

# UNIVERSITIES AND CULTURAL ROUTES

1<sup>st</sup> International Academic Conference

— SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, 13-14 NOV 2024 —



Cultural Routes  
of the Council of Europe  
Itinéraires culturels  
du Conseil de l'Europe



compostela  
GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES  
GRUPO DE UNIVERSIDADES



SPEAKERS BIOSKETCHES



**Mr. Stefano Dominioni**

**Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes**

Stefano Dominioni is Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (Luxembourg). He is responsible for overseeing the certification by the Council of Europe of Cultural Routes in the field of European culture and heritage across its 46 member States and the regular evaluation of the current 48 certified Cultural Routes.

Dr. Dominioni ensures EPA Governing Board and Statutory Committee operations, management of the European Institute of Cultural Routes and coordination with the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. He is responsible for the implementation of Joint Programmes with the European Commission, and cooperation with other International Organisations such as UNESCO, UNWTO, OECD and OEI. During his career at the Council of Europe, he has worked for the Directorate General of Education, Culture and Youth and the Directorate General of Social Cohesion. He received his Ph.D., M.Phil. and M.A. from Yale University, a M.A. from the Université d'Aix-Marseille and a B.A. from the University of Milan. He was Research Fellow at Cambridge University (England).



**Mrs. Carla Martins**

**President of the Compostela Group of Universities**

Carla Martins holds a PhD in Psychology from the University of Reading and is a lecturer in the School of Psychology at the University of Minho. She is a member of the Development and Psychopathology Laboratory of the Psychology Research Centre of the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Minho, where she has been prorector of Internationalisation, vice-president of the Faculty and president of its Pedagogical Council. Recently elected president of the Compostela Group of Universities, she is leading the network's Strategic Plan for the period 2024-2027.



**Mrs. María José López Couso**

**Vice-rector for Degrees and Internationalization of the University of Santiago de Compostela**

She holds a degree in Germanic Philology and a PhD in English Philology from the University of Santiago de Compostela whose Department of English and German Philology she joined in 1988 as a scholarship holder of the Teacher and Research Staff Training Programme (FPI) of the Ministry of Education and Science. Member of the research group Variation, Linguistic Change and Grammaticalization, her research activity is framed in the areas of variation and linguistic change in the English language. She is also a member of evaluation commissions of different national and international agencies and of editorial boards of several scientific journals. In recent years she has also carried out intense training work for new researchers, directing ten PhD theses, more than thirty Bachelor dissertations, tutored research projects and Master's theses.



**Mr. Eladio Fernández Galiano**  
**Special adviser of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme**

A biologist by background, he was Head of Ecology at the Autonomous University of Madrid between 1975 and 1985, when he joined the Council of Europe to lead on biodiversity and natural hazards until June 2018. There he was Secretary of the Bern Convention on European Wildlife and Habitats and Executive Secretary of the Partial Agreement on Major Hazards (EUR-OPA). He has also worked on issues of Civil Society, migrant integration and cultural tourism. His last position at the Council of Europe was Head of the Culture, Nature, Landscape and Heritage Service. He is currently Special Adviser to the Cultural Routes Programme.



**Mr. Sergio Ortega Muñoz**  
**Head of the Heritage Protection and European Programmes Service, Ministry of Culture and Sport of Spain, Vice-Chair of the EPA Governing Board**

He obtained a DEA (Diploma of Advanced Studies) at the UCM in the Department of History of Art. He joined the Scale of Auxiliaries of Archives, Libraries and Museums, the Corps of Museum Assistants and State Museum Curators. He served on the Board of Qualification and Valuation of Cultural Assets of Historical Heritage in the Spanish Ministry of Culture. He is currently Head of Service for the Protection of Historical Heritage and European Programmes at the MCE. In 2023 he was elected member of the Bureau of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, a body of which he is the Spanish national representative. In 2024 he became the Vice-Chair of the EPA Governing Board.



**Mr. Ricardo Rivero Ortega**  
**Full professor of Administrative Law and former rector of the University of Salamanca**

Ricardo Rivero Ortega (Palencia, 1969). Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Salamanca, where he has been Dean (2012-2017) and Rector (2017-2024). Author of more than 250 publications, international lecturer and recognized researcher on issues of economic regulation, higher education, local regime and innovation applied to administrative institutions.

Visiting professor at European and American universities. Honorary doctorates from UNAM (Mexico), UNMSM (Peru), Cordoba (Argentina) and Panama, among others. He has been awarded the CES research prize (Castilla y León), the COSITAL prize and the medal of the University of Salamanca. Member of the public law section of the General Codification Commission and corresponding academic of the National Law School of Buenos Aires and of the Legislation and Jurisprudence School of Spain.



