begin with a full day of tutorials, followed by three full days for the main conference. We will balance tutorials and plenary talks between core FUSION topics and emerging areas in relevant disciplines such as distributed/federated learning and reasoning and other areas of machine learning. The three main conference days start with plenaries. Papers will be presented during the days in special sessions and regular session papers in eight parallel tracks. The ISIF Board meeting will take place after the conference. We will also leverage the extensive connections of the chairs with Italian and European associations of interests, including CVPL—the Italian association for Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition—, AI*IA—the Italian association for the advancement of Artificial Intelligence—, and CLAIRE—the Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe. We plan to organise a panel to identify and exploit synergies between ISIF and European communities with interest in similar topics.





CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The recent and still ongoing Covid pandemic has changed the landscape of social events and the impact on participation will unfold in unpredictable ways in the next years, thus increasing the risks for the organizers. For these reasons, the FUSION 2024 organizing team has investigated alternative solutions on the campus of the University of Ca' Foscari in Venice that would considerably abate the risks associated with the renting of private structures. The team has also secured the possibility to organise the conference using the facilities of the University of Brescia—2 hours by train from Venice, 40 minutes by train from Milan—as an additional alternative.

We believe that holding the conference at the Palazzo del Casinò at the Lido will provide a memorable experience for the attendees and that is our primary proposed solution. At the same time, given the current situation, we consider a sensible option to have contingency plans that could offer a fully satisfactory solution while being cost-effective.



PLAN A

Palazzo del Casinò – Venice Lido

Palazzo del Casinò is located on the Island called Venice Lido, which divides the Lagoon of Venice from the sea.



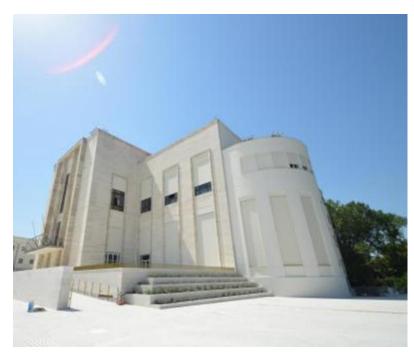
The location is well connected with the city of Venice. Using the "carta dei trasporti" service all the participants can reach the venue using public transport, thanks to this dedicated travel card





From the Airport Marco Polo - about 50 minutes
From Piazzale Roma (car park) - about 40 minutes
From Tronchetto (car park) - about 30 minutes
From the Railway Station - about 45 minutes



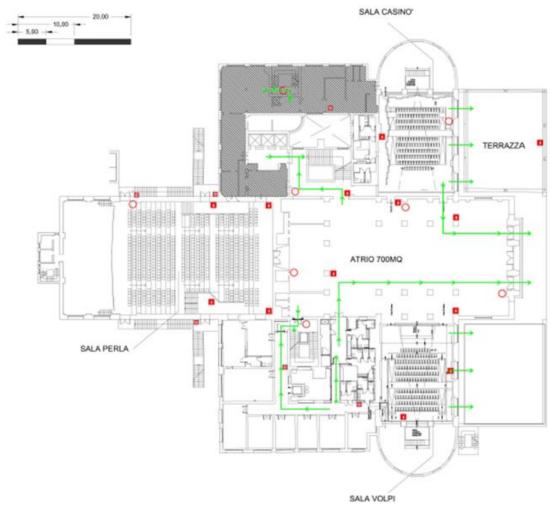


The monumental building of the Palazzo del Casinò was designed by the Chief Engineer of the City of Venice Eugenio Miozzi in the Rationalist style, influenced by the **Fascist** architecture of the 1930s. Compared to the austere façade clad in travertine, the interiors of the Palazzo features spaces on every floor decorated with marble, mosaic and artistic glass from the finest glasshouses in Murano,

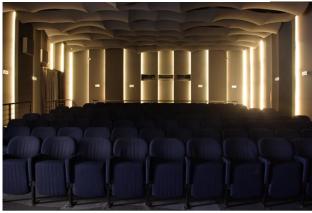
designated as gambling rooms, dining rooms and cafés, and for entertainment areas. A large entrance hall greets guests who in the past could use the monumental staircase or three large elevators to reach the gambling rooms and terraces on the upper floors. The Casinò was closed in the late 1990s, and the Palazzo has since been used by the Biennale for the Venice International Film Festival, mainly to house press services and as a venue for screenings for the public and professional visitors.

