

10TH STS Italia Conference

Technoscience for Good:

Designing, Caring and Reconfiguring

POLITECNICO DI MILANO, 11-13 JUNE, 2025

Conference Programme and Book of Abstracts



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

Technoscience for Good:

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Welcome!

This document gathers all the essential information about the conference, including practical details about the venue, the schedule of plenary and parallel sessions, and the book of abstracts.

To facilitate navigation, the document includes internal links between sections. For the best experience, we recommend opening the PDF with a viewer that supports internal link navigation (note that not all PDF readers enable this functionality).

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ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Conference theme

How might we work towards achieving 'good' technoscience?
How can we – with our various technologies and ways of knowing, in diverse environments facing different challenges, across disciplinary boundaries and wide distances both geographical as well as socio-cultural, together with Others of all sorts – achieve good relations?

To address what might count as technoscience for good – and for whom – we need to question our methodologies and concepts, interrogate our epistemological and ethical frameworks, and redesign our technoscientific landscapes, institutions, infrastructures, and practices.

In recent decades, STS has emphasised the complex and at times conflicting entanglement of the various social, ethical, and political aspects involved in the making of technoscience in more-than-human worlds and naturecultures. Furthermore, as a field we have become increasingly willing to critique the intersectional harms that technoscientific developments can create for marginalised social groups as well as society at large. STS scholars are starting to confront questions of what 'good' certain socio-technical developments are serving, who gets to define what counts as 'good', for whom technoscientific developments might be 'good' (or not), how actors and institutions have historically worked towards defining and achieving the 'good', and how such a goal might be collectively accomplished, upheld, and contested.

To address the issue of what 'good' technoscience can or should be, we need to break down old and emerging boundaries as well as open up new cross-disciplinary and trans-cultural debates. Adjacent academic fields and disciplines, for example, have undergone a similar shift towards thinking about the relationship between ethics, care, epistemology, and materiality. Philosophers of science and technology have started to engage with questions of epistemic (in)justice as well as care and repair; historians have examined how technoscientific actors have sought to achieve overtly social and political goals; and designers and developers are increasingly acknowledging the sociomaterial impacts of their practices and their consequences for fairness, equality, diversity, and justice.

STS Italia seeks to provide space for a renewed engagement across disciplines in order to rethink the enactment of 'good' technoscience.



Scientific Supervisors

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Organized by



STS Italia – The Italian Association for Social Studies of Science and Technology was founded in 2005 to build up an Italian network of researchers oriented to study Science and Technology starting from the social dynamics which characterize and interweave science and technology themselves.

www.stsitalia.org



META – Social Studies and Humanities for Science and Technology is an interdisciplinary research unit at the Politecnico di Milano with expertise in the study of scientific research and technological innovation, it produces and disseminates knowledge and offers expertise on epistemological, ethical, social and political issues related to science and technology.

www.meta.polimi.it

Partners



Department of Design – Politecnico di Milano.

The Department of Design is the leading Italian centre for scientific research in the field of design.



CEI – Central European Initiative.

The Central European Initiative (CEI) is a regional intergovernmental forum of 17 Member States* in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

*Belarus suspended



Fondazione Silvio Tronchetti Provera.

Fondazione Silvio Tronchetti Provera is committed to the promotion of the most innovative research projects, the popularization of science and the development of young people.



Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci.

The Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci is the largest museum in Italy dedicated to science, technology and industry.



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Palgrave Macmillan is a world-class publisher of books and journals with more than 175 years' experience in the Humanities and Social Sciences.



