

ATLAS

ATLAS OF ITALIAN LOCAL TELEVISIONS



FOUR MAIN METHODOLOGIES:

- **television history** and media production cultures;
- **film** and **media** history;
- **oral, social, and local history**;
- **archival practices** and **infrastructures**.

Key sources include portions of the **video programming** of the channels, their **industrial materials**, archival **photos**, original **interviews** with former professionals, and a curated **press review**.

University of **Bologna** (principal investigator)

Antenna 3 (Lombardy),
TeleSanterno (Emilia-Romagna)



Sapienza University of **Rome**

TeleRoma56 (Lazio)



University of **Cagliari**

Sardegna 1 (Sardinia)



University of **Turin**

Videogruppo (Sardinia)



The findings have been disseminated through participation in several conferences, as well as through seminars, open lectures, educational workshops and public engagement activities. The project concluded with the final conference **Media Mutations 16. Unlocking Digital Archives in the Digital Era** (Bologna, 26-27 May 2025). Amongst the publications, a **special issue** of the journal **Cinergie. Il cinema e le altre arti** will be out in December 2025.

<https://site.unibo.it/atlas/it>

RESEARCH OUTLINE

The **ATLAS – Atlas of Local Televisions project** (PRIN 2020, funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research) aims to establish, provide access to, and enhance a **pilot archive of privately owned local TV channels operating in Italy (1976-90)**.

The research focuses on a sample of **5 geographically diverse broadcasters**, selected for their **creative innovation and strong ties to local communities and economies** – an area still underrepresented in Italian media studies and archival practices. This perspective helps to shed light on the complex transformation of the national television and media system, from the public monopoly towards a fully developed commercial market.



5 CASE STUDIES ACROSS 4 UNIVERSITIES

The project (2022–2025) involved four Italian universities, each focusing on one or more broadcasters.

CORE OUTPUTS

An **open-access repository** of over 400 items, including digitised video clips from largely unpublished native archives, photographs, documents, and audio interviews, hosted on Historica, the digital library of the University of Bologna.



15 digital exhibitions, reconstructing the origins and development of the featured channels, their genres, formats, recurring themes, hosts, and shared goals.