



Techno-Science Platforms. *Lessons learned and their contribution to the future*

Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome, 12 October 2022

The conference **Techno-Science Platforms. Lessons learned and their contribution to the future** examines the links research, knowledge, technology, and innovation have with the aim of identifying concrete implications and applications for Europe's, and more specifically Italy's, socio-economic system.

The conference is organized, under the auspices of Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, by Fondazione Edison and CRANEC (the Research Centre for Economic Analysis and International Economic Development of Università Cattolica) within the research project funded by Fondazione Cariplo: "**Science and Technology Platforms (STPs) and their reference networks. The case of Mind Human Technopole (M-HT) in Milan**". The steering committee members are Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Marco Fortis, Floriana Cerniglia and Alberto Silvani.

Science, technology and economics are the three fundamental axes of the conference's multidisciplinary approach; the speakers are all prestigious representatives from academia, foundations, research centres, the technical-industrial system, and government institutions.

Science and Technology Platforms provide a form of structured interaction for different actors who have a shared interest in a scientific field and technological pursuits linked to the economy and society. The sum of these relations is the object of the research conference, which although divided into various parts, remains integrated by a unified rationale.

After the *welcome and introduction* to the event (Antonelli, Quadrio Curzio, Fosti, Monti) the main *science and technology challenges* (Nicolais, Resta, Vretenar) will be reviewed and some examples given of *platforms and their governance* (Tavani, Inguscio, Cattaneo) to further understand their *impact* on science and technology platforms from various perspectives (Florio, Bonaccorsi, Di Pippo). Next, *platforms, foundations and industry* (Fortis, Garattini, Ongaro) relationships are evaluated as well as the role of *networks and nodes for infrastructure and platforms* (Rossi, Iannantuoni), followed by an assessment of *Italy's problems, programs and perspectives in Europe* (Cerniglia, Fortis, Lironi, Silvani). The conference will end with some *conclusions* provided by qualified representatives in diverse capacities, with scientific, technological and economic backgrounds (Bianchi, Messa, Profumo, Tria).

The analyses and reflections presented at this conference are part of a line of research, promoted by the Edison Foundation on the interconnections between science, technology and industry, with particular reference to the structural aspects of techno-science.

These themes have been expounded in various conferences and books. Fondazione Edison, in close collaboration with Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, organised the following conferences¹: *Economic*

¹ It is also worth mentioning that Fabiola Gianotti, an important Italian scientist, and Secretary General of CERN, provided a significant contribution with her Lecture on "*Fundamental Research and Much More: CERN's Example*", at a Fondazione Edison event (held in Milan on 7 November 2015).

development, technology and industry for an Italo-European policy (2016); *Productive structures: technology and the economy* (2017); *Toward Horizon Europe. More investments in research and innovation* (2018); *Science and technology platforms: Italy and Europe* (2019).

The contributions from these conferences as well as other contributions were collected in Fondazione Edison's² Institutional series, published by Il Mulino, in two volumes: *Strutture industriali e innovazione sistemica. Strategie e sostenibilità*, edited by Marco Fortis and Alberto Quadrio Curzio (2018); and *Euro-piattaforme: scienza, tecnologia ed economia. Una connessione cruciale per l'Italia*, edited by Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Marco Fortis and Alberto Silvani (2020). An English summary of the latter, entitled *Euro-platforms: science, technology and the economy. A crucial connection for Italy*, with a preface by Mariya Gabriel (Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth) and Patrizia Toia (Vice-president of the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy) is available on the Fondazione Edison website.

² Fondazione Edison has addressed, in various publications over the past 20 years, themes such as science, technology and the economy from various perspectives, for example in: *Complexity and Industrial Clusters. Dynamics and models in theory and practice*, Alberto Quadrio Curzio and Marco Fortis (Eds.), Physica-Verlag (2002); *Research and technological innovation - The challenge for a new Europe*, Alberto Quadrio Curzio and Marco Fortis (Eds.), Physica-Verlag (2005); *Fondazioni, enti e reti nello spazio europeo della ricerca. La sussidiarietà in atto*, by Patrizia Fariselli, Marco Fortis and Alberto Quadrio Curzio, Fondazione Edison Series, n. 13, Il Mulino (2009); *Distretti tecnologici e sistemi regionali di innovazione. Il caso italiano*, by Valeria Miceli, Fondazione Edison Series, n. 18, Il Mulino (2010); *L'industria nei 150 anni dell'Unità d'Italia. Paradigmi e protagonisti*, Alberto Quadrio Curzio and Marco Fortis (Eds.), Fondazione Edison Series, n. 20, Il Mulino (2012); *Ricerca scientifica e tecnologia. L'incerta alleanza*, by Sergio Carrà, Fondazione Edison Series, n. 22, Il Mulino (2013).