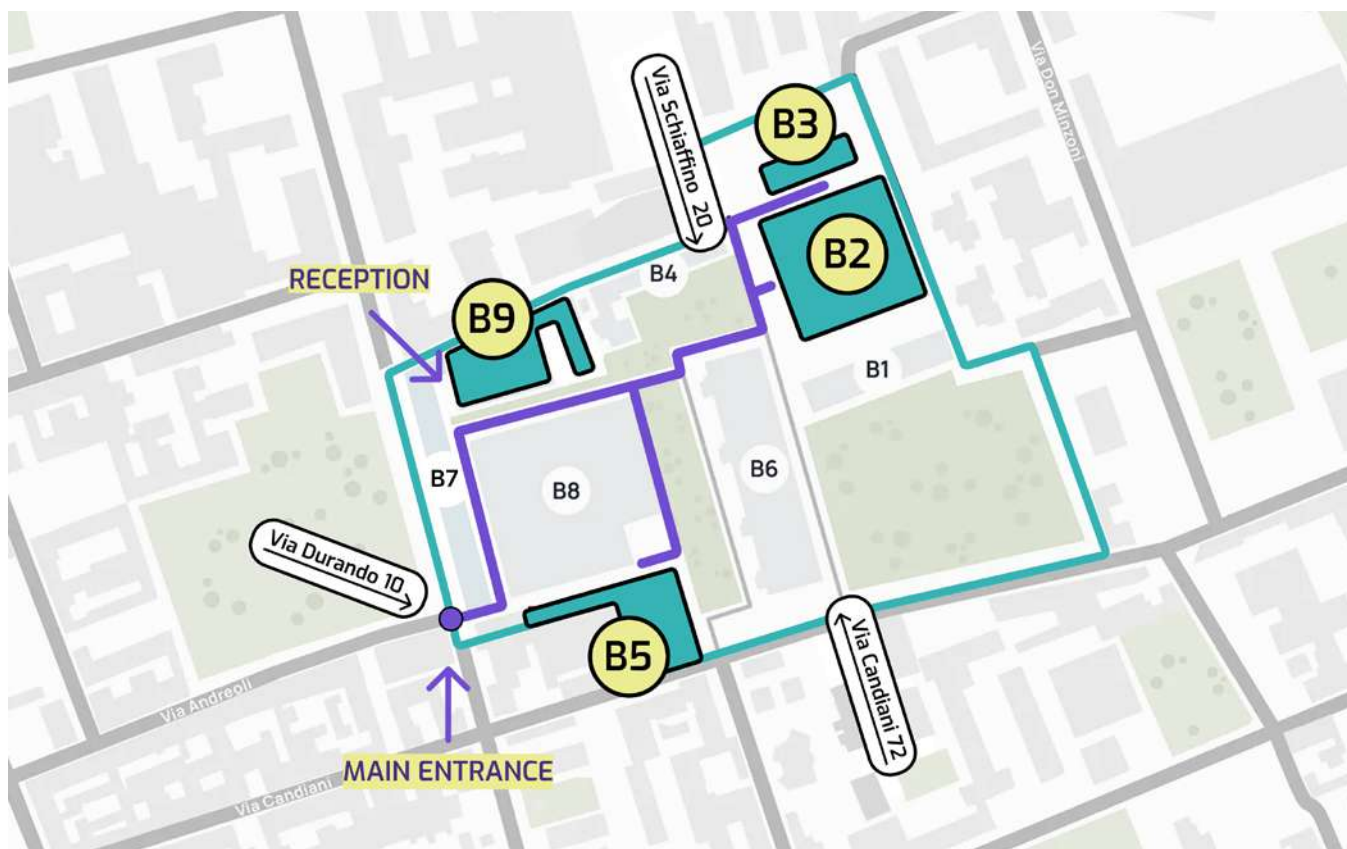
The WPI Press - Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

The WPI Press is committed to supporting a wide range of authors: experts, observers, literary scholars, memoirists, artists and other creatives, from around the world.

Conference location

Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Design,
 Campus Bovisa, Via Durando 10, Milano 20158, Italy

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/uhNy7pYmG51oUORH8>



Registration

The reception desk is organized into lines according to the first letter of each attendee's last name.

