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Futures4Europe Conference 2026

Daring to imagine otherwise

PROGRAMME

30 September - 1 October (Rome, Italy)

FIRST DAY (30 September)

REGISTRATION (08:00 – 9:00)

PLENARY (9:00–10:10)

SALA CONVEGNI: Introduction

09:00 – 09:10 Welcome
09:10 – 09:20 The conference, **Luigi Mazari Villanova** (CNR)
09:20 – 09:40 Eye of Europe, **Radu Cristian Gheorghiu** (UEFISCDI)
09:40 – 10:10 From imagination to reality, **Quentin Ladetto** (Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport)

Coffee Break (10:10 – 10:40)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (10:40 – 13:00)

SALA CONVEGNI: oral presentations

Chair: Luigi Mazari Villanova

1. Dialectical analysis to explore futures of EU democracy, **Yannick Dujardin** (JRC-EU Commission)
2. *Gamechangers in Scenarios - the example of SCAR Foresight*, **Kerstin Cuhls** (Fraunhofer ISI)
3. *A foresight backcasting approach to tackle societal challenges: the role of science and technology*, **Luisa Tondelli** (National Research Council of Italy)
4. *Anticipating Today: Moral Imagination in Anticipatory Governance*, **Federica Lucivero** (University of Oxford)
5. *Too resilient to fail? Using the Delft Strategic Foresight Approach as a method to challenge institutional continuity assumptions*, **Lara Meijer and Amy Kan** (TU Delft)
6. *Institutionalizing Ideation in National Governance*, **John Rodman** (Strategy Futures Reimagined, LLC)

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SALA MARCONI: oral presentations

Co-chairs: Mikkel Knudsen, Roberto Bellucci

1. *Exquisite Frictions: Reimagining waste practices in a neighbourhood in Rotterdam, the Netherlands*, **Corelia Baibarac-Duignan** (University of Twente) **and Julieta Matos Castaño** (Futures Compass)
2. *Systems that shape the future: a collaborative foresight journey for 2040 innovation in Central Macedonia, GR.*, **Eliza Savvopoulou** (Helenos Consulting)
3. *Waiting Room or Future Frontier? Reframing the Western Balkans in European Policy Imaginaries*, **Marina Andeva** (University American College Skopje)
4. *Normative futures for food systems in time of crises*, **Olivier Mora and Etienne Schultz** (INRAE DEPE)
5. *From Futures Thinking to Youth Agency: Imagining a Value-Driven Approach to Technological Innovation for EU Competitiveness with Higher Education Students*, **Valeria Piras, Stefania Bocconi & Conor Galvin** (Institute for Educational Technology, National Research Council of Italy and UCD Dublin)
6. *Archive 1983–1989: Speculative Fiction as Counter-Imaginary in Post-Communist Romania*, **Daria Anghel** (Utrecht University)

BIBLIOTECA: oral presentations

Co-chairs: Michal Pazour, Eugenio Parisi

1. *Imagining Otherwise: Narrative Foresight as a Teaching Practice*, **Elizabeth Hofvenschiöld** (Reutlingen University)
2. *Strengthening Imagination in Anticipatory Processes from the Inside Out*, **Sheila Pontis** (School of Radical Imagination)
3. *From Taxonomy to Topology: Reimagining Foresight Infrastructure*, **Greta Cappellini** (Nextatlas)
4. *Composing the Future: How Imaginaries Turn Foresight into Political Action*, **Marlène de Saussure, Christian Wehrmann** (VDI/VDE-IT)
5. T*he importance of looking at the other side of the coin - the un-futures expanding the scope of tomorrows,* **Sirkka Heinonen** (Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC), University of Turku)

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6. *The Smart Boardroom 2029: Interacting with Non-Humans in the Near Future Workplace*, **Romi Mikulinsky and Tehilla Shwartz Altshuler** (University of Tampere's Game Research Lab; The Israel Democracy Institute; Jio Institute, Mumbai, India)

Lunch (13:00 – 14:30)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (14:30 – 18:30) running coffee

