

ESOF - Euroscience Open Forum

ESOF 2008 Barcelona → ESOF2010 Turin
Take the science bus: destination Barcelona

Turin shall host the **Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF)** at the **Lingotto di Torino from the 2nd to the 7th of July**, 2010 which shall give the city the title “The European City of Science” in 2010. This is a European meeting which takes place every two years and includes scientists, teachers, communications operators, politicians, exponents from the world of industry and of public opinion and finally every-day citizens. ESOF is a project thought up by **Euroscience**, an organization with its HQ founded at Strasburg in 1997, and unites approximately 2,100 members of 40 European countries. It shall be a unique occasion of meetings and debates based around research and scientific research themes and also upon the working of adequate political systems in sustaining research, particularly that of the younger end of the field.

After the editions in Stockholm (2004) and Munich (2006), the TopESOF organizing committee shall take the spectator of this fundamental international meeting to Barcelona which shall host the Forum this year from the 18th to 22nd of July. **TopESOF** stands for **Turin for ESOF2010** and is made up of three nomination promoters of the city - the **CentroScienza Onlus**, **Centro Agorà Scienza of the University of Turin** and **Compagnia of San Paolo**. A final destination in the Piedmont capital city after a hotly contested battle with Copenhagen, Paris and Wroclaw by dint of its role unanimously acknowledged as a **pole of excellence in key sectors of modern day innovation**.

On **Friday 6th of June** the Board Room of the municipality of Turin shall host the official designation ceremony of the **40 winners** of the **Take the Science bus: destination Barcelona!** competition which has been brought about in collaboration with the “Stampa” newspaper. The 40 young students belonging to the first two years of a Piedmont faculty shall be **nominated Special Envoys from Turin and Italy at the ESOF2008 Barcelona**. The ceremony shall also be an occasion for celebrating symbolically the official handing-over passage between Barcelona and Turin and shall take place in the Catalan capital on the **22nd of July** in the presence of the Italian delegation and the Mayor of Turin, **Sergio Chiamparino**. Several of the exponents of organizing committee of the ESOF2008 Barcelona shall take part in the meeting, offering a series of previews of the forecasted program for the Catalan edition.



Objectives of the ESOF2010 Turin

Turin deems itself fit to offer a cultural environment highly adapted to emergence of new tendencies in the world of science, in perfect harmony with the interdisciplinary inspiration of the ESOF. By making its own excellence in studies into telecommunications and into the *consensus meeting* available to the participants of the Forum, the ESOF2010 Turin proposes to give those who are geographically distant a chance to air their opinions and also to provide a fundamental back-up to the community of teachers, students and young people from all over the world who are involved in the world of research.

Amongst the new ideas at the Turin ESOF edition, **Web ESOF** shall be developed by the Turin Polytechnic; this is software licensed by the Creative Commons which can be downloaded and used freely all over the world and which guarantees total usability on the Net of the streaming of events in the program, both directly and when used at a later date.

ESOF2010 also aims to **widen the field of participation to the east of Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and to South America** and to reinforce and set up **collaboration connections with similar initiatives of the expansion of science**. The **Center for Media and Communication of the Exploratorium** and the **SAASTA (South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement)**, the **Science Museum of Barcelona** and the **OAF (Brazil)** are targeted by these connections. Amongst the objectives is also the setting up of a seat in Turin for the **Science for Children** project by the 1996 Nobel Prize winner for Chemistry, **Harold Kroto**. This is turned towards stirring up scientific interest in children and adolescents between the ages of 6 and 16.

With the aim of highlighting possible key themes of the **2010 edition of ESOF** which coincides with **a crucial year for the completion of objectives set in 2000 by the Lisbon Agenda**, Turin started off by posing itself the question of what the most important challenges in the scientific and technological field shall be. Challenges which Europe shall find itself face to face with in the blink of an eye, and also Turin wonders what the role of the Old World shall be with relation to the rest of the world in terms of political and strategic act definitions, and shall strive to promote the development of this role. In the year 2010 the world's population shall have reached nearly 7,000 million, and in spite of the drop in the birth rate and the increase in longevity which together tend to determine a progressive increase in the average age of people in wealthy countries, **the world of 2010 shall be essentially a young one**. Add to this the fact that **today young people between the ages of 14 and 28 account for more than the entire world population of 1900**.

