



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



**40 YEARS OF  
INNOVATION**

1985 — 2025

# COIMBRA GROUP 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



**10-13 JUNE 2025 - UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, ITALY**



## WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Coimbra Group Members,

It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to all of you – distinguished faculty members, dedicated administrative and technical staff, and talented students – who are part of the Coimbra Group network. From June 10th to 13th, our historic University of Bologna will have the honor of hosting the General Assembly of the Coimbra Group, and we are truly delighted to welcome you to our institution and city.

Since its foundation, the University of Bologna has been a proud member of the Coimbra Group, a network that brings together some of Europe's most prestigious and historic universities. This longstanding collaboration has fostered academic excellence, innovation, and a shared commitment to the values of higher education. Hosting this General Assembly is a testament to our continued dedication to strengthening these ties and advancing our common goals. During your time in Bologna, you will have the opportunity to engage in thought-provoking discussions, exchange best practices, and explore new avenues for academic and research cooperation. Our program has been designed to inspire and challenge us all, showcasing the collective strengths and unique contributions of our member institutions.

Beyond the conference sessions, we have also arranged various cultural and social activities, allowing you to experience the rich history and vibrant atmosphere of Bologna. I encourage you to take full advantage of these moments to connect with colleagues in a more informal setting, as they often lead to the most fruitful and enduring collaborations.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to everyone involved in organizing this General Assembly. Your dedication and hard work are essential to making this event a success.

Once again, welcome to Bologna. I look forward to the insightful exchanges and meaningful partnerships that will emerge from this gathering. Together, we continue to shape the future of higher education in Europe.

Warm regards,

Prof. Giovanni Molari - Rector  
Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna

# PROGRAMME

## HOW TO FIND YOUR ROOM IN THE BELMELORO COMPLEX

The Belmeloro complex consists of two buildings, Building A and Building B.

From the main entrance, you enter Building A, where the classrooms are arranged as follows:

- Room G, ground floor
- Rooms B, C and D, first floor
- Rooms E and F, second floor

To reach Building B, you must pass through Building A, as it is a separate structure.

In Building B, you will find the following classrooms:

- Rooms P and Q, ground floor
- Rooms H and I, first floor
- Rooms L and M, second floor

### Legend:

	Open to all		Cultural programme (upon registration)
	Subject-related working meetings		Reserved to Governance
	Governance meetings		Link for live streaming: Click on the red icon to connect
	Social programme		

# DAY 1

# TUESDAY 10 JUNE

9:00

Meeting of the Coimbra Group Executive Board

• Rectorate - Sala Giunta

13:30

Registration and Welcome Coffee at Belmeloro Complex

14:30

Working Groups meetings - Parallel sessions

• Belmeloro Complex

Academic Exchange and Mobility (AEM) Working Group Meeting

• Room D, first floor - Building A

Doctoral Studies (DS) Working Group Meeting

• Room C, first floor - Building A

Education Innovation (EDU) Working Group Meeting

• Room Q, ground floor - Building B

Employability (EMP) Working Group Meeting

• Room F, second floor - Building A

Equality & Diversity (ED) Working Group Meeting

• Room P, ground floor - Building B

Global Partnerships (GP) Working Group Meeting

• Room E, second floor - Building A

Heritage (HER) Working Group Meeting

• Room G, ground floor - Building A

Latin America (LA) Working Group Meeting

• Room L, second floor - Building B

DAY 1

TUESDAY 10 JUNE

Life Sciences (LS) Working Group Meeting

📍 Room M, second floor - Building B

Research Support Officers (RSO) Working Group Meeting

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Working Group Meeting

📍 Room I, first floor - Building B

Social Sciences & Humanities (SSH) Working Group Meeting

📍 Room H, first floor - Building B

17:30

Launch of the book "European University Legacies: Problematic Heritage and Contemporary Practice"

📍 Room G, ground floor - Building A

18:30

End of the day

### Legend:



Open to all



Subject-related working meetings



Governance meetings



Social programme



Cultural programme (upon registration)



