

**21 April 2026** FIRST DAY

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:15 – 14:30 **Introduzione**

- Direttrice ISTC Prof.ssa Tiziana Catarci

14:30 – 15:30 **Goal-directed behavior in natural and artificial cognition**

Short talks (40 mins)

- *Autonomous robots: self-generation of goals and skill learning* Gianluca Baldassarre
- *Hybridising mental state ontologies and LLMs: A goal-oriented framework for neuro-symbolic reasoning* Andrea Giovanni Nuzzolese
- *Enabling goal-directed behaviour in robots through multi-modal LLMs* Angelo Oddi
- *Visual uncertainty enhances predictive mechanisms in goal-directed motor control* Marta Russo, Giovanni Pezzulo
- *The goal of behavior originates from feedback, synchrony, plasticity (FeeSyCy)* Franca Tecchio

Open discussion (20 mins)

15:30 – 16:30 **The origin of knowledge in action: prospects and limits**

Short talks (40 mins)

- *Getting knowledge in "shape"* Luca Tummolini
- *How things shape action in development: the role of tools and toys in children's multimodal communication* Laura Sparaci
- *The origin of (musical) knowledge in action: sounds, numbers, and movement* Nicola Di Stefano
- *LLMs for sensori-motor control* Stefano Nolfi
- *Abstract concepts between language and social interaction* Anna Borghi

Open discussion (20 mins)

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 – 18:00

Scientific Speed Dating

Prima Sessione:

G. Baldassarre, *ETHICS: the new ISTC Centre, part of the EBRAINS-Italy Research Infrastructure* · F. Paglieri et al., *Le carte della poesia* · S. Gastaldi et al., *SPOON: svezamento e sviluppo cognitivo* · M. Marini, *The little dictator: understanding altruism in young children* · A. Gradassi & G. Andrighetto, *Simulazione di un collective risk social dilemma* · P. Neves & S. Nolfi, *Roles without reason*

Seconda Sessione:

A. Morelli & V.G. Santucci, *Purpose-driven open-ended learning* · A. Gerna et al., *Visual-textual integration in digital first impressions* · D. Caligiore, *Intelligenza artificiale spiegabile per diagnosi non invasive* · L. Marcon et al., *Bottom-up norm change and Trendsetters* · A. Vitanza & F. Morleo, *Il progetto NESTT* · S. Munini et al., *Mentire per vincere?* · C. Zmarich et al., *Speech analysis in children's productions*

20:00 – 23:00

Social Dinner

Con giochi e altre amenità

22 April 2026 SECOND DAY

09:00 – 11:00

Session I-ADMIN

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30

Societies at risk: coordination, change, and adaptation

Short talks (40 mins)

- *Studying risk attitude and its underlying emotions in primates* Elsa Addressi, Gabriele Schino
- *Social norm dynamics under risk and uncertainty* Giulia Andrighetto, Eugenia Polizzi di Sorrentino
- *Expanding collective intelligence through semantic knowledge and generative AI* Vito Trianni
- *What do Facebook and proteins have in common? AI for identifying invariants in complex systems* Daniele Caligiore

Open discussion (20 mins)

12:30 – 13:30

Science and society: The role of ISTC in global challenges

Open Discussion

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch