



Futures4Europe Conference 2026

Daring to imagine otherwise

DRAFT PROGRAMME

30 September - 1 October (Rome, Italy)



FIRST DAY (30 September)

REGISTRATION (08:15 – 9:00)

PLENARY (9:00–10:10)

09:00 – 09:10 Welcome

09:10 – 09:20 The conference, (CNR, TBD)

09:20 – 09:40 Eye of Europe, **Radu Gheorghiu** (UEFISCDI)

09:40 – 10:10 From imagination to reality, **Gabriele Rizzo** (Longviews)

Coffee Break (10:10 – 10:40)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (10:40 – 13:00)

MAIN ROOM: oral presentations

1. *When Jurists Imagine ... The Bee is a Fish*, **Flaminia Stârc-Meclejan** (West University of Timișoara, The Faculty of Law)
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** (CNR)
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** (TU Delft)
6. *Social and Democratic Dimensions of Law-Making: Partnerships, Legitimacy, and Participation in Standard-Setting and Enforcement*, **Helen Tung** (Tung Chambers)
7. *Archive 1983–1989: Speculative Fiction as Counter-Imaginary in Post-Communist Romania*, **Daria Anghel** (Utrecht University)





ROOM 1: oral presentations

1. *Exquisite Frictions: Reimagining waste practices in a neighbourhood in Rotterdam, the Netherlands*, **Corelia Baibarac-Duignan** (University of Twente)
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** (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** (Institute for Educational Technology, National Research Council of Italy and UCD Dublin)
6. *Institutionalizing Ideation in National Governance*, **John Rodman** (Strategy Futures Reimagined, LLC)
7. *Drawing Futures for Decision-Makers: Comics as a Bridge Between Foresight and Institutions*, **Nicolas Minvielle** (Alt-a)

ROOM 2: oral presentations

1. *Imagining Otherwise: Narrative Foresight as a Teaching Practice*, **Elizabeth Hofvenschiöld** (Reutlingen University)
2. *Envisioning mental wellbeing in the future: participatory futures thinking and intergenerational dialogue in the Future Workshops*, **Nicoletta Boldrini** (Tech4Future)
3. *Vision Possible: Empowering young and female entrepreneurs through futures literacy for sustainable innovation*, **Julia Vögele** (MCI | The Entrepreneurial School®)
4. *Strengthening Imagination in Anticipatory Processes from the Inside Out*, **Sheila Pontis** (School of Radical Imagination)
5. *From Taxonomy to Topology: Reimagining Foresight Infrastructure*, **Greta Cappellini** (Nextatlas)





6. *The Smart Boardroom 2029: Interacting with Non-Humans in the Near Future Workplace*, **Romi & Tehilla Mikulinsky & 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

MAIN ROOM: oral presentations

1. *Narrative Design*, **Alice Manieri** (Alice Manieri)
2. *Making the Future Feel Natural: Brands as Mythotechnologies Shaping Collective Imaginaries*, **Tamar Dan** (Bar Ilan University)
3. *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)
4. *Physics Education and Collective Imaginaries of the Future*, **Olivia Levrini** (University of Bologna - Foundation Italian Institute for Future)
5. *MATTERS of Care: Expanding Foresight Through More-Than-Human Design Anthropology*, **Eva Monestier** (MATTERS Design Collective)
6. *From Anticipatory Assumptions to Strategic Action: How Collective Imagination Enabled Futures-Literate Policy Making inside the European Training Foundation*, **Cristiano Cagnin** (ETF)
7. *Imagining Otherwise: Anticipatory Systems, Imaginaries, and the Phenomenology of Future Images* - **Felipe Koch** (UNESCO Chair on the Futures of Education for Health and Living Well | Université Paris-Est Créteil) & **Riel Miller**
8. *Living in the Futures: A Toolkit for Semiotic Futures Personas between Critical Imagination and the Prefiguration of Reality*, **Arianna Mereu** (Fondazione Italian Institute for the Future)
9. *Connecting with the higher: An exploratory study of self-transcendence to elicitate enriched future imaginaries among university students*, **Danica Rath** (Hochschule der Medien Stuttgart - Stuttgart Media University)
1. *AI Agents for Human Collective Imagination and Foresight*, **Isabel Fernández Peñuelas** (The Futures Factory S.L.)





2. *Tools for Collectively Creating Hopeful Future Visions*, **Cara Meffert** (OkeanosFoundation for the Sea)
3. *Bringing Design Futures into Space. Worldbuilding as a collective practice for imagining societal futures*, **Giovanni Caruso** (Domus Academy)

ROOM 1: workshops (60 min each)

1. *Seven Ways of Knowing the Future: A Futures Literacy Game Lab*, **Makeda Gershenson** (Mosaics in the Making)
2. *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)
3. *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)
4. *Refusing to Disappear: A Hope Circle as Feminist Foresight from the Global South*, **Bareera Rauf** (HopeWorks)

ROOM 2: workshops (60 min each)

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*, **Anna Sacio-Szymańska** (_BW_Lab / Biennale Warszawa Foundation)

WALKING APERITIF (19:00 – 21:00)

Posters and side events





SECOND DAY (1 October)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (08:40 – 11:00)

MAIN ROOM: oral presentations

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. *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)

ROOM 1: oral presentations

1. *Care, Responsibility and Participation in Foresight: An Ethics-of-Care Perspective on Forward-looking Activities*, **Judit Gáspár** (Corvinus University of Budapest) 2
2. *Using ParEvo: a participatory approach to the development of branching narratives about possible futures, and their analysis*, **Rick Davies** (Independent Evaluation Consultant)
3. *Adversarial Foresight and the Blue Valve Reclaiming Hydro Political Agency*, **Yigit Karatas** (Global Shapers)
4. *Reframing Urban Foresight Through Participatory Imagination*, **Trisha Mehta** (Royal College of Art)





5. *Impossible worlds: an image-driven method to spark collective imagination towards better futures*, **Clarice Garcia** (University of Technology Sydney)
6. *Forecasting, Foresight, and Imagination: Beyond traditional anticipation of the uncertain*, **Anna-Maria Kanzola** (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)
7. *The Future of Living Knowledge: Scenarios for Researchers' Careers in 2040*, **Bianca Dragomir** (Institutul de Prospectiva), **Radu Gheorghiu** (UEFISCDI)

ROOM 2: oral presentations

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. *Materialising Possible Worlds: A Multisensory Demonstrator for Scenario Exploration and Strategic Sense-Making*, **Sebastian Wagner** (Fraunhofer Institute for Communication, Information Processing and Ergonomics FKIE)
5. *(Un)radical Imagination Lab: An Embodied Approach to Spatial AI*, **Micaela Terk** (Fabricated Futures)
6. *The interface between policy and young generations in facing the future*, **Damiana Biga** (MediaLab APS)
7. *From What is to What if: Imagining the Future Together*, **Theo Silberston** (Shared Horizon)
8. *Feel and Imagine Futures: Emotion as a Creative, Innovative and Epistemic Engine for Foresight*, **Uğur Şahan** (CoreXas)

Coffee Break (11:00 – 11:30)





PLENARY (10:40 – 13:00)

11:30 – 12:15 Panel session on the future of higher education, moderated by **Nikos Kastrinos**

12:15 – 13:00 Panel discussion “Foresight and policy”, moderated by **Pier Francesco Moretti** (CNR)

- OECD (**Katerina Ciampi Stancova**)
- European Parliament (**Eszter Lakos**)
- European Economic and Social Committee (**Stefano Palmieri**)
- European Commission (TBD)

FINAL REMARKS (13:00 – 13:30)