Reserved to Governance



Link for live streaming: Click on the red icon to connect

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

9:00

Meeting of the Coimbra Group Executive Board, Coimbra Group Representatives and Working Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs

📍 Rectorate - Sala VIII Centenario

10:30

Coffee Break

📍 Rectorate

10:30

Registration desk opens - Welcome Coffee

📍 Belmeloro Complex

11:00

Working Groups Meetings and Open Conferences

📍 Belmeloro Complex

11:00 - 13:00

**Equality & Diversity (ED) WG Meeting**

📍 Room P, ground floor - Building B

**Latin America WG Meeting (LA)**

📍 Room L, second floor - Building B

**Life Sciences (LS) WG Meeting**

📍 Room M, second floor - Building B

**Research Support Officers (RSO) WG Meeting**

📍 Room F, second floor - Building A

**Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) WG Meeting**

📍 Room I, first floor - Building B

11:00 - 12:00

Academic Exchange and Mobility (AEM) and Employability (EMP) WGs **Inter-WGs Meeting**

📍 Room E, second floor - Building A

11:00 - 12:00

**Open session "Digital Heritage and the University"** jointly organised by the Heritage WG and Una Europa Alliance (*open to all delegates*):  
 📍 Room G, ground floor - Building A

Opening words by *Bernadette Biedermann* and *Patrizia Battilani*

*Silvio Peroni*, "The Digital Twin of the exhibition The Other Renaissance. Ulisse Aldrovandi and the Wonders of the World"

*Maria Laura Vignocchi*, "AlmaDL, the Digital Library of the University of Bologna"

Q&A and discussion

11:00 - 12:00

**Open session "University and Local Authorities: Joint Models of Global Partnerships and Actions"** organised by the Global Partnerships WG  
 📍 Room C, first floor - Building A

12:00 - 13:00

**Open session "Decolonizing University Heritage"** organised by the Heritage WG  
 📍 Room D, first floor - Building A

Academic Exchange and Mobility (AEM) and Global Partnerships (GP) Inter-WGs Meeting on the Role of Universities as Agents of Global Cooperation: the Role of Recent Geopolitical Situation in our Cooperation with Global Majority in Research and Co-creation  
 📍 Room Q, ground floor - Building B

Doctoral Studies (DS) and Employability (EMP) Inter-WGs Meeting  
 📍 Room E, second floor - Building A

13:00

Lunch  
 📍 Belmeloro Complex

14:30



**Reflected in Water. Development, Resilience, Inequalities**  
*Keynote Speech, Professor Andrea Rinaldo - University of Padua / Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne*  
 📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

15:15

Open Conference on Climate Change  
**From Durham to Bologna; the Climate Declaration**  
*Organized by Durham University*  
*Speakers:*  
*Professor Karen O'Brien, Vice Chancellor & Warden*  
*Professor Charlotte Clarke, Executive Dean (Health)*  
*Judith Akoto, Durham PGT student (Master's in Sustainability, Energy, and Development)*  
*Professor Daniel Donoghue, Professor of Geography and Coimbra Group Executive Board member*  
 Rector's reflections  
 Q&A  
 📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

16:30

Coffee Break  
 📍 Rectorate

17:00

Meeting of the Coimbra Group Executive Board, Coimbra Group Representatives and Working Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs  
 📍 Rectorate - Sala VIII Centenario

18:30

Evening Reception  
 📍 Palazzo Isolani

8:30

Registration desk opens

📍 Belmeloro Complex

9:30

**Opening Speeches**

*Giovanni Molari, Rector of the University of Bologna*  
*Isabella Conti, Regional Councillor for Welfare, the Third Sector, Childhood Policies and Education, Emilia-Romagna Region*  
*Roxana Mînzatu, European Commission Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness*

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

10:00

**Global Shifts, Innovative Futures: Shaping Inclusive Excellence**

*Keynote speech Professor Kum Kum Bhavnani - University of California, Santa Barbara*  
*Chair: Raffaella Campaner, Vice Rector for International Relations*

