



ROOTS IN THE FUTURE

Italy Guest of Honour 2024
Frankfurt Book Fair

SPEAKERS

PRESS CONFERENCE

19 OCTOBER 2023

JUERGEN BOOS

Director of the Frankfurter Buchmesse

Juergen Boos trained as a publisher at Herder Verlag (Freiburg) in the early 1980s and has degrees in both Marketing and Organisational Theory. He has held management positions at Droemer Knauer Verlag (Munich), Carl Hanser Verlag (Munich), as well as Springer Science and Business Media (today Springer Science) and John Wiley & Sons (Weinheim).

He became President and CEO of the Frankfurter Buchmesse GmbH (Frankfurt Book Fair) in 2005 and is President of LITPROM (Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature) and Managing Director of LitCam (Frankfurter Buchmesse Literacy Campaign).

On 20 November 2013, he was awarded the Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art. In January 2017, Juergen Boos received an honorary degree from the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

In February 2018, he was conferred the cultural distinction of "Chevalier des Arts et des Letters" (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters) at the French embassy in Berlin.

Furthermore, he is holder of the Spanish Order Isabel la Católica, Encomienda de Numero since October 2022 and of the Ribbon of Knight of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit since February 2023.

He is also a member of the Scientific Committee of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award and a member of the Akademie Deutscher Buchpreis (German Book Prize Academy).



Credits: Frankfurter Buchmesse

GENNARO SANGIULIANO

Italian Minister of Culture

Gennaro Sangiuliano was born in Naples in 1962 and graduated in Law from Federico II University. He holds a PhD in Law and Economics with honours from the same university, his thesis was published. He has a Master's Degree in European Private Law with an honours rating of 100/100 and a diploma from the Institute for Advanced Studies in Defence (IASD). From 1999 to 2001 he was Editor-in-Chief of the *Roma* newspaper in Naples, before becoming Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the *Liberio* newspaper. He has also worked with other newspapers, namely, *Il Foglio*, *l'Espresso* and *Il Sole 24 Ore*. He held the position of Director, School of Journalism at the University of Salerno and is currently Professor of Economic History at LUISS Guido Carli and of Information Law at LUMSA in Rome.

In 2003 he joined the Italian national broadcaster, RAI, and became Head of Service at TGR Naples. In 2004 he moved to Rome to work at the TGR National Agency, where he became Deputy Editor-in-Chief in 2005 and Editor-in-Chief in 2007. In 2009 he moved to Tg1, becoming Deputy Director, before taking on the role of Director of Tg2 from November 2018 until October 2022.

Sangiuliano is the author of numerous historical and scientific papers, including the legal-economic handbook *New Media Theory and Techniques*; *Economia della comunicazione* in the *Treccani* encyclopedia; *Giuseppe Prezzolini: l'anarchico conservatore* (Giuseppe Prezzolini: Conservative Anarchist), a biography of the *la Voce* founder; the historical essay *Scacco allo Zar. 1908-1910: Lenin a Capri, genesi della Rivoluzione* (Checkmate to the Tsar: 1908–1910: from Lenin to Capri, the genesis of the revolution); as well as biographies of Ronald Reagan, Vladimir Putin, Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump and Xi Jinping.

He has been the Minister of Culture since 22 October 2022.



MAURO MAZZA

Extraordinary Commissioner of the Italian Government

Mauro Mazza was born in Rome in 1955. He has been a professional journalist since 1979 and has published numerous papers on literature, television and political culture. Mazza is also the author of three novels: *L'albero del mondo* (The World Tree) (2012), *Il destino del papa russo* (The Fate of the Russian Pope) (2016), and *Diario dell'ultima notte. Ciano-Mussolini, lo scontro finale* (Last Night Diary: Ciano-Mussolini, The Final Battle) (2021). He has won the Acqui Award, the Riviera delle Palme Award and the Semeria - Casinò di Sanremo prize for his work. His latest book is *Lo Stivale e il Cupolone. Italia-Vaticano una coppia in crisi* (The Boot and the Dome: Italy-Vatican, a Couple in Crisis) (2022).

He has also worked in television, as Deputy Director of Tg1 and later Director of Tg2, Raiuno and RAI Sport. In June 2023, Mazza was appointed Extraordinary Commissioner of the Government for the coordination of activities related to Italy's participation as Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2024.



PAOLA PASSARELLI

Director General of the Ministry of Culture - General Directorate of Libraries and Copyright

Paola Passarelli, born in Naples, graduated with honours in law from the Federico II University of Naples. She specialised in civil law and obtained a doctorate in canonical law before practicing as a lawyer. She has been registered as a labour arbitrator with the *Arbitration Chamber* of Campania since 2005 and is a prosecutor at the Roman Rota (the highest appeals court for all judicial trials in the Catholic Church) since July 2006.