SALA CONVEGNI: oral presentations

Chair: Luigi Mazari Villanova

1. *Making the Future Feel Natural: Brands as Mythotechnologies Shaping Collective Imaginaries*, **Tamar Dan** (Bar Ilan University)
2. *Relocating Linguistic Futurity: Imaginaries of Language Futures in Applied Linguistics (1981–2025)*, **Samira Yaghouti** (Finland Futures Research Centre, Turku School of Economics, University of Turku)
3. *Physics Education and Collective Imaginaries of the Future*, **Olivia Levrini** (University of Bologna - Foundation Italian Institute for Future)
4. *MATTERS of Care: Expanding Foresight Through More-Than-Human Design Anthropology*, **Eva Monestier and Tatiana Efremenko** (MATTERS Design Collective)
5. *From Anticipatory Assumptions to Strategic Action: How Collective Imagination Enabled Futures-Literate Policy Making inside the European Training Foundation*, **Cristiano Cagnin** (ETF)
6. *Imagining Otherwise: Anticipatory Systems, Imaginaries, and the Phenomenology of Future Images* - **Felipe Koch and Riel Miller** (UNESCO Chair on the Futures of Education for Health and Living Well | Université Paris-Est Créteil)
7. *Archipelago of the Futures: A Social Impact Role Playing Game with Semiotic Futures Personas between Critical Imagination and the Prefiguration of Reality*, **Arianna Mereu and Joice Preira** (Fondazione Italian Institute for the Future)

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8. *Connecting with the higher: An exploratory study of self-transcendence to elicitate enriched future imaginaries among university students*, **Danica Sattink Rath** (Hochschule der Medien Stuttgart - Stuttgart Media University)
9. *Materialising Possible Worlds: A Multisensory Demonstrator for Scenario Exploration and Strategic Sense-Making*, **Daniel Richter and Sebastian Wagner** (Fraunhofer Institute for Communication, Information Processing and Ergonomics FKIE)
10. *Bringing Design Futures into Space. Worldbuilding as a collective practice for imagining societal futures*, **Giovanni Caruso** (Domus Academy)

SALA MARCONI: workshops (60 min each)

Co-chairs: Philine Warnke, Roberto Bellucci

1. *Seven Ways of Knowing the Future: A Futures Literacy Game Lab*, **Makeda Gershenson** (Mosaics in the Making)
2. *The Future is Not Neutral: A Futures Workshop to Rethink Technology through Critical Pedagogical Imagination*, **Nik Baerten** (Pantopicon in collaboration with Institute for Educational Technology, National Research Council of Italy, CNR-ITD)
3. *Refusing to Disappear: A Hope Circle as Feminist Foresight from the Global South*, **Bareera Rauf** (HopeWorks)
4. *Recognizing the Future in the Room: Emotional Foresight through a Group-Based Adaptation of the Future Self Resonant Framework*, **Iuliana Adina Apostol** (HeliosTree GmbH, AdinaEverywhere)

BIBLIOTECA: workshops (60 min each)

Co-chairs: Susanne Giesecke, Eugenio Parisi

1. *Imagine One Health–Futures from a Non-Human Perspective*, **Susanne Giesecke** (Austrian Institute of Technology)
2. *Imagining sustainable futures with a card game*, **Johanna Vallistu** (TalTech Ragnar Nurkse school of innovation and governance)
3. *Pieces of the Future: Tangram-Based Facilitation for Inclusive Foresight*, **Katarzyna Figiel** (Fundacja Tangram)
4. *Countervisuality Futures Lab: Making Other Futures Visible*, **Bartosz Frąckowiak** (Strategic Dreamers / _BW_Lab) and **Anna Sacio-Szymańska** (University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn)

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WALKING APERITIF (19:00 – 21:00)
Posters and side events

SECOND DAY (1 October)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (08:40 – 11:00)

SALA CONVEGNI: oral presentations

Chair: Luigi Mazari Villanova

1. *Strategic or Reflexive? The Fundamental Dilemma of Science Communication in Futures Studies*, **Magdalena Soetebeer** (Schaltzeit GmbH)
2. *Futures oriented collective intelligence through the lens of European Citizens*, **Claus Seibt** (Basel Institute for futures oriented collective intelligence/ Eurosense initiative)
3. Towards a Futures Thinking-Feeling Ethics of Care: A Design Futures Intentional Compass, **Ania Hildebrandt** (Aalborg University)
4. *Epistemic Plurality in Participatory Foresight: Indigenous Knowledge-Inspired Inputs and Future Imaginaries. Findings from an Exploratory Study*, **Sarah Ben Bernou** (À VENIR Berlin | Freie Universität Berlin (Master))
5. *Future Literacy as Democratic Armour: How Baltic Youth Foresight Workshops Build Resistant Imaginaries on Europe's Eastern Frontier*, **Dmitri Teperik** (National Centre of Defence & Security Awareness)
6. *Evaluating WFD as a Method for Collective Intelligence*, **Mara Di Berardo** (The Millennium Project)
7. *Envisioning a Post-Boundary Convivial World in 2050: Living with Diverse Beings and Multiple Selves*, **Asako Okamura** (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy, NISTEP, Japan)