**Mr. Ildefonso de la Campa**  
**Director of S.A. de Xestión do Xacobeo, President of the European Federation of Saint James Way**

Studied at the Faculty of Geography and History at the University of Santiago de Compostela. He has held various positions in the Galician Government administration. Since October 2020 he has been Director of Administration and Relations with the Associations of Friends of the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago de Compostela de la S.A. de Xestión do Plan Xacobeo. He is also the President of the European Federation of Saint James Way from January 1, 2023.



**Mr. Rubén Lois**  
**Full professor of Geography at the University of Santiago de Compostela**

Rubén Lois is full professor of Regional Geographical Analysis at the University of Santiago de Compostela and holds a PhD in Geography with Extraordinary Prize. Recognised expert in urban and cultural geography, tourist analysis of historic cities, cultural itineraries and pilgrimage routes, he is vice-president of the International Geographical Union, member of the Spanish Association of Geography, coordinator of the ANTE Research Group, and has been unanimously appointed as the new director of the Institute of Studies and Development of Galicia (Idega).



**Mr. Dinç Saraç**  
**Professor at the Antalya Bilim University in Türkiye**

In 2015, he obtained his PhD from the International Centre for Cultural & Heritage Studies of Newcastle University with a thesis on site management and cultural tourism in Türkiye. Since February 2017, he works as a member of the School of Tourism at Antalya Bilim University (ABU). His research fields include culture, heritage management, archaeology, site management and tourism. He is also the coordinator for the implementation and development of the General Framework Agreement between the EICR and ABU, a member of the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies since April 2024.



**Mrs. Lucrezia Lopez**  
**Researcher at the University of Santiago de Compostela**

Lucrezia Lopez is Lecturer of Geography at the Department of Geography of the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) and secretary of the CETUR (Centro de Estudos Turísticos). She is academic coordinator in the USC of the International Master's Degree in City Challenges, and secretary of its international academic commission. Her research lines concern the Camino de Santiago, studied by a plurality of geographic, cultural and touristic approaches. She also deals with cultural and Mediterranean studies, tourism geography, heritage and heritage management, and geohumanities.





### **Mr. Miguel Taín**

#### **Director of the Institutional Chair on the Camino de Santiago and Pilgrimages of the University of Santiago de Compostela**

Professor of Art History at the University of Santiago de Compostela. Director of the Institutional Chair on the Camino de Santiago and Pilgrimages at the University of Santiago de Compostela. Founder and director of the Jacobean International Lessons at the University of Santiago de Compostela (since 2007). His research focuses on the Camino de Santiago and the city of Santiago de Compostela. A number of books and publications in global media and journals, such as *Studi Secenteschi*, *Studi di Storia dell'Arte*, *Construction History Journal*, *International Journal of Architecture Heritage*, *Quintana*, *Locus Amoenus*, *Informes de la Construcción*, *Archivo Español del Arte* or *Goya*, among others are distributed by the most important libraries around the world and referenced in international databases.



### **Mrs. María Luisa Vázquez de Ágredos-Pascual**

#### **Director of the European Route of Historic Pharmacies and Medicinal Gardens, professor at the University of Valencia**

She holds degrees in Art History (1999), Journalism (2012), and Occupational Therapy (2020). She earned a Ph.D. in Geography and History from the University of Valencia (2006) and a Ph.D. in Art History from the Polytechnic University of Valencia (2007). She also holds a Master's degree in International Cooperation from Jaume I University (2005). From 2009 to 2014, she served as the Regional Vice President of International Cooperation and Humanitarian Diplomacy for the Spanish Red Cross – Valencian Community. For the past 20 years, her research has focused on optimizing and applying new technologies for the analysis, conservation, and dissemination of cultural heritage in both America and Europe. This explains the interdisciplinary nature of the research projects she has led as Principal Investigator, funded by European, national, and regional calls. Throughout her extensive research career, she has delivered more than 200 lectures in highly specialized forums and has authored or co-authored around 100 publications in prestigious international journals and publishing houses.



### **Mrs. Maria Laura Gasparini**

#### **Researcher at the University of Bologna**

She is currently a Research Fellow and PhD candidate in Economic Geography at the Center for Advanced Studies in Tourism (CAST), University of Bologna (Rimini Campus), being her main research focus on rural development, trans-national cultural routes and sustainability monitoring. She holds a Master's Degree in Tourism Economics and Management from the University of Bologna (Italy) and a Degree in Tourism from the National University of Lanús (Buenos Aires, Argentina).



