

## PRESS RELEASE

### Quality of Knowledge: Global Experts at SISSA to Explore Issues and Innovations

On November 27, December 3, and December 10 “Future Visions on Science Communication 2024” is a three-day program to discuss the crisis in scientific publishing, satellite journalism, and sustainable economic models in information.



Trieste, 30 October 2024

Can we still trust scientific publications? How are satellite technologies transforming investigative journalism, paving the way for previously inaccessible stories? How can journalism survive and thrive with increasingly limited resources? These are just some of the questions that will be tackled at Future Visions on Science Communication, a series of in-depth discussions organized by SISSA (Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati) on November 27, December 3, and December 10, 2024.

The events will bring together international professionals from the worlds of science communication and journalism, aiming to broaden discussions about the future of science information. All sessions are free and open to the public without prior registration.

For information and the complete program, visit the website: [Future Visions on Science Communication 2024](#).

#### First Event: “The Crisis in Scientific Publishing”

The first session on November 27, beginning at 10:30 AM, will focus on scientific publishing and the complexities of producing specialist publications. Terms like "peer review," "impact factor," and "open access," which were once obscure technical terms, are now crucial for understanding a field that, according to many, is facing a crisis. Introduced by SISSA Director Andrea Romanino, the event will



discuss how economic pressures and conflicts of interest may affect the value and quality of research. Speakers include Luca De Fiore, director of *Il Pensiero Scientifico Editore* and author of *Sul pubblicare in medicina (2024)*; Elisa De Ranieri, former «*Editor for Nature Nanotechnology*», *Nature Energy*, Head of Editorial Process and Data Analytics and Editor in Chief for *Nature Communications* and now director of *Newton*; and Professor Licia Verde, a cosmologist at the University of Barcelona's Instituto de Ciencias del Cosmos and scientific director of the *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (JCAP)*. Moderated by science journalist Letizia Gabaglio, the event will be in Italian with simultaneous English translation.

### **Second Event: “From Space to Story: The Power of Satellite Journalism”**

The second session, on December 3, will take participants to space with a grounded focus. This event will explore satellite journalism, an emerging field that uses satellite data and imagery to create impactful and visually compelling stories. Michael Anthony, founder of the start-up Vertical 52 and the Institute for Foreign Journalism, and data journalist Elisabetta Tola will discuss how this approach is reshaping investigative journalism in different fields: from deforestation monitoring to documenting urban destruction in war zones. The event will be moderated by investigative journalist Marta Frigerio and held entirely in English.

### **Third Event: “Journalism and Economic Sustainability: Stories of Innovation and Commitment”**

On December 10, the third event addresses one of the most pressing challenges for journalism today: economic sustainability. With ever-scarcer resources, how can we ensure the quality and independence of information? This session will feature Leighton Kille, co-founder of *The Conversation France*; Cristina Tagliabue, columnist at *Il Sole 24 Ore*; and Holger Wormer, Professor of Science Journalism at TU Dortmund University. During the event, the speakers will share their experiences on new business models and discuss how to innovate without compromising journalism's core values. The panel will be moderated by journalist Valerio Bressan.

Future Visions on Science Communication will also include three exclusive sessions for students of SISSA's Master in Science Communication “Franco Pratico”, featuring foreign journalists: Bosnian journalist Jelena Kalinic on November 26, Spanish journalist Javier Barbuzano on December 2, and Deborah Cohen on December 9.

Future Visions is organized by SISSA Interdisciplinary Laboratory, the Master's course in Science Communication "Franco Pratico", and the National Science Communication Conference, a biennial event, with the next edition scheduled for 2025. The events are also held in collaboration with SISSA Medialab.

Biographies of the guests:

## Event 1

**Luca De Fiore** is the director of *Pensiero Scientifico Editore*. He is the editor-in-chief of the journal «Recenti progressi in medicina», which is indexed in Medline, Scopus, and Embase, and he serves as a reviewer for the «BMJ» on issues related to the integrity of scientific communication. He is the author of *Sul pubblicare in medicina* (2024) and co-author of *Conflitti di interesse e salute* (2018). From 2012 to 2018, he was president of the Associazione Liberati – Cochrane Affiliate Centre, and he is vice chair of the Italian chapter of the European Association of Science Editors.