SALA MARCONI: oral presentations

Co-chairs: Effie Amanatidou, Roberto Bellucci

1. *Care, Responsibility and Participation in Foresight: An Ethics-of-Care Perspective on Forward-looking Activities*, **Judit Gáspár** (Corvinus University of Budapest)
2. *From shared visions to system-design options: Participatory foresight for exploring research assessment and funding*, **Ioana Spanache** (UEFISCDI)

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3. *Adversarial Foresight and the Blue Valve Reclaiming Hydro Political Agency*, **Yigit Karatas** (Global Shapers)
4. *Impossible worlds: an image-driven method to spark collective imagination towards better futures*, **Clarice Garcia** (University of Technology Sydney)
5. *Bridging Future-Oriented Knowledge Gaps through Imagination and Interdisciplinarity*, **Anna-Maria Kanzola** (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)
6. *The Future of Living Knowledge: Scenarios for Researchers' Careers in 2040*, **Bianca Dragomir** (Institutul de Prospectiva), **Radu Gheorghiu** (UEFISCDI)

BIBLIOTECA: oral presentations

Co-chairs: Attila Havas, Paolo Braico

1. *Embodied Futures in Practice: Public Staging as a Method for Collective Sense-Making and Scenario Evaluation*, **Silvio Cioni** (Domus Academy)
2. *Navigating the Unknown: Innovation, Decision-making and Relationships in Times of Uncertainty. Future & Innovation Constellation Work*, **Henrik Langholf** (Spirit for Future_Agency for Systemic Organisational & Regional Development)
3. *Roll 4 Future: Tabletop Role-playing Games for Futures Immersion*, **Oliver Lauenstein** (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs)
4. *(Un)radical Imagination Lab: An Embodied Approach to Spatial AI*, **Micaela Terk & Aya Bentur** (Fabricated Futures and Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design)
5. *From What is to What if: Imagining the Future Together*, **Theo Silberston** (Shared Horizon)
6. *Tools for Collectively Creating Hopeful Future Visions,* **Cara Meffert** (OkeanosFoundation for the Sea)
7. *Feel and Imagine Futures: Emotion as a Creative, Innovative and Epistemic Engine for Foresight*, **Uğur Şahan** (CoreXas)

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Coffee Break (11:00 – 11:30)

PLENARY (11:30 – 13:00)

SALA CONVEGNI: panels

11:30-12:15 “Higher Education Futures: Foresight and Strategy in the European Reform University Alliance”, moderated by **Nikos Kastrinos** (The European Alliance for the Social Sciences and the Humanities - EASSH)

- **Silvana Colella** (University of Macerata, Italy)
- **Alicja Kotlowska** (SWPS University, Warsaw Poland)
- **George Strogylopoulos** (University of the Aegean, Greece)

12:15-13:00 “Foresight and policy”, moderated by **Pier Francesco Moretti** (National Research Council of Italy)

- **Anne-Katrin Bock** (European Commission)
- **Katerina Ciampi Stancova** (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)
- **Stefano Palmieri** (European Economic and Social Committee)
- **Georgios Kolliarakis** (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy)

FINAL REMARKS (13:00 – 13:30)

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SIDE EVENTS

30 September

13:00 – 21:00 Drawing Trees with Scent. Preparations for the Future: Forest bathing without trees, **Jeannette Mueller and Paul Divjak (University of Applied Arts Vienna)**
19:00 – 21:00 Brushes of Tomorrow: An Immersive Exploration of Future Imaginaries, **Anita Adjeley Anang**
19:00 – 21:00 Comics as Affective Foresight: Revealing Everyday Imaginaries, **Lusiné Mehrabyan** (The Gatou)
19:00 – 21:00 Generative Ouroboros: A Futures Exhibition of AI-Generated Radical Alternatives of AI, **Dana Wasserbacher, Katharina Jäger, Michael Barber** (Austrian Institute of Technology)
19:00 – 21:00 We are the future, Directors: **Juno, Little anima deus, Oceane Cuisin and Charlotte Willems** (Rakonto)

1 October

09:30 – 10:00 Policy Brief “Stepping Off the Rolling Coaster, **Totti Könnölä** (Insight Foresight Institute)

