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PIANO NAZIONALE  
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UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI BERGAMO

International Conference ECCO-Italy | 15th-17th January 2026 - University of Bergamo

# TEACHING, IDENTITY, AND LANGUAGE POLICIES AND PLANNING THROUGH THE LENS OF CHINESE HERITAGE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

The event is part of the communication and dissemination activities of the PRIN Project "ECCO-Italy: Education of Children of Chinese Origin in Italy"\*

Principal Investigator: **Tommaso PELLIN**; Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures; University of Bologna

Local Unit Coordinator: **Martina CASCHERA**; Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures; University of Bergamo

**DAY 1 - 15th January** | 9.00-18.30 | via Salvecchio, 19 - Bergamo

**9.00 Registration** (Room 1)

**9.30 Institutional greetings** (Room 3)

- › **Flaminia Nicora** (Vice Rector of International Relations, University of Bergamo)
- › **Tommaso Pellin** (PI of the PRIN PNRR ECCO-Italy, University of Bologna)
- › **Jiang Zhonghua** (President of the Association for the Promotion of the Chinese Community in Italy; President of the Jinan University Alumni Association in Italy; Principal of the Zhonghua Chinese Language School of Rome)

**10.00 KEYNOTE SPEAKER 1** (Room 3)

- › **Li Wei** (Director and Dean of the Institute of Education - IOE Faculty of Education and Society, University College London)  
*Chinese heritage language education in the age of AI*

**11.00 Coffee Break** (Room 10)

**11.15 ROUNDTABLE 1/PE EVENT** (Room 3)

**The Chinese Community in Bergamo: Educational Landscapes**

- Chair: › **Federica Burini** (Delegate of the Rector for Public Engagement, University of Bergamo)
- › **Alessandra Ghisalberti** (Coordinator of the PhD Program in Landscape Studies for Global and Local Challenges and President of the Master's Course in Geo-urban planning, University of Bergamo)
  - › **Patrizia Anesa** and **Lucia Avallone** (President and Vice-President of the Master's course in Modern Languages for International cooperation and communication, LMCCI, University of Bergamo)
  - › **Cristian Pallone** (Associate Professor of Japanese Language and Literature and coordinator of TNE - LEGO exchange programme for the Far East, University of Bergamo)
  - › **Gloria Farisé** (Principal of Liceo Linguistico G. Falcone, Bergamo)
  - › **Marzia Marchesi** (Councillor for Early Childhood, Educational and School Services, City of Bergamo)

**13.15 Lunch**

**14.30 SESSION 1** (Room 2)

**Politics and Global Issues**

- Chair: › **Martina Caschera** (University of Bergamo)
- › **Stefania Stafutti** (University of Turin)  
*The image of China as cultural power as depicted by IBC*
  - › **Federica Burini** and **Alessandra Ghisalberti** (University of Bergamo)  
*Chinese Heritage in Connected Urbanities for Innovative Co-Design and Spatial Care in Europe*
  - › **Daniele Brigadoi Cologna** and **Valentina Ornaghi** (University of Insubria)  
*Community Associations and Chinese Heritage Schools as Vectors of Diaspora Engagement and Politico-Cultural Influence*
  - › **Margherita Di Salvo** (University of Naples Federico II) and **Francesca Moro** (L'Orientale University of Naples)  
*Language maintenance and Language shift in Shri-Lanka and Philippine Communities in Naples*

- › **Valeria Varriano** (Confucius Institute of L'Orientale University of Naples)

*Beyond the Wall: The University of Naples "L'Orientale" and Its Confucius Institute as a Living Bridge*

**15.30 PARALLEL SESSIONS 2**

**2A-Educational Practices** (Room 3)

- Chair: › **Tommaso Pellin** (University of Bologna)
- › **Andrea Scibetta** and **Davide Francolino** (University for Foreigners of Siena)  
*Between Roots and Routes: Pedagogical Practices in Zhejiang's Huaqiao Xuexiao*
  - › **He Qian** (University of Bologna)  
*Digital Platforms and Teaching Creativity in Chinese Complementary Schools Post-Pandemic*
  - › **Yu Jinjin** (Zhonghua Chinese Language School of Rome)  
*Affective Recontextualization of PRC Curricula in a Chinese Heritage School in Italy*
  - › **Yvonne Tse Crepaldi** (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) and **Sara Ganassin** (Newcastle University)  
*An Italian Chinese International School at a Global Crossroads: A Scoping Study of Practices, Challenges, and Future Directions*

**2B-Narratives** (Room 2)

- Chair: › **Marta Pantalone** (University of Bergamo)
- › **Giuseppe Rizzuto** (University of Florence)  
*Racialization and the Making of Chineseness among Sino-descendant Youth in Italy*
  - › **Andrea Del Bono** (University of Bergamo)  
*New Mapping for Italy's Chinese Heritage Schools*
  - › **Jacopo De Cinti** (Zhonghua Chinese Language School of Rome)  
*The Challenges faced by Newly Enrolled Chinese Students in Italian Schools*
  - › **Eduardo Accorroni** (University of Macerata)  
*Narrating China in Italy: State Rhetorics and Diasporic Narratives in the Teaching of Chinese Culture*

**17.00 Coffee Break** (Room 10)

**17.15 SESSION 3** (Room 3)

**HLE abroad**

- Chair: › **Andrea Del Bono** (University of Bergamo)
- › **Jie Liu** (University of Minho)  
*Chinese Heritage Language Education in Multicultural Europe: Balancing Cultural Preservation and Integration - A Pedagogical Perspective*
  - › **Szandra Ésik** (Eötvös Loránd University)  
*Mother Tongue Among Chinese Immigrants in Hungary: A Mixed-Methods Study (online presentation)*
  - › **Jaruwan Teanmahasatid** (SOAS University)  
*Nationalism and Ideological Control in Sino-Thai Education Policy, 1938-1978 (online presentation)*
  - › **Florence Lévy** (Collège de France)  
*Chinese parents and children's perspectives in France and Switzerland*

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**DAY 2 - 16th January** | 9.00-17.30 | via Salvecchio, 19 - Bergamo

**9.00 Registration** (Room 1)

**9.30 KEYNOTE SPEAKER 2** (Room 3)

Chair: **Chen Yong** (Wenzhou University)

*Migration and Return: A Hundred-Year Migration History of Two Villages in the Wenzhou Region*

**10.00 Coffee break** (Room 10)

**10.45 ROUNDTABLE 2** (Room 2)

*Compulsory schooling: "connections" and "bridges"*

Chair: **Alessandra Ghisalberti** (University of Bergamo)

Chair: **Martina Caschera** (University of Bergamo)

Chair: **Ivana Bolognesi** (University of Bologna)

Chair: **Sabrina Ardizzoni** (University for Foreigners of Siena)

Chair: **Monica Tardiani** (IC12 Verona e TanteTinte)

Chair: **Giulia Urciuoli** (Convitto Nazionale Vittorio Emanuele II of Rome) and **Silvia Dolci** (Liceo Linguistico G. Falcone, Bergamo)

**11.45 ROUNDTABLE 3** (Room 3)

*Chinese Heritage Schools Principals*

Chair: **Yedi Yu** (University of Bologna)

Chair: **Weiyang Sun** (University of Bergamo)

Chair: **Wang Chen** (Yanhuang School, Sesto Fiorentino)

Chair: **Ding Lu** (Boyue School, Bologna)

Chair: **Chen Shuo** (Qiusuo School, Verona)

Chair: **Jiang Zhonghua** (Zhonghua School, Rome)

Chair: **Pan Xiaojing** (Yong En School, Bergamo)

**13.00 Buffet lunch** (Room 10)

**14.15 SESSION 4** (Room 3)

*Schools and Families in Italy*

Chair: **Andrea Scibetta** (University for Foreigners of Siena)

Chair: **Zhang Xiangxiao** (Shuren International, Carpi)

*An Analysis from the Perspective of Parental Care and the Lack of Educational Knowledge in the Modena Area*

Chair: **Cristina Li** (University of Bologna)

*Chinese Heritage Language Maintenance in Italy: The Role of Attitudes in Family and School Contexts*

Chair: **Francesca Lupia** (European University Institute)

*Educational Experiences of Chinese Italian High School Graduates During the COVID-19 Pandemic: An Ethnographic Study in a High School in Florence*

Chair: **Li Qing** (Tonghua School, Trieste)

*The Use of Chinese Language Textbooks among Chinese Heritage Youth: A Study on Their Role in Promoting Positive Integration into Mainstream Society Based on the Practice of Chinese Language Education in Italy*

**15.30 Coffee Break** (Room 10)

**15.45 SESSION 5** (Room 3)

*Schools and Families Abroad*

Chair: **Martina Caschera** (University of Bergamo)

Chair: **Zhu Shuting** (NEOMA Confucius Institute for Business)

*"I Don't Like Mandarin, But I Have to Learn Mandarin": Mandarin Learning Trajectories of Wenzhounese Adult Learners in Paris*

Chair: **Jia Lin** (University of Salamanca)

and **Chiara Uliana** (University of Granada)

*"Foreign Here and There": Between Obligation and Belonging among Second-Generation Chinese Youth in Spain*

Chair: **Eva Salerno** (Catholic University of Paris)

*Learning Chinese in European Catholic parishes: reconnecting with family heritage*

Chair: **Li Zhen** (The Education University of Hong Kong)

*Homegrown Cosmopolitans: The Making of Chinese Heritage Identity in Hong Kong International Schools*

**DAY 3 - 17th January** | 9.30-13.00 | via Salvecchio, 19 - Bergamo

**9.30 KEYNOTE SPEAKER 3** (Room 3)

Chair: **Wang Simeng** (French National Center for Scientific Research)

*A Multi-Scalar Approach on the Identity-building among Descendants of Chinese Migrants living in Europe*

**10.30 Coffee Break** (Room 10)

**10.45 SESSION 6** (Room 3)

*Identity*

Chair: **Valentina Pedone** (University of Firenze)

Chair: **Yang Ni** (Tianjin Nankai University)

and **Letizia Vallini** (University of Córdoba)

*(Re)constructing Linguistic Identity: A Comparison of New Chinese and Italian Generations (online presentation)*

Chair: **Qiao Yan** (University of Sassari)

*Language, Family, and Identity: Educational Dynamics in Chinese Families in Sassari*

Chair: **Valentina Pedone** (University of Firenze)

and **Zhong Zou** (Waseda University)

*Language, Identity, and Belonging: Life Histories of Second-Generation Chinese in Italy*

Chair: **Giovanni Giamello** (Aalborg University)

*On Not Speaking Chinese in Verona*

**12.45 Conclusive remarks and greetings** (Room 3)

Chair: **Federica Burini** and **Martina Caschera** (University of Bergamo)



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