FLOOR I:

3 Meeting Rooms & 1 Atrium







Perla Room Max capacity : 450 pax

Volpi Room Max capacity : 150 pax





Max capacity: 800 pax

FLOOR II

7 Breakout rooms



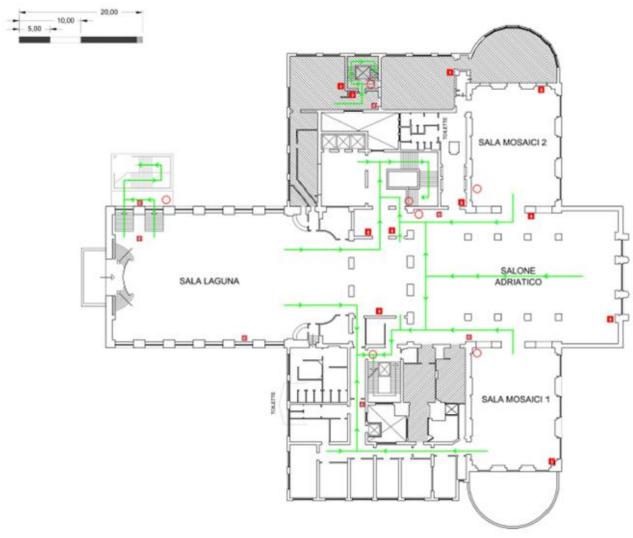




Mangano & Martinelli Rooms
Max capacity : 50 pax each

FLOOR III

4 Meeting Rooms









Mosaici Room 1/2
Max capacity: 200 pax





PLAN B

Ca' Foscari University - Venice





The Ca' Foscari University of Venice is a jewel in the heart of Venice. The spaces are ideal for cultural, educational-training events, exhibitions, press conferences, courses, gala dinners, business meetings, conventions, and private events.

The University offers different meeting rooms:

Atrium for expo or catering (for a maximum of 700 people)

20 Breakout rooms (from 20 up to 150 seats each)

Auditoriums

Gardens

The Ca' Foscari University can be an ideal alternative venue, in case the number of participants were less than the expected, due to unpredictable circumstances.





Aula Magna Guido Cazzavillan, San Giobbe Capacity: 340 seats



Atrium and Gardens, San Giobbe



Venice Lido

Below a short list of different hotels based in Venice Lido. We propose two categories:

4 STARS HOTEL

NAME	NUMBER OF ROOMS
HOTEL EXCELSIOR	120
HOTEL BIASUTTI	67
GRANDE ALBERGO AUSONIA E HUNGARI	30
HOTEL QUATTRO FONTANE	10
CA ALBERTI	8
PETIT PALAIS	31
VILLA INES	6
PANORAMA	22
VILLA MABAPA	10
VILLA PANNONIA	10
LE BOULEVARD	45
VIKTORIA PALACE	29
CA DEL BORGO	25
VILLA EDERA	22
RUSSO PALACE	22
TOTAL ROOMS	457

3 STARS HOTEL

NAME	NUMBER OF ROOMS
ATLANTA AUGUSTUS	20
BELVEDERE	15
BYRON	12
CA' DEL MORO	25
GIARDINETTO	20
HELVETIA	20
LA MERIDIANA	33
ORIO	15
RIGEL	15

TOTAL ROOMS 175



Venice City Centre

Below a short list of a number of hotels based in Venice City Centre. We propose two categories:

4 STARS HOTEL

NAME	NUMBER OF ROOMS
MONACO E GRAN CANAL	99
PALACE BONVECCHIATI	70
SATURNIA & INTERNATIONAL	87
CARLTON ON THE GRAND CANAL	145
PRINCIPE & AMEDEUS	200
CA NIGRA	22
HOTEL LONDRA	15
LOCANDA VIVALDI	27
HOTEL SAVOIA	20
HOTEL LIASSIDI PALACE	28
HOTEL GABRIELLI	20
STARHOTEL SPLENDID	164
NH RIO NOVO	144

TOTAL ROOMS 1041

3 STARS HOTEL

NAME	NUMBER OF ROOMS
HOTEL TRE ARCHI	20
HOTEL PAGANELLI	15
HOTEL PAUSANIA	23
HOTEL CAPRI	15
HOTEL TINTORETTO	33
CA DOGARESSA	21
PALAZZO CENDON	15
PALAZZO SAN LUCA	13

TOTAL ROOMS 155



The FUSION 2024 organizing team is considering a number of comparably priced venues all of which are potential options for either the Welcome Reception or Gala Dinner. All those listed here are in easy reach from the conference venue, and transportation will be arranged. The first option is only suitable for the Welcome Reception, as it consists of numerous smaller rooms that can be visited.

Sala Del Ridotto c/o Hotel Monaco & Gran Canal (Welcome Reception option)

This venue is at the Hotel Monaco & Gran Cana. These are 9 extraordinary "Ridotto Rooms", perfect for meetings, but also to take guests back to the time of Giacomo Casanova, right in the San Marco district, the vibrant heart of Venice.





Palazzo Pisani Moretta – Venezia

Palazzetto Pisani is the ideal location for a gala dinner in central Venice: we may choose the Salone Pisani or the Salotto del Doge Grand Canal, using the gallery to welcome guests.







Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista

We may choose this prestigious museum, located in the historical centre of Venice. The garden would be used for an outdoor aperitif before dinner.