10:00 – 11:00 Jazz dialogue “From Forward-looking to Forward-acting: Transitioning amidst Disruptions”, moderated by **Georgios Kolliarakis** (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy)

Ana Jakil-Holzer, Federal Chancellery of Austria
Jean Constantinesco, Council of Europe
Riccardo D’Andrea, Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy

DISPLAYS

- Supporting displays for the workshop: Recognizing the Future in the Room: Emotional Foresight through a Group-Based Adaptation of the Future Self Resonant Framework (09:00 - 14:30)
- The interface between policy and young generations in facing the future, **Damiana Biga** (MediaLab APS)
- Ukraine 2035+: Designing a Resilient Research & Innovation System in Times of Uncertainty, **Henriette Kirch** (DLR-PT)

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- Foresight and governance of complexity in the era of AI, **Luigi Mazari Villanova and Pier Francesco Moretti** (CNR-DSSTTA)
- Reimagining Security: From Collective Imagination to Policy Action in Building Resilient Societies, **Michal Pazour** (Technology Centre Prague)
- Social and Democratic Dimensions of Law-Making: Partnerships, Legitimacy, and Participation in Standard-Setting and Enforcement, **Helen Tung** (Tung Chambers)
- Narrative Design, **Alice Manieri** (Alice Manieri)
- Drawing Futures for Decision-Makers: Comics as a Bridge Between Foresight and Institutions, **Nicolas Minvielle** (Alt-a)

POSTERS

- Foresight as Serious Play: An Experiential Laboratory for Strategic Imagination and Collective Futures Thinking, **Vassilis Agouridas and Dan Trowsdale,** (University of Leeds)
- Strategic planning in networks to digitally transform education, **Gül Akcaova** (SURF)
- Practising Care in Foresight: Embodied and Creative Approaches, **Effie Amanatidou** (University of Manchester)
- Youth, Futures, Migration - North Macedonia, **Vanja Ashkapova** (Regional Network of Centers for Advanced Studies in Southeast Europe)
- Diagrams for Designing Beyond Loops: a Co-design Workshop on how to Assess Temporal decoloniality and Plurality of Relations of your projects, **Paria Bagheri Moghaddam** (University of Florence)
- Foresight workshop, **Evangelos Barakos** (Self-employed)
- From future artifacts to everyday futures: Analyzing The Thing from the Future workshops through social practice theory, **Alisa Belmas** (Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku)
- Artificial organic imaginations, **Nicklas Berild Lundblad** (Pharos Futures Research Group)
- The Guardian Network: Redirecting Corporate Infrastructure Towards a More Inclusive European Labour Market, **Shashi Bhushan** (Guardian Network)
- Envisioning mental wellbeing in the future: participatory futures thinking and intergenerational dialogue in the Future Workshops, **Nicoletta Boldrini** (Tech4Future)

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- The Futures We Build: A Lab for Policy Imagination, **Elisa Cecilli** (Perkins&Will London & Portland Design)
- Imagination With Levers: A Foresight Lab for Enforceable AI Governance Futures, **Joel Naoki Christoph** (10Billion.org)
- Visualizing Futures: simple drawings, to shape the unthinkable, **Irene Coletto** (Forwardto)
- Temporal Ecospheres: Rewilding Our Sense of Time, **Simone Engelhardt** (Adaptive Wonderland)**, Birthe Menke (**4strat)
- AI Agents for Human Collective Imagination and Foresight, **Isabel Fernández Peñuelas** (The Futures Factory S.L.)
- Playing Futures Together: An Immersive Speculative Game to Activate Collective Imagination and Anticipatory Agency, **Marta Freixas Fernández** (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
- Lost Faith. Why We Can Imagine the Future but No Longer Dare to Believe in It, **Filippo Giustini** (Marketing Toys SRL Società Benefit)
- Utopian journey in the Glorious 2030's, **Elisabeth Godde** (Utopia Muscle Training)
- Futures with Modal Literacy: Introducing a Theoretical Foundation for Critical Anticipation Science, **Bruno Gransche** (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology KIT)
- Energy Futures, Local Visons, **Gulsen Guler** (Royal Academy of Engineering)
- Evocative collaborative autoethnography: Co-creating with the unifying field is a way of knowing, **Heidi Gutekunst** (Ashridge Hult)
- The Moral Data City Hunt method - Engaging citizens in pluralistic techno moral futures, **Linda Hofman** (Fontys University of Applied Science, department Business and Communication, research group Moral Design Strategy)
- From imagination to policy action: when does foresight transform territories? **Clarice Kobayashi** (Instituto Prospectiva - INSPRO)
- From Imagination to Regulation: Scenarios for the Future of Working Time in the AI Age, **Alicja Kotlowska** (University SWPS)
- Hope Literacy: Designing Practices for Futures Imagination Under Uncertainty, **Agata Kowalska** (SDSI)
- Listening Forward: Indigenous Dialogue Circles as Living Foresight Practice, **Justin Langan** (O'KANATA)
- Democracy needs everyone's voice - Power to define futures and foresight in decision-making, **Maiju Lehto** (Deaconess Foundation)

