

Beyond the Spark: New Frontiers in Radio Science

Inaugural Day of the Italian Society of Radio Sciences

Organizing Committee

Carlo Carobbi, University of Florence
Giuliano Manara, University of Pisa
Alessandra Costanzo, University of Bologna
Giorgiana De Franceschi, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia
Francesca Apollonio, University of Rome Sapienza
Micaela Liberti, University of Rome Sapienza
Cecilia Lalle, CNR – International Relations Unit
Micol Colella (Young Researchers), University of Rome Sapienza

Programme

The inaugural day of the newborn Italian Society of Radio Sciences (Società Italiana delle Radio-Scienze – URSI Italia A.P.S.), supported by the Marconi 150 Committee, explores the new frontiers of electromagnetic science: from advanced communication systems to innovative materials, from space technologies to biomedical applications. Marconi's legacy continues to inspire research on waves and their infinite languages, beyond the spark that first made them possible.

URSI Italia A.P.S. aims to promote research activities in Italy in all areas of radio science, in close coordination with the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) and its ten scientific commissions (<https://www.ursi.org/commissions.php>). The multidisciplinary environment that characterizes URSI, at both national and international level, fosters the development of research with a broad scientific scope. Furthermore, URSI places particular emphasis on young researchers, investing in them to promote their integration into the international scientific community.

The event will be graciously attended by Princess Elettra Marconi, daughter of Guglielmo Marconi.

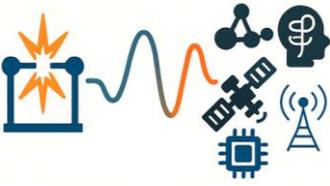
6 February 2026 – Sala Marconi, National Research Council (CNR), Piazzale Aldo Moro, Rome

Morning – Inaugural Session

(Chair: Giuliano Manara)

10:00 — Salutation and Institutional Welcome

- Virginia Coda Nunziante (CNR – Head of the International Relations Unit)
- Giulia Fortunato (President of Marconi Foundation & “Marconi 150” Committee)
- Alessandro Toscano (President of the Italian Society of Electromagnetism-SIEm)



10:40 — The Newly Founded “Società Italiana delle Radio Scienze - URSI Italia A.P.S.” and Its Perspectives

Prof. Carlo Carobbi, President “Commissione CNR-URSI” and President “URSI Italia A.P.S.”; University of Florence, Italy

11:00 — URSI International Activities and Future Directions

Prof. Peter Van Daele, Secretary-General URSI; Ghent University, Belgium

11:30 — Waves Across Time: From Marconi’s Legacy to the Frontiers of Radio Science

Prof. Ari Sihvola, President URSI; Aalto University, Finland

12:00 — Guglielmo Marconi as a leading protagonist in the reorganization of Italian Geophysics: the importance given to the exploration of the Ionosphere

Prof. Bruno Zolesi, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV), Italy

12:30 — Broadcasting Today and Tomorrow: Technology, Innovation and Infrastructure

Dr. Ing. Roberto Cecatto, CEO & General Director, Rai Way S.p.A., Italy

13:00 — Lunch Break

Afternoon – Italian Radio Science Society, Marconi’s Legacy & Innovation

(Chair: Alessandra Costanzo)

14:00 — Emerging Paradigms for Radio Science: Metamaterials and Their Applications

Prof. Andrea Alù, City University of New York, USA

14:30 — SPECIAL SESSION of YOUNG RESEARCHERS

“My Research and Marconi’s Legacy in 3 Minutes”

A themed competition where selected young researchers present how their work reflects and extends Marconi’s scientific legacy.

- Introduction — Micol Colella, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
- Presentations by selected young researchers
- Collective Q&A
- Real-time voting
- Award announcement

16:00 — Closing Remarks

Future directions and upcoming initiatives of URSI Italy

16:30 — End of the Day