Arsenale



The spaces of the Venice Arsenal are the symbol of the military power of the Serenissima Republic and its naval industry and today they are a completely restored venue. The pavilions, each of a size of about 1,000 square meters, are covered spaces in a unique context and ideally suited to the awards program during the Gala Dinner.

This historic warehouse is equipped with a landing stage for guests to disembark.

Scuola Grande della Misericordia di Venezia

Situated in the Cannaregio district, the Scuola Grande della Misericordia dominates the north side of Venice. It is a unique building of its kind, set in a fascinating area where the magnificent achievements of Venetian architecture meet the waters of the lagoon.







Sala Stucchi Hotel Excelsior - Venezia Lido

Majestic and elegant with ornate arches and floor to ceiling windows overlooking the sea, this exceptional ballroom can accommodate up to 400 guests for banqueting.









PUBLICITY PLANS

We will disseminate information to the largest possible technical audience at both an international and local level to attract a large number of attendees from academia and industry.

The publicity plans include the following pre-conference activities:

- Advertisement campaign during Fusion 2022 and 2023.
- Distribution of hard copies of call-for-papers, posters, brochures starting with Fusion 2023.
- Regular dissemination of conference information via mailing lists.
- Setup of conference website as early as possible.
- Advertising in IEEE AESS Systems Magazine, on the ISIF website, and through social media (LinkedIn, etc.).
- Advertising throughout Italian universities and dissemination to local media, leveraging the publicity departments of the University of Udine and the University of Brescia.
- Post-conference publicity includes archiving the proceedings on IEEE Xplore and disseminating scientific highlights to news channels, and newspapers.
- Conference report published via ISIF Perspectives.

Liaisons will be established with the IEEE AESS Italy Chapter and with the Italian Association for Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning (CVPL) that will help with publicity and drawing attendees from related communities of researchers





CONFERENCE DATES

FUSION is normally held in early July. We propose the following options:

- 1 July to 5 July 2024
- 8 July to 12 July 2024

Below is a listing of major international events in Venice during the year. The key to note is that these events do not conflict with FUSION, facilitating the availability of hotels, restaurants and services.

IL CARNEVALE DI VENEZIA – February

LA FESTA DEL REDENTORE - End of July

MOSTRA DEL CINEMA DI VENEZIA – September

LA REGATA STORICA DI VENEZIA – September





LOCAL ACTIVITIES



We anticipate facilitating activities during the conference for accompanying friends and family members. Some options currently being considered are listed below.

GUIDED HISTORIC TOUR

Tour "The symbols of Venice" including: S. Marco's Square, Rialto Bridge, Doge's Palace, Grand Canal, Bridge of Sighs, etc.





CICCHETTO TOUR

This is the Venetian version of the typical Italian Aperitivo. During the guided tour you will taste the original Spritz with a big variety of canapes in different cafes.



TOUR TO MURANO, BURANO AND TORCELLO

These villages are the three most famous islands near Venice. Murano is famous for its beautiful glass, Burano for its lace, and Torcello for its cathedral. You can have a tour in one of the glass-blowing factories and shop for pretty glass products at Murano



GONDOLA CRUISE Begin the ride, with a singer aboard one of the boats. Enjoy the sites of Venice's main landmarks, including the Grand Canal and Palazzo Barberino



BIENNALE TOUR

The Art Biennale, a contemporary visual art exhibition and so called because it is held biennially (in odd-numbered years), is the original biennale on which others in the world have been modeled.





PROCEEDINGS

All final versions of accepted papers will be published in accordance with ISIF & IEEE formatting and standards, and ISIF will have all copyrights.

All participants to the conference will receive an electronic copy of all accepted papers. After the conference, all accepted (and presented) papers will be published through IEEE Xplore. One year following the conference, proceedings will be freely available through the ISIF website.

LIABILITY

First Class is insured for civil liability with the Assicurazioni Generali Spa company.

The civil liability covers two insurance policies:

- Insurance policy N. 380520001 General Civil Liability: insurance ceiling of 1.000.000 euros.
- Insurance policy N. 249455991 General Civil Liability for Congress Events: insurance ceiling of 1.550.000 euros.

These insurance policies cover all damages that may arise from First Class activities or from third party suppliers managed by First Class.





First Class Events & Conferences

The FUSION 2024 organizing team has selected First Class to assist us in conference planning. This selection was made after careful vetting of several potential companies.

First Class is a leading conference organizer both inside and outside of Italy, boasting prestigious collaborations with major scientific societies, institutions and universities.

First Class has supported numerous technical conferences across a wide range of technical fields. The most recent conference involvement in closely-related disciplines includes the following:

- IEEE Radar Conference 2020 Virtual Conference 700 participants
- IEEE SPS SPAWC Conference 2021 Virtual conference 200 participants
- IEEE ICC 2023 2000 participants.