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- GenSouth 2026: New voices from the Global South for the future(s) of multilateralism, **Raphaëlle Leung** (foraus - Swiss Forum for Foreign Policy)
- Art for Futures: Producing Collective Imaginaries through Participatory and Embodied Foresight, **Nicole Loeser** (Institute for Art and Innovation / The Futuring Alliance)
- The New ROI: Return On Imagination – On the Need to Dream About Futures, **Marcin Maciejewski** (AGH University)
- The Shape of What Could Be: A Foresight Laboratory on Future Monuments, **Eileen Mandir** (Munich University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Design, design cultures institute of applied design science)
- Through LEGO® Serious Play (LSP), imagination becomes tangible, shared, and actionable in the present, **Sandra Martínez Polo** (BASF and https://smartconnections.es)
- Expanding strategic imagination: foresight facilitation for rethinking industrial business models, **Christoph Mokwa** (Advanced Foresight Group / ion3)
- Intolerance of Systemic Complexity: A Missing Variable in Futures Literacy Research, **Michał Nadziak** (University of Warsaw)
- Imagination as Proof The Pre-Signal Space and the Future Before Evidence, **Olga Shaeva, Nikolay Khlopov** (Algorithm Trend Intelligence)
- Women in Futures Studies: A collective book about women's legacy, **Mirella Orsi (**Fondazione IIF-Italian Institute for the Future)
- Message in a bottle: Memories and hopes shaping sustainable liveable futures, **Lisa Pace** (The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation, University of Malta)
- Anticipatory Open Innovation Ecosystems: A Hybrid Hub Model, **Clara Pallares** (Eurecat Technology center of Catalonia)
- Inside-Out Scenario Construction: Rethinking the Directionality of Corporate Foresight, **Deep Parekh** (Epistemy BV)
- Prioritizing megatrends for public administration: the Italian case, **Roberto Paura** (Fondazione IIF-Italian Institute for the Future)
- The future belongs to those who choose to learn together. Constructal law and building Disaster Preparedness as a Service from the ground up, **Adrian Petrescu** (Lincoln University)
- Thinking about the Unthinkable: The Great Transition, **Roberto Poli** (Fondazione Italiana per gli Studi di Futuro)

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- Manifesting Futures: Towards a Civic Imagination Ecosystem, **Bianca Reale** (Politecnico di Milano)
- Futures literacy at scale: why the classroom is the most powerful anticipatory tool we have, **Lourdes Rodriguez** (Teach the Future)
- The Expansion of Humanity in Space - the Cislunar City and its Ecocenic Approach, **Gennaro Russo** (Italian Institute for the Future, Center for Near Space)
- The Right to Imagine Otherwise: Countervisuality of Futures, **Anna Sacio-Szymańska** (Strategic Dreamers)
- Time Travel to Re-imagine Lost Futures, **Isabel Serval** (Traversing Futures / Radar / Futuring Alliance)
- The Space of Futurization, **Anna Sircova** (Creative Time Lab)
- 4Voices: The Future of Remembrance in Europe and Remembering Europe's Past, **Furkan Sorkuncuk** (Volonteurope)
- **Adrian Curaj, Mihaela Iorgulescu Aioanei, Ioana Trif** (UEFISCDI)
- Speculative Governance of Agentic AI, **Freyja Van den Boom** (Sint Lucas Academy)
- "Choices between war and peace in Europe in 2016", **Victor van Rij** (Independent Thinking)
- Grounding Future(s) Imagination in Generational Time Perspectives, **Alexanda Whitcombe** (Kootuia)
- Media's role in shaping low-carbon city transitions, **Yan Wu** (Maastricht University)
- Futures of business organizations to reduce inequalities, **Ibon Zugasti** (Prospektiker - European Institute for Futures Studies and Strategy / ASETT)

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