



## X ITALIAN BUSINESS FORUM 2023

# ACCELERATING GOOD INNOVATION

**Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana  
Aula Magna, Tuesday, 18th April 2023**

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| 8.30  | <b>Arrival and registration</b>   |
| 9.00  | <b>Opening of the event</b>   |
| 9.10  | <b>Opening address of the host</b><br>Boštjan Zalar, Director, Jozef Stefan Institute   |
| 9.15  | <b>Opening of the 10<sup>th</sup> IBF at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Italian-Slovenian Forum</b><br>Jurij Giacomelli, President, Italijsko-slovenski Forum italo-sloveno   |
| 9.30  | <b>Introduction to the 10<sup>th</sup> IBF</b><br>Ivo Michele Polacco, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of the Republic of Italy to Slovenia  |
| 9.40  | <b>Celebration of the Agreement of collaboration between CNR and IJS</b><br>Romana Jordan, Assistant director, Jozef Stefan Institute   |
| 10.00 | <b>The challenge of productivity through innovation in the context of the EU Green Deal, the case of Slovenia</b><br>Polona Domadenik Muren, Full Professor, University of Ljubljana, School of Economics and Business, Programme director of IMB |
| 10.20 | <b>Sustainable Growth in a Transition Economy: a View of the Italian and Slovenian Banking Sector</b><br>Giancarlo Miranda, President of Supervisory Board, Intesa Sanpaolo Bank  |
| 10.40 | <b>A success story: Exceeding 13 billion euro in bilateral exchange between Italy and Slovenia</b><br>Serenella Marzoli, Director, Italian Trade Agency, Lubiana  |

- 10.55 **Business environment and challenges for the EU economy**  
Luigi Fuzio, CEO, Intesa Sanpaolo Bank  
Lorenzo Ramajola, CEO, Unicredit Slovenia  
Mitja Feri, Member of the Management Board, Generali Slovenia
- Q&A**
- 11.25 **Coffee Break**
- 11.45 **Excellences: Science, society and the innovation mindset to thrive on the “quadruple helix”**  
Introduction and moderation: Jadran Lenarčič, President of the committee of warrants of the Forum
- 12.00 **Robotics. What comes next?**  
Antonio Bicchi, Senior Researcher, IIT, Genova & Professor of Control and Robotics, University of Pisa
- 12.20 **North-Adriatic Hydrogen Valley**  
Aleksander Gerbec, founder and managing director, ECUBES  
Jerneja Sedlar, Senior Advisor, Development and Investments at Holding Slovenske elektrarne (HSE) Lead project partner
- 12.35 **EFFECTIVE and AquafilSLO**  
Edi Kraus, Former General manager, AquafilSLO
- 12.50 **Creating Innovation on the borderline: The case of Inkubator Sezana**  
Dorijan Maršič, Managing director, Inkubator Sezana
- Protagonists of the “Innovation at the borderline” and their founders**  
Paradigma, Andrej Volpi, founder  
Genuiny, Nicole Pagnut, Tommaso Salerno, Sebastjan Krizman, founders
- 13.20 **Q&A**
- 13.35 **Conclusions**
- 13.45 **Buffet Lunch**
- 15.30 **Conclusion of the meeting**

## Speakers



### **Polona Domadenik Muren, PhD**

Full Professor in Economics at University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economics and member of Management Board at Slovene Research Agency.

Earned my PhD in Economics in 2003 at Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, during my studies I spent a year as a visiting scholar at CERGE-EI, Charles University, in Prague. In 2004 I got IMF/GDN research grant and spent 5 weeks at IMF headquarters in Washington, DC. In 2007 I was awarded by University's Award for young fellows for extraordinary achievements in teaching and research. In the period of 2009-2010 I was a Fulbright scholar at University of California, Davis. In the last 15 years I published several papers in refereed journals (Journal of Business Ethics, International Journal of Manpower, Journal of International Business Studies, Review of Comparative Economics and others) discussing the problems of corporate governance, enterprise restructuring, firms' labor demand, labor market institutions and youth unemployment in transition economies analyzing firm and individual level data (registry and survey data). In last decade I participated at several international conferences. In the period of 2013 – 2015 I served as a member of EALE Executive Committee. I was a coordinator of two GDN projects and member of the research team of several research projects, financed by Slovene government, PHARE program and European Commission.



### **Antonio Bicchi**

Professor of Robotics at the University of Pisa, and Senior Scientist at the Italian Institute of Technology in Genoa

He graduated from the University of Bologna in 1988 and was a postdoc scholar at M.I.T. Artificial Intelligence lab. He teaches Robotics and Control Systems in the Department of Information Engineering (DII) of the University of Pisa. He leads the Robotics Group at the Research Center "E. Piaggio" of the University of Pisa since 1990. He is the head of the SoftRobotics Lab for Human Cooperation and Rehabilitation at IIT in Genoa. Since 2013 he serves as Adjunct Professor at the School of Biological and Health Systems Engineering of Arizona State University.

From January, 2023, he is the Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR), the first and one of the top scientific journals in Robotics. He has been the founding Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (2015-2019), which rapidly became the largest Robotics journal by number of submissions. He has organized the first WorldHaptics Conference (2005), today the premier conference in the field. He served as president of SIDRA, the scientific society of Automatic Control. He is a founder and President of the Italian Institute of Robotics and Intelligent Machines (I-RIM) (since 2019),

His main research interests are in Robotics, Haptics, and Control Systems. He has published more than 500 papers on international journals, books, and refereed conferences. For his fundamental research on human and robot hands the European Research Council awarded him with several grants, including an Advanced Grant in 2012, an ongoing Synergy Grant in 2019, and three Proof-of-Concept grants. He is the scientific coordinator of the JOiINT Lab, an advanced tech transfer lab with leading-edge industries in Bergamo, Italy. He is the recipient of several awards and honours.