



21-22 September 2026

***Implementing the Istanbul Convention
after the EU's Accession in the Academic System.
Backlash, Gaps and Institutional Responsibility***
A Pan-European Conference

Dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale - Via Bicocca degli Arcimboldi, 8 - 20126 Milano

Day 1 - 21 September 2026

Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room Pagani

9:00-9:30: Registration

- **9:30 - 10:00: Institutional Greetings**
 - **Marco Orlandi**, Rector of the University of Milano-Bicocca
 - **Elena Lucchini**, Councillor for Family, Social Solidarity, Disability and Equal Opportunities, Lombardy Region
- **10:00 - 10:30: Introduction. Framing the Challenge. The Role of UN.I.RE. and OCEAN Networks in Advancing the Istanbul Convention**
 - **Marina Calloni** (University of Milano-Bicocca)
 - **Michele Nicoletti** (University of Trento)
 - **Olaf K ndgen** (OCEAN - Council of Europe)
- **10:30 - 11:00: Keynote Lecture. The State of the Istanbul Convention in Council of Europe Societies: A Focus on EU Member States**
 - **Sara De Vido** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

Chair: **Michele Nicoletti**
- **11:00 - 13:00: Round Table. Implementing the Istanbul Convention across Levels of Governance: Pressures, Gaps, and Accountability**
 - **Ivo Gruev** (University of K ln)
 - **Lisa Collste** (Gender Equality Unit - European Commission)
 - **Susana Pavlou** (Women Against Violence Europe)
 - **Renate Klein** (University of Maine, European - Network on Gender and Violence)

Chair: **Marina Calloni**

Online participation available: <https://unimib.webex.com/meet/marina.calloni>

13:00 - 14:00: Lunch

- 14:00 - 16:00: Working Groups. Thematic Parallel Sessions - *From Debate to Policy: Gaps and Institutional Responsibilities*. In-person participation only
 - WG 1.1. Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room Pagani: *Anti-Gender Movements and Backlash in Academia. Impact on University Policies, Research and Academic Freedom*.
Chair: **Giorgia Serughetti** (University of Milano-Bicocca)
 - WG 1.2. Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room Seminari 1: *Consent, Harassment and Mobbing: Are University Policies Effective? Prevention, Reporting Mechanisms and Institutional Accountability*.
Chair: **Daniela Belliti** (University of Milano-Bicocca)
 - WG 1.3. Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room 3128: *Teaching the Istanbul Convention. Curricula, Professional Training and Resistance within Academic Systems*.
Chair: **Giusy Barbara** (University of Milano)
 - WG 1.4. Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room 23: *Digital Spaces and Gender-Based Violence. Online Sexism and the Responsibilities of Academic Institutions*.
Chair: **Marilisa D'Amico and Irene Pellizzone** (University of Milano)
 - WG 1.5. Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Room 24: *Data, Monitoring and Accountability in Universities. Measuring Gender-Based Violence and Evaluating Policy Effectiveness*.
Chair: **Gabriella Seveso** (University of Milano-Bicocca)
- 16:15 - 17:15: Building U7 CIVITAS - Third Floor - Aula Pagani. Online participation available:
<https://unimib.webex.com/meet/marina.calloni>
Plenary Session. From Discussion to Policy: Identifying Priority Actions for Universities
 - Reports from Working Groups
- 17:15 - 18:00: Conclusions Day 1. Online participation available:
<https://unimib.webex.com/meet/marina.calloni>
Defining strategic priorities at the European level.
Towards a European Code of Conduct for University Accountability.
A Roadmap for a European Framework.

Day 2 – 22 September 2026 – Sessione in Italiano
Perché implementare la Convenzione di Istanbul in Italia.
Politiche, limiti e responsabilità istituzionali

Edificio U7 CIVITAS - Quarto piano - Sala del Consiglio Stanza 4057. Possibilità di partecipazione online:
<https://unimib.webex.com/meet/marina.calloni>