Since December 2017, she has been the Director General of the General Directorate of Libraries and Copyright at the Italian Ministry of Culture. She oversees intellectual property and copyright issues, state public libraries and national bibliographic and library services, the protection and enhancement of the book collection and the promotion of books and reading. She also supervises and provides advice to the Italian Society of Authors and Publishers (SIAE).



ARMANDO VARRICCHIO

Italian Ambassador in Germany

On June 21, 2021 Armando Varricchio presented his credentials as Ambassador of Italy to the Federal Republic of Germany after having served as Ambassador of Italy to the United States from March 2016.

Ambassador Varricchio focused in particular on European and transatlantic affairs during his years at the Italian Representation to the European Union, as Head of Cabinet of the Minister for European Affairs and Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the European Commission.

While Chief Diplomatic Advisor to the Presidents of the Council of Ministers Enrico Letta and Matteo Renzi, and Deputy Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the Republic, Giorgio Napolitano, he handled some of the most delicate international dossiers, with a particular focus on security issues.

He has a specific expertise in the field of global issues, especially concerning economic and financial matters, as he served as Personal Representative (“Sherpa”) at G7/8 and G20 summits both at a national and a European level.

Formerly Ambassador to Belgrade, before that he also served as Head of the Economic, Trade and Scientific Affairs Department at the Italian Embassy in Washington D.C. As a young diplomat he has lived in Budapest during the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet Union.

Ambassador Varricchio graduated in International Relations from the University of Padua (Summa con Laude), entered the Foreign Service in 1986 and was promoted to the rank of Ambassador in 2014. Prior to embarking on the diplomatic career, he worked in the private sector as Assistant to the Director of the Finance Section of the Marzotto Textile Group.

He has been married to Micaela Barbagallo since 1987, and has two sons, Federico and Umberto. An avid reader, he is a keen cinema fan and plays various sports.

Ambassador Varricchio has been bestowed with the highest Italian award, Knight of the Grand Cross, as well as with numerous honors from foreign countries.



INNOCENZO CIPOLLETTA

President of the Italian Publishers Association

Innocenzo Cipolletta has been Chairman of the Italian Publishers Association (AIE) since 28 September 2023. He is also President of Confindustria Cultura Italia, President of the Italian Association of Private Equity, Venture Capital and Private Debt (AIFI) and a Member of the Board of Directors of Laterza S.p.A.

An economist and university lecturer, he has previously held the post of President at the Association of Creative and Cultural Enterprises (AICC), Assonime, the University of Trento, the Italian National Railway, Ubs Italia, and the newspaper *Il Sole 24 Ore*. In addition, he has been Commissioner of the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome and General Manager of Confindustria.

He has also worked as an officer and director at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the National Institute for Economic Study and Analysis (ISCO) earlier in his career.



Credits: Stefania Malapelle

RENATA GORGANI

Vice-President of the Italian Publishers Association

Renata Gorgani has been Vice President of the Italian Publishers Association (AIE) and President of the Varia Group since 28 September 2023.

She is Managing Director of *Editrice Il Castoro*, which she founded with Pico Floridi and other partners in 1993.

She has been a board member of the *Sonda* publishing house since 2017 and of *Tunué* publishers since 2018. She has also been president of the *Libreria delle Ragazze e dei Ragazzi* of Milan since 2007 and of Brescia since 2010.

Gorgani has been a member of the Board of Directors of the *Centro per il Libro e la Lettura* from 2020 to 2023.

In September 2016, she was appointed president of *La Fabbrica del Libro S.p.A.*, and was the coordinator of the Scientific Committee of the first edition of *Tempo di Libri*. From 2005 to 2010, Gorgani conceived and directed Milan's *Quantestorie* Book Fair for children and teenagers.

Prior to founding *Il Castoro*, she worked for *Guerini and Associates*, *Bollati Boringhieri*, and *Il Saggiatore*, and as a journalist and translator.

She holds a diploma in Modern Literature from the University of Milan, and lives and works in the city.



Credits: Isabella De Maddalena

INCORONATA BOCCIA

Vice-Director TG1, RAI

Incoronata Boccia is Deputy Director of Italian national broadcaster RAI's flagship channel, Tg1.

She was born in the Province of Oristano and graduated in Communication Sciences from Rome Sapienza, before embarking on a career in journalism, first at Tg5, directed by Enrico Mentana, then at RAI, where she was a correspondent of the popular programme *La Vita in Diretta*.

She worked at the Sardinian desk of RAI's Testata Giornalistica Regionale, and ran *Weekly*, Rai1's news programme. Boccia also developed and ran a journalistic analysis segment for the programme *Ben detto!* on Isoradio Rai. In addition, she is a lecturer on the MA programme "Communication in public administration" at Nicolò Cusano University and a member of the National Observatory for Integrating Gender Equality Policies.

Furthermore, she has held leadership positions in the RAI journalists' union.