Never before in its history has humanity been able to rely upon such a strong potential of scientific, artistic, political and social creativity. However, **this human capital is concentrated above all in developing countries and in poorer areas.** Europe and its scientists cannot count themselves outside of this challenge, above all with respect to the values of equity and democracy, and then because the **cultural grounding of younger people is necessary if we want to give momentum and imagination to tomorrow's science.**

Therefore, creativity and passion shall inspire the guidelines of the ESO2010, the Euroscience Open Forum edition which is singled out, and not just by chance, by the slogan ***Passion for Science***. This is because carrying out research is an exciting line of work which is based upon a profound synergy, on the exchange of human resources of experience and means. Also, the activity of the scientist, due to its training and nature goes beyond all boundaries opening itself up to international dimensions into the thrust of a particular impulse in order to know what pulls together researchers the world over.

Some of the key points already specified are outlined below:

FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

- ° Organization of special editions of exhibitions for the broadcast of scientific culture (for example, Week of Science, Researchers' European Night.)
- ° Involvement of European Science Centres and of other areas (North Africa, the Middle East and South America) and collaboration with the Festival of Science of Genoa.

INITIATIVES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- ° Meetings on the subject of creativity with industrial designers.
- ° International summer school for undergraduates on the subjects of ethics and scientific research communication.
- ° "Host a young scientist!" (Hosting program for young participants in volunteer families.)

ESOF WEB

- ° Live streaming of conferences
- ° Possibilities of intervention via email or videoconferencing
- ° Available and downloadable conference materials all over the world

POSSIBLE CONFERENCE THEMES

- ° Biotechnologies
- ° Nanotechnologies
- ° Neurosciences

- Biological Sciences
- Mobility
- Spaces
- Physics
- Environment
- Information and Communication technologies
- Food
- Science for Art
- Science and innovation: an appeal for the international action of the European Union
- Science and Politics
- Science as a language of socio-cultural integration
- The art of discovery

ESOF2008 BARCELONA

With the title ***Science for a Better Life***, the **Catalan edition** this year shall instead dwell on life quality themes, the safeguard of the environment, the responsible use of technology and ethical issues tied to controversial sectors such as cloning and stem cell technologies.

“ESOF has become the meeting point for European scientists and politicians to meet and we will ensure that this meaningful dialogue continues,” said ESOF 2008 Co-Chair and EuroScience President **Enric Banda**. “Europe is home to some of the world’s leading researchers in the sciences and humanities. Barcelona’s growing recognition as a leading player in bio technology and biomedicine, together with its dynamic reputation in the arts and architecture, makes it the perfect choice as the platform to present and discuss the importance and relevance of their work,” Banda concluded.

The ESOF 2008 scientific programme (now available at www.esof2008.org) will include a mix of sessions around 10 main themes, including plenary and keynote remarks by high-level speakers addressing current topics in the sciences, such as:

- Professor **Pierre Magistretti**, Brain Mind Institute, Switzerland, ***Brain Imaging Technology***
- Lord **Norman Warner**, Former UK Health Minister, ***Science and public policy—political dilemmas;***
- Sir **Richard Mottram**, Former UK Permanent Secretary, Intelligence, Security and Resilience, ***Science and the Terrorist challenge;***
- **Gabriele Tamborini**, Institute for Transuranium Elements, DG Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Germany, ***Atomic Detectives: nuclear forensics and illicit trafficking;***

- **Tejinder Virdee**, European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), Switzerland, ***Discovering the Quantum Universe: The Large Hadron Collider Project at CERN;***
- **Jordi Segura**, Institut Municipal d'Investigació Mèdica (IMIM), Spain, ***Doping and society: towards the perfect human machine?;***
- **Emilio Rodriguez Cerezo**, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), European Commission-Joint Research Centre (JRC), Seville, Spain, chairing a session on animal cloning and food production, ***'Dolly' for dinner?;***
- **Bernat Soria**, CABIMER, Department of Cell Therapy and regenerative Medicine, Seville, Spain, chairing a session on ***Frontiers in Stem Cell Research;***
- **Marian Saad**, The Embassy of France, UK, ***The Aesthetics of the Body***

Press Confirmation for the ESOE 2008 edition, which shall take place in Barcelona **from the 18th to the 22nd of July**, can be carried out online **until the 30th of June 2008**, clicking onto "Press Registration" in the Media Centre at www.esof2008.org