- 09:15 - 09:30: Saluti di benvenuto di Ivana Fellini, Direttrice del Dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale
- 09:30 - 10:00: *L'academic network UN.I.RE. nel contesto italiano*
Intervento del Comitato scientifico
- 10:00 - 11:30: *Panel nazionale - Le università Italiane nella prevenzione e nel contrasto alla violenza di genere*
 - **Giovanna Spatari** (Università di Messina, Presidente della Commissione sulle tematiche di genere della Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane - CRUI)
 - **Ester Cois** (Università di Cagliari, Presidente della Conferenza Nazionale degli Organismi di Parità - CUG)
 - **Claudia Villante** (Direzione centrale per le Statistiche Demografiche - ISTAT)Chair: **Sveva Magaraggia** (Università di Milano-Bicocca)
- 11:30 - 13:30: *Sessioni tematiche parallele - Working Groups. Solo in presenza*
 - WG 2.1. Edificio U7 CIVITAS - Quarto piano - Sala del Consiglio, Aula 4057: *Formazione e curricula. Rafforzare i programmi formativi nelle università.*
Chair: **Luca Milani** (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano)
 - WG 2.2. Edificio U7 CIVITAS - Terzo piano - Sala Seminari 1: *Formazione professionale. Preparare le professioniste e i professionisti ad affrontare la violenza di genere.*
Chair: **Isabella Loiodice** (Università di Foggia)
 - WG 2.3. Edificio U7 CIVITAS - Terzo piano - Aula 3218: *Misurare il fenomeno: raccolta dei dati e trasparenza.*
Chair: **Elisabetta Ruspini** (Università di Milano-Bicocca)
 - WG 2.4. Edificio U6 AGORÀ - Primo piano - Aula 43: *Servizi, procedure e prevenzione nelle università.*
Chair: **Giovanna Vingelli** (Università della Calabria)
 - WG 2.5. Edificio U6 AGORÀ - Primo piano - Aula 44: *Università e società civile. Collaborazione, buone pratiche e criticità.*
Chair: **Mariella Nocenzi** (Osservatorio Interuniversitario di Genere, Roma)
- 13:30 - 14:30 - Pranzo
- 14:30 - 16:00 - Quarto piano - Sala del Consiglio Stanza 4057 - Possibilità di partecipazione online: <https://unimib.webex.com/meet/marina.calloni>
- *Sessione plenaria - Dalle pratiche nazionali al cambiamento strutturale*
 - Restituzione dei gruppi di lavoro e Dibattito generale
- 16:00 - 16:30 - Conclusioni del Giorno 2
- *La roadmap di UN.I.RE: la pratica italiana nel quadro europeo. Quali prospettive per le università italiane?*

Conference Description

What has really changed in European universities since the EU's accession to the Istanbul Convention? This second pan-European conference - following the 2023 edition and organised by the **Academic Network UN.I.RE. (UNiversità In REte contro la violenza di genere)** with **OCEAN (Open Council of European Academic Networks - Council of Europe)** - puts this question at the centre of a critical and timely debate. Over two days, participants will confront the gap between commitments and reality. Day 1 brings together a European audience to address implementation failures, institutional responsibility, and growing backlash. Day 2 focuses on the Italian context, examining concrete policies and practices. The conference is conceived as a working space: through expert-led critical debate and interactive groups, participants are expected to actively contribute, share experiences, and challenge existing approaches. The aim is to move towards a concrete outcome, that is the development of a shared European Code of Conduct for universities, strengthening accountability and driving real structural change.

How We Built This Programme

In designing the programme, the Scientific Committee chose to invite mainly speakers holding institutional or representative roles, believing that bringing these roles into dialogue was the necessary starting point for discussing accountability and implementation at both European and national level. To avoid this criterion becoming a form of exclusion, and to ensure transparency and the widest possible participation, the Committee complemented the speakers' programme with a series of open working groups: to take part in person, anyone interested must submit a proposal via Google Form. Contributions received will feed directly into the conclusions of each day.

Participation in the conference requires prior registration through the Google Form available at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf2MJQlkarlzfhlx_E7mZcFwTE0jA0_OEu10WqGn1hgZmLjYg/viewform?usp=header

The conference is free of charge and open to anyone interested.

Everyone is welcome to attend until capacity is reached.

The conference is funded by the Lombardy Region - Directorate-General for Family, Social Solidarity, Volunteering and the Third Sector, under the call for proposals "Promotion of projects and/or training programmes within the Lombardy university system on the prevention of and combatting male violence against women, Academic Year 2025-2026," implemented in accordance with Regional Government Resolutions No. XII/4555/2025 and No. XII/4591/2025.



For information:

E-mail: unire-academicnetwork@unimib.it

Webpage: <https://unire.unimib.it/>

Organisation Committee: Daniela Belliti, Marina Calloni, Olaf Köndgen, Sveva Magaraggia, Giorgia Serughetti.

Scientific Secretary: Martina Facincani, Anna Gadda, Fulvia Giachetti.

UN.I.RE. Scientific Committee: Giusy Barbara, Daniela Belliti (coordinator), Francesca Brezzi, Marina Calloni (director), Marilisa D'Amico, Maria Dolores Ferrara, Alessandra Kustermann, Isabella Loiodice, Lisa Marchi, Luca Milani, Michele Nicoletti, Mariella Nocenzi, Irene Pellizzone, Alessandra Pietrobon, Giorgia Serughetti, Giovanna Vingelli.