

PRESERVING HUMAN VOICES AND FACES

CUSTODIRE **VOCI**
E **VOLTI**
UMANI



International Conference | Pontifical Urbaniana University
21st May 2026

In collaboration with



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PRESERVING HUMAN FACES AND VOICES

Pontifical Urbaniana University |

21st May 2026

- **9:00-9:30** Opening remarks and introduction
- **9:30-10:45** Panel
- **10:45-11:15** Coffee break
- **11:15-12:30** Panel
- **12:30-14:30** Light lunch
- **14:30-16:00** Panel
- **16:00-16:30** Coffee break
- **16:30-18:00** Panel
- **18:00-18:15** Conclusion

“The question at heart, is not what machines can or will be able to do, but what we can and will be able to achieve, by growing in humanity and knowledge through the wise use of the powerful tools at our service.”

*From the Message of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV
for the 60th World Day of Social Communications*

“La questione che ci sta a cuore, non è cosa riesce o riuscirà a fare la macchina, ma cosa possiamo e potremo fare noi, crescendo in umanità e conoscenza, con un uso sapiente di strumenti così potenti a nostro servizio.”

*Dal messaggio di Sua Santità Papa Leone XIV
per la LX Giornata Mondiale delle Comunicazioni Sociali*

PROGRAM | PROGRAMMA

9:00-9:30

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION

SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI E INTRODUZIONE

- **Dr. Paolo Ruffini**, Prefect of the Dicastery for Communication | Prefetto del Dicastero per la Comunicazione
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- **Card. José Tolentino de Mendonça**, Prefect of the Dicastery for Culture and Education | Prefetto del Dicastero per la Cultura e l'educazione

9:30-10:45

PANEL

TO BE OR TO PRETEND TO BE: SIMULATING RELATIONSHIPS AND REALITY | **ESSERE O FINGERE DI ESSERE: SIMULARE LE RELAZIONI E LA REALTÀ**

“Technology that exploits our need for relationships can lead not only to painful consequences in the lives of individuals, but also to damage in the social, cultural and political fabric of society.”

“La tecnologia che sfrutta il nostro bisogno di relazione può non solo avere conseguenze dolorose sul destino dei singoli, ma può anche ledere il tessuto sociale, culturale e politico delle società.”

Session 1. **Al reshaping journalism, society and community?** **L'IA sta trasformando giornalismo, società e comunità?**

Moderator: **Alessandro Gisotti**, Vice Editorial Director, Dicastery for Communication

Discussants

- **Marijana Grbeša**, Professor at the University of Zagreb, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Experts on Online Safety and Empowerment of Content Creators and Users (MSI-eSEC) at the Council of Europe.
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- **Vineet Khosla**, Chief Technology Officer, The Washington Post.
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- **Kashmir Hill**, Tech reporter, The New York Times.
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- **Eli Pariser**, Co-director, New_ Public.

10:45-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-12:30

Session 2. Are AI models intensifying social inequalities and injustices?

I modelli di IA accentuano le disuguaglianze e le ingiustizie sociali?

“AI models are shaped by the worldview of those who build them and can, in turn, impose these ways of thinking by reproducing the stereotypes and prejudices present in the data they draw on.”

“I modelli di IA sono plasmati dalla visione del mondo di chi li costruisce e possono a loro volta imporre modi di pensare replicando gli stereotipi e i pregiudizi presenti nei dati a cui attingono.”

Moderator: Nataša Govekar, Theological–Pastoral Director, Dicastery for Communication

Discussants

- **Joy Buolamwini**, PhD, Founder of the Algorithmic Justice League, Inaugural Accelerator Fellow at the Oxford University Institute for Ethics in AI.
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- **Paola Ricarte Quijano**, Full professor, Department of Media and Digital Culture, Tecnológico de Monterrey; Faculty Associate, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University.
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- **Benjamin Rosman**, Professor of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics and Director of the MIND Institute at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, co-founder of the Deep Learning Indaba, and Lelapa AI.
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12:30 Light lunch

14:30-16:00

PANEL

A POSSIBLE ALLIANCE | UN'ALLEANZA POSSIBILE

“The task laid before us is not to stop digital innovation, but rather to guide it and to be aware of its ambivalent nature. It is up to each of us to raise our voice in defense of human persons, so that we can truly assimilate these tools as allies.”

“La sfida che ci aspetta non sta nel fermare l’innovazione digitale, ma nel guidarla, nell’essere consapevoli del suo carattere ambivalente. Sta a ognuno di noi alzare la voce in difesa delle persone umane, affinché questi strumenti possano veramente essere da noi integrati come alleati.”

Moderators: Fr. Paolo Benanti, Professor, Luiss-Guido Carli University
and Sr. Nina Krapić, Vice Director, Holy See Press Office, Dicastery for Communication

Discussants

- **Tristan Harris**, Co-Founder of the Center for Human Technology.
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- **Andrew Jenks**, Director of Media Provenance of Microsoft, Chairperson of Content Provenance and Authenticity (C2PA).
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- **Neil Lawrence**, DeepMind Professor of Machine Learning, University of Cambridge; Chief Scientist for Trent.AI.
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- **Winifred Mitchell Baker**, Co-founder of the Mozilla Project and the Mozilla Foundation.

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00

PANEL

DO NOT RENOUNCE YOUR ABILITY TO THINK

NON RINUNCIARE ALLA TUA CAPACITÀ DI PENSARE

“Education aims to do precisely this: To increase our personal ability to think critically.”

“A questo mira l'educazione: ad aumentare le nostre capacità personali di riflettere criticamente.”

Moderator: Mons. Paul Tighe, Secretary, Dicastery for Culture and Education

Discussants

- **Rayén Condeza Dall'Orso**, Ph.D, Professor at the Faculty of Communications, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. Vice-chair of the Media Education Research Section (MER), IAMCR.
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- **Divina Frau-Meigs**, Professor Emerita, Media Sociologist, Sorbonne Nouvelle University, France; UNESCO CHAIR Savoir Devenir.
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- **Adeline Hulín**, Head of Unit for Media and Information Literacy and Digital Competencies at UNESCO.
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- **Justin Kings**, Head of EBU Academy (European Broadcasting Union).
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18:00-18:30

Conclusion

Conclusionone



Visuals: W. Capriotti