11 JUNE 2025	08.30 - 19.00	ROOM B9 DE CARLI
12 JUNE 2025	08.30 - 19.00	ROOM B9 DE CARLI
13 JUNE 2025	08.30 - 13.30	ROOM B9 DE CARLI

Coffee breaks

11 JUNE 2025	11.00 - 11.30	16.30 - 17.00	ROOM B9 DE CARLI
12 JUNE 2025	11.00 - 11.30	17.00 - 17.30	ROOM B9 DE CARLI
13 JUNE 2025	11.00 - 11.30		ROOM B9 DE CARLI

Lunches

11 JUNE 2025	13.30 - 14.30	ROOM B9 DE CARLI
12 JUNE 2025	13.00 - 14.00	ROOM B9 DE CARLI

ID 513 - AI and climate action: strengthening democratic engagement

Beatrice Gobbo, Politecnico di Milano

Maximiliano Ernesto Romero, Politecnico di Milano

Keywords: climate change adaptation, deliberation processes, artificial intelligence

As part of its mission to foster inclusive, sustainable, and scalable climate adaptation and resilience solutions, the EU-funded project NEUROCLIMA (GA 101137711) explores the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI), climate adaptation governance, and deliberative democracy. By leveraging digital tools and participatory frameworks, NEUROCLIMA aims to enhance citizen engagement and support decision-making, ensuring that AI-driven climate solutions are transparent, equitable, and democratic.

Climate adaptation has long served as a testing ground for deliberative democracy, with structured public engagement mechanisms—both online and onsite—such as citizens' juries, deliberative polls, and climate assemblies playing a crucial role in shaping policies. Examples include ClimAdaPT in Portugal, European initiatives like Europolls, and global multisite consultations such as World Wide Views. More recently, participatory frameworks such as the Brighton and Hove Climate Assembly highlight the continued relevance of deliberative democracy in climate governance. These initiatives offer valuable insights into how deliberative frameworks can shape adaptive strategies that integrate public concerns and scientific evidence into policy processes.

AI-supported systems are transforming climate governance by enhancing early warning mechanisms, risk management, and resource optimisation across sectors such as agriculture, public health, and energy. However, despite advancements, AI-driven climate governance faces critical challenges, including digital (and climate) literacy gaps, stakeholder coordination issues, and the need to build public trust—an essential factor for engagement, policy adoption, and the effective integration of AI. NEUROCLIMA seeks to address these challenges, ensuring that AI technologies foster participatory and democratic decision-making rather than reinforcing hierarchical governance structures.

A priority of NEUROCLIMA is bridging individual and collective climate action. AI-powered tools can help individuals track their carbon footprints and adopt sustainable behaviours, while AI-driven platforms aggregate public opinion, facilitate social interactions, and inform policymakers. By leveraging machine learning and natural language processing (NLP), AI can enhance participatory governance by synthesizing diverse inputs into insights. This research underscores the role of AI-powered deliberative platforms in enhancing democratic systems, with initiatives such as BCAUSE and Decidim Barcelona demonstrating how AI can broaden participation through NLP, network analysis, and data visualisation techniques that improve transparency and public understanding.

This contribution presents a preliminary classification of methodologies and cases operating at the intersection of AI, climate change adaptation, and deliberation. The framework outlines how AI can support different stages of participatory governance, from citizen consultations to policy co-creation. Furthermore, this research contributes to the broader discourse on AI-driven climate governance: while AI offers new opportunities to improve accessibility, aggregate public opinion, and scale citizen engagement, it also raises critical concerns related to bias, transparency, and ethical accountability.

The question remains: How can AI be designed to empower democratic engagement rather than reinforce hierarchical decision-making? Moving forward, NEUROCLIMA's insights will be relevant in shaping AI-driven governance frameworks that are efficient, scalable, equitable, and participatory, ensuring that digital innovation strengthens rather than undermines democratic climate resilience.