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

11:00

Coffee Break

11:30

**Empowering Local and Global Communities: from the Poitiers Declaration to the Future**

*Chair: Maria Letizia Guerra, Delegate for Public Engagement*  
*Round table: Rectors of Coimbra Group Universities and Mayors of the Cities.*

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

12:30

Lunch

13:45

**3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Live Final**

*Moderation: Adriana Zait, Chair of the Coimbra Group Doctoral Studies Working Group*

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

**Personalized Medicine - Health for Every Body**

*Bianca Brandl, University of Graz*

**Looking Inside the Liver: Unveiling Cancer's Metabolic Fingerprint**

*Uffe Kjærgaard, Aarhus University*

**Triggering Healing: Materials that Outsmart Brain Cancer**

*Almudena Moreno Borrallo, Trinity College Dublin*

14:00 - 15:00

**Open Session on the European Universities Alliances: "How to Handle the Social Responsibility with the Alliances?"**

*Speakers:*

*Silvia Bianconcini, Rector's Delegate for Una Europa, University of Bologna (moderator)*

*Susanne Conze, Head of Higher Education, DG EAC, European Commission*

*Eva Voldřichová Beránková, 4EU+*

*Artur Schmitt, Arqus*

*Meritxell Chaves, CHARM-EU*

*Alessio Cavicchi, Circle U.*

*Ludovic Thilly, EC2U*

*Jacquelin Scherpen, ENLIGHT*

*Christiane Biehl, EUniWell*

*Soledad Garcia Ferrari, Una Europa*

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

DAY 3

THURSDAY 12 JUNE

15:00

**3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Results Announcement**

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A



15:15

Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:00

**Open Session "Is your University Truly Inclusive and International?"**

organised by EUniverse

Speakers:

*Bart Van de Laar, Utrecht University*

*Marco Oliva, University of Pavia*

*Catarina Moleiro, Coimbra Group*

📍 Room G, ground floor - Building A

16:00 - 18:00

Closed Rectors' Meeting

📍 Rectorate, Sala Consiglio

Erasmus Student Network Meeting with Coimbra Group Universities

📍 Room C, first floor - Building A

**Global Partnerships (GP) Working Group Meeting**

📍 Room D, first floor - Building A

19:00

Welcome Cocktail

📍 Palazzo Re Enzo

20:00

Gala Dinner

📍 Palazzo Re Enzo

DAY 4

FRIDAY 13 JUNE

8:30

Registration desk opens - Welcome Coffee

📍 Belmeloro Complex

9:00

Coimbra Group General Assembly

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

11:15 - 11:45

Meeting of the Coimbra Group Executive Board

📍 Room G, ground floor - Building A

11:30

Open Session

**Inspiring Examples of Communities of Practice in Higher Education**

📍 Room B, first floor - Building A

12:00

Farewell Lunch

13:00

Cultural Programme (upon registration)

Legend:



Open to all



Subject-related working meetings



Governance meetings



Social programme



Cultural programme (upon registration)



Reserved to Governance



Link for live streaming:  
Click on the red icon to connect

## PALAZZO ISOLANI

11 June 2025 - 18.30

Welcome reception

The Welcome reception will take place in the courtyard of Palazzo Isolani. Overlooking Piazza Santo Stefano, one of most beautiful squares in Bologna, for centuries the porticoes of Palazzo Isolani have offered one

of the most magical walkways of Bologna. Inside, the 18th-century rooms are adorned with frescoes, tapestries and decorated with the family's paintings and furniture.



## PALAZZO RE ENZO

12 June 2025 - 19.00

Gala Dinner

The Gala Dinner will be hosted at Palazzo Re Enzo, an iconic historical building located in the heart of Bologna, right on Piazza Maggiore. Dating back to the 13th century, Palazzo Re Enzo takes its name from King Enzo of Sardinia, who was imprisoned there after being captured in battle. The palace is a stunning example of

medieval architecture, with its grand halls and impressive frescoes, and remains a symbol of the city's rich history and cultural heritage. After the welcome aperitif, we will gather for a group photo in this magnificent location, offering a perfect backdrop of both history and elegance.



## CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Cultural programme open to registered participants only. Please wear your badge at all times.

The social program is focused on Friday afternoon due to the packed schedule of meetings.

### BEAUTY THROUGH THE AGES: A GUIDED TOUR OF PALAZZO POGGI MUSEUM

**13 June 2025 | h 13:30 - 14:30**

*Meeting point: Palazzo Poggi Museum, Via Zamboni 33*

Join us for a guided tour of the Palazzo Poggi Museum, one of the most fascinating museums of the University of Bologna. Explore its remarkable collections, which showcase the evolution of beauty through the lenses of science,

art, and culture. From anatomical wax models and scientific instruments to historical artworks and cartographic masterpieces, this tour offers a unique journey through knowledge and aesthetics across the centuries.



# CULTURAL PROGRAMME

## THE “LEARNED”, THE “FAT”, AND THE “RED”: A WALK THROUGH THE CITY OF BOLOGNA

Organized by ESN - Erasmus Student Network Bologna

**13 June 25 | h 13:30 - 15:00**

*Meeting Point: Entrance Hall, Complesso Belmeloro, Via Andreatta 8*

Join us for an engaging walking tour through the heart of Bologna's university district! Three key aspects define this city—its academic excellence, rich culinary tradition, and vibrant political history—and we'll explore them all. Setting off from Via Belmeloro, we'll uncover the legacy of the world's oldest university before making our way to the iconic Two Towers and Piazza Maggiore. Along the way, we'll delve

into the stories of San Petronio and the grand halls of Palazzo d'Accursio, discovering the city's secrets hidden in plain sight.

Our journey will conclude at the historic Archiginnasio, where we'll step into the intellectual and cultural heritage that has shaped Bologna for centuries. Get ready to walk through history—one landmark, one tradition, one story at a time!



## THE HISTORIC UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF BOLOGNA AND POPE BENEDICT XIV'S BOOK COLLECTION

**13 June 25 | h 13:30 - 14:30**

*Meeting point: Historical Porter's Lodge of the Library, Via Zamboni 25 (ground floor)*

A guided tour of the **Historic University Library of Bologna**, exploring the monumental halls of the ancient Institute of Sciences, with a special focus on manuscripts and early printed books from Pope Benedict

XIV's historic collection (Bologna, 1675 – Rome, 1758). These works are showcased in a bibliographic exhibition marking the 350th anniversary of the pontiff's birth.

# CULTURAL PROGRAMME

## VISIT TO THE CLOCK TOWER (TORRE DELL'OROLOGIO) AND THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTIONS

13 June 25 | h 15:00 – 15:20

Meeting point: Palazzo D'Accursio, Piazza Maggiore 6

Enjoy a **unique experience** exploring **Palazzo d'Accursio** and admiring Bologna from above with an audio guide accessible on your smartphone.

Climb the **Clock Tower** and take in breathtaking views from its two panoramic terraces. This experience will lead you through courtyards and staircases, from the magnificent

Sala Farnese to the very heart of the tower—the **mechanism** that keeps the clock ticking.

The visit also includes access to the **Municipal Art Collections**, where you can immerse yourself in a treasure trove of paintings, objets d'art, furniture, porcelain, and textiles spanning from the Middle Ages to the present day.



