



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



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## MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP: DEVELOPMENTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF POLICY AND PRACTICE

*Final conference of the project MIG.EN.CUBE*

**27<sup>TH</sup> 2023 - SALA BORSA, PIAZZA DEL NETTUNO 3, BOLOGNA**

The conference is a **policy-practice-academic forum** aiming to discuss entrepreneurial support initiatives and policy initiatives undertaken to diverse migrant entrepreneurs. It is organized as a two-day event: the first day is open to multi-stakeholder interaction, and the second day is focused on academic papers.

### **27<sup>TH</sup> Morning session:**

#### **10:00-10:10 Institutional greetings**



Professor **Angelo Paletta** is Director, Department of Management, Alma Mater Studiorum, Università di Bologna. teaches and researches on Internal controls, Cost Management; Corporate performance measurement, Corporate bankruptcy and turnaround, Public Management, Educational Leadership, Governance and accountability of Universities; Circular economy and business models. He is currently coordinator of the European Horizon 2020 project "Developing and Implementing Sustainability-Based Solutions for Bio-Based Plastic Production and Use to Preserve Land and Sea Environmental Quality in Europe



Professor **Cristina de Maria** (Rector's Delegate for Equity Diversity and Inclusion, Alma Mater Studiorum-Università di Bologna). I graduated in Drama, Art and Music Studies at the University of Bologna in 1992, and I have obtained a PhD in Semiotics in 1996 at the same University. Since my PhD thesis, my research interests focus on gender and cultural studies in their overlaps with a semiotic perspective on cultural dynamics, along with their formations, articulations and interpretations. Nowadays, my research interests are still centered on feminist theories and the representations of gendered identities in the media. I have been working also for many years on cultural memory, post-conflict memories and the genres of testimony, and on the spaces and places of commemoration.

### 10:10-10:25 Introducing the conference and the project MIG.EN.CUBE:



**Daniela Bolzani** is Associate Professor, Department of Management, Alma Mater Studiorum, Università di Bologna and MIG.EN.CUBE principal investigator. After 5 years of work in the domain of financial audit and of development cooperation in Europe and Africa, Daniela obtained a Ph.D. in Business Management (2013). She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Departments of Business and Educational Sciences of UNIBO (2013-2017), a Junior Assistant