**Elisa De Ranieri** is the founding Editor-in-Chief «Newton». She has a PhD in physics from the University of Cambridge, UK, and post-doc experience at the Hitachi Cambridge Laboratory. She has extensive editorial and publishing experience having worked at the «Nature» journals for 9 years, as editor for «Nature Nanotechnology», «Nature Energy», Head of Editorial Process and Data Analytics and Editor in Chief for «Nature Communications». She joined Cell Press in 2021 as Head of Research Integrity and Author Experience, and was the Director of Author Experience from 2023 to 2024, before taking the helm of «Newton».

**Licia Verde** is a ICREA professor at the Instituto de Ciencias del Cosmos of the University of Barcelona. Her research is focused on Cosmology: origin, structure, composition and evolution of the Universe. She is also scientific director «Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (JCAP)». After studying in Padova and in Edinburgh, she has carried out her research at the Universities of Princeton, Rutgers and Pennsylvania (USA), before moving to Barcelona in 2009.

**Letizia Gabaglio**, scientific journalist, co-founder of the media company Galileo Servizi Editoriali. Since 1996 she has been working in the editorial staff of «Galileo» ([www.galileonet.it](http://www.galileonet.it)), the first Italian scientific e-zine. She writes also for «Repubblica» and «Le Scienze». Since 2013 she is lecturer at Master in Comunicazione Scientifica "Franco Pratico", International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste. She works as a consultant for several public relation agencies.

## Event 2

**Michael Anthony** is a social entrepreneur from Hamburg. He also worked as a journalist for several years and founded *journalists-network*, the Institute for Foreign Journalism. From 2002 to 2015, he built the microinsurance business for Allianz and introduced satellite technology in agricultural insurance. In 2018, he co-founded Earth Analytics India in Mumbai with the Swiss high tech company *sarmap*. With *Vertical*, he aims to leverage his experience in remote sensing for investigative research.

**Elisabetta Tola** is a science journalist, host of *Radio3Scienza*, and chief editor of *Il «BO Live»* magazine published by the University of Padova. Founder of *Facta.eu* and CEO of *Formicablu*. Author and voice of the podcast *She, green* (Chora Media and *Il BO Live*). Co-author of *Semi ritrovati - un viaggio alla scoperta della biodiversità agricola* (Codice, 2020). Author of several cross-border environmental investigations such as *Wasted wetlands* (supported by Journalism Fund and ILAS Sissa, 2024) and *Under the surface* (2024).

**Marta Frigerio** is a freelance, award-winning investigative journalist, reporting on environmental and social-related topics. She also works as international journalism trainer and mentor. As a multiple projects fellow and the recipient of several grants, she is dedicated to uncovering hard-hitting stories that require time to investigate.

### Event 3

**Leighton Kille** is one of the founders of The Conversation France, launched in 2015. There he oversees all French- and English-language content, and also serves as international coordinator with the larger Conversation network. He previously co-founded Journalists Resource, a project of the Harvard Kennedy School's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy; was film editor and critic at the «Boston Globe» and served in numerous capacities at the weekly «San Francisco Bay Guardian».

**Holger Wormer** is professor for Science Journalism at TU Dortmund University where he has established the first consecutive bachelor and master courses in science journalism at a German University. Previously he has been science editor for the nationwide broadsheet «Süddeutsche Zeitung» for nine years. He was one of the founders of the Rhine Ruhr Center for Science Communication Research and member of three expert groups of the German Academies of Sciences about the future of science communication.

**Cristina Tagliabue** is an editorialist for «Sole 24 Ore», in 2021 she founded and directed «La Svolta», an online publication dedicated to ecology, rights, and innovation. Despite excellent results, the newspaper was unexpectedly closed by the publisher in the summer of 2024, following reports of investigations involving it. She is a voice on Radio Rai Uno, covering economic and sustainability issues.

Her books focus on women's rights and civic education: *Appena ho 18 anni mi rifaccio* (2009, Bompiani), *Alfabeta Bonino* (2011, Bompiani), *Non è un paese per donne* (various authors, 2012, Mondadori). Together with Maria Scoglio, she launched a children's fiction series: *Missione Democrazia* (2021, Garzanti) and *Missione Parità* (2022, Garzanti).

**Valerio Bassan** is a journalist, author and strategist. He is an expert on the future of media, journalism and technology and has worked on the digital strategies of companies such as Feltrinelli, «Sole 24 Ore», «Vice», «Forbes», Will and many others. He is the author of Ellissi, a popular newsletter, and the co-director of DIG, an Italian non-profit association that organizes DIG Festival, Europe's leading event dedicated to investigative journalism.

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#### USEFUL LINKS

[Il sito di Future Visions](#)

#### IMAGE

Crediti: SISSA

#### SISSA

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