### **Mrs. Nataša Urošević**

#### **Representative of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture and Tourism, Juraj Dobrila University of Pula**

Nataša Urošević, PhD, is associate professor at the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, Croatia, Interdisciplinary Study Programme of Culture and Tourism, where she teaches courses in Croatian and European cultural history, special interest tourism, cultural routes and heritage management. She participated in several EU projects, (co-)organized international conferences and edited post-conference publications. She received the Richard Plaschka Fellowship from the Austrian Ministry of science and research as well as the Thesaurus Poloniae Fellowship from the Polish Ministry of Culture for her research projects related to valorisation of common European heritage. She is the coordinator of the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies at the University of Pula.



### **Mr. Fernando de la Torre Cuevas**

**Postdoctoral researcher at the University of Santiago de Compostela**

Fernando de la Torre Cuevas is a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Santiago de Compostela. He is affiliated to the Department of Economic Analysis as well as to the Galician Institute for Development Studies (IDEGA). His work focuses on addressing challenges for regional economic modelling in scarce-data scenarios. Social and environmental impact analyses are also part of his research agenda.



### **Mr. Peter Ivanič**

**Researcher at the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra**

He is head of Institute for Research of Constantine and Methodius' Cultural Heritage, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Slovakia). His education a research interests are history, Christianization of the Central European area in the early Middle Ages and the Cyril-Method cultural heritage. Since 2018, he has been working as the chairman of the international scientific committee of the Association of the European Cultural Route of St. Cyril and Methodius.



### **Mrs. Hilda Kramáreková**

**Researcher at the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra**

She is a teacher and researcher of the Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Regional Development, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Informatics, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Slovakia). Her education a research interests are regional development with an emphasis on cultural tourism. As a responsible researcher, she led e.g. project HORIZON 2020 SPOT focused on cultural tourism, she was a co-author of fundamental strategic documents in the Nitra self-governing region with a focus on regional development.



### **Mrs. Roberta Alberotanza**

**Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Head of Cultural Routes section of ECHE LAB (European Cultural Heritage Enhancement LAB)**

She is an independent expert evaluator of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, Master in Institutional Communication at the School of Public Administration of Italy. Master in printed books of the 16th century, Vatican Library. Former President of the Cultural Committee of the Council of Europe. Former President of the Council of Orientation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. Since 1995 I've been working on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the UNESCO sites. Member of SISTUR, Italian Society of Tourism Sciences. Member of ICOMOS Italy, Cultural Tourism Committee. Public journalist since 1990.



**Mr. Gabor Bodis**  
**Professor at the Budapest Metropolitan University**

Influencer & brandbooster. Well-experienced chief marketing decision-maker and thought leader with a strong brand-oriented approach combined with innovation and creativity, excelling in exploiting mutual synergies. Strengths in strategic planning in tourism and successfully coordinating creative industry players with a proven track record. He is a Metropolitan University Teacher, college associate professor, Tourism and Marketing fields (September 2016 – Present). He is the Founder of the Hungary NEXT, a Civilian and professional community (December 2012 – Present).



**Mr. Francesco Spada**  
**Coordinator of the Scientific Committee of Transhumance Trails**

Retired Professor, formerly Prof. in Plant Systematics and Phytogeography at the Faculty of Sciences, University of Rome "La Sapienza" 1978-2016; at present Professor in "Diversità Vegetale ( Plant Systematics ) at the University of Viterbo (Detachment of Rieti ), Italy. Coordinator of the Scientific Committee of Transhumance Trails.



**Mrs. Wenshan Chen**  
**PhD candidate of the Preservation of cultural heritage program in the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies in Italy**

Wenshan Chen is a PhD candidate of the Preservation of cultural heritage program in the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies in Italy. With a background in civil engineering, her research focuses on the preservation of historic roads, cultural routes and landscapes preservation, and the application of digital technologies in heritage interpretation. Combining her engineering expertise with a passion for heritage preservation, her work aims to enhance the understanding and protection of historic roads and cultural routes through multi-disciplinary and holistic strategies.



**Mrs. Brigida Maria Putinato**  
**Master graduate of the Università degli Studi di Padova, deputy manager of the St. Anthony's Path**

Brigida Maria Putinato holds a degree in Tourism Sciences and a Master's degree in Designing Tourism Systems - Tourism, Culture and Sustainability, from the University of Padua. She wrote a dissertation investigating the role of the European Cultural Route certification attributed to the Via Romea Germanica, in two Italian stretches. Her field of research is that of walking and pilgrimage routes, cultural itineraries and sustainable tourism. Today she works for the Saint Anthony's Path as deputy manager.