## PASTA-MAKING WORKSHOP

13 June 25 | h 15.00

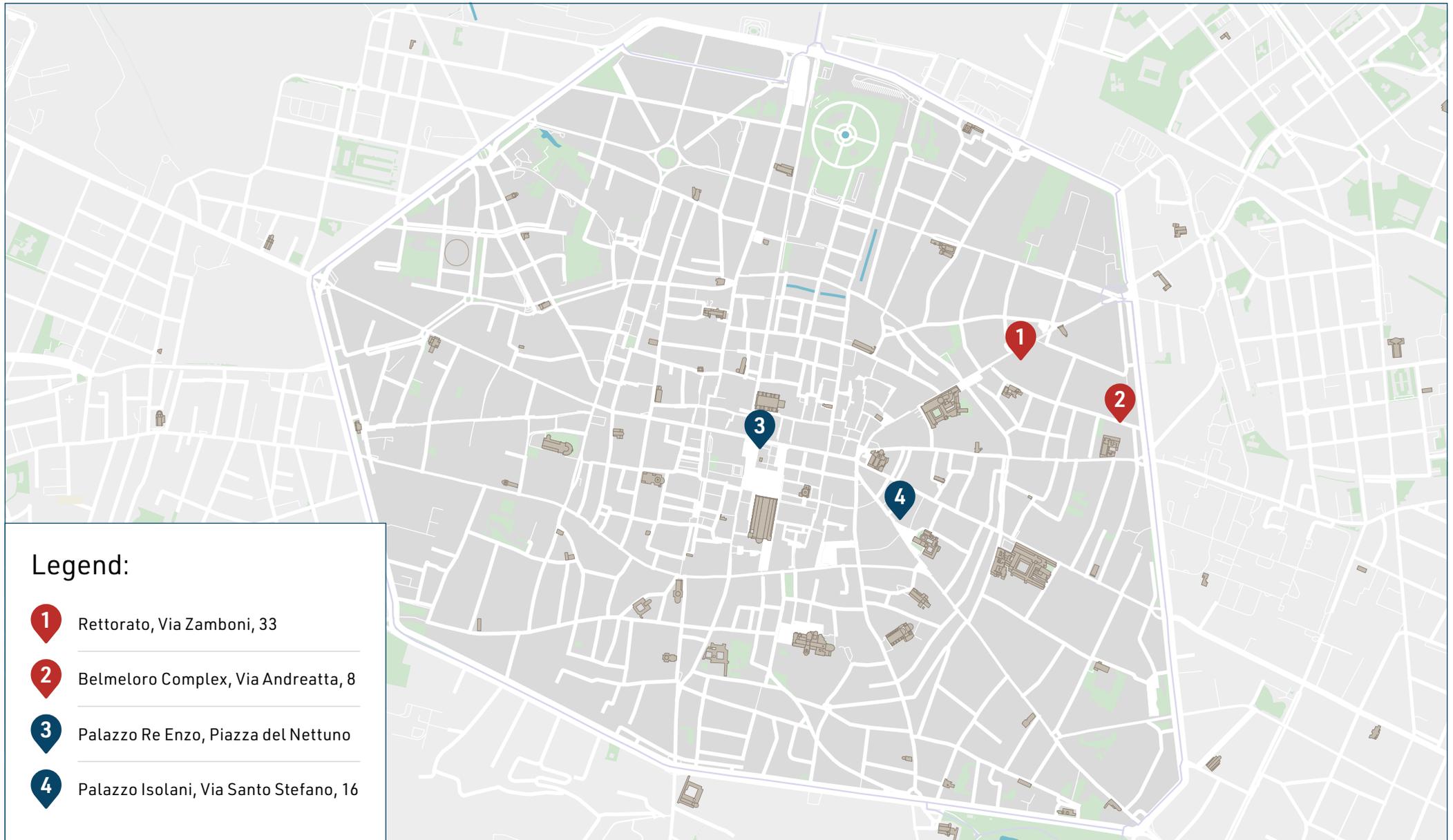
Meeting point: Il Salotto di Penelope, Via San Felice 116

Experience the art of homemade pasta in Bologna with an authentic pasta-making workshop.

Join a hands-on class where you'll learn to prepare traditional fresh pasta, using local recipes and techniques.

Immerse yourself in Bologna's culinary culture, taking home new skills and unforgettable memories.

# LOCATION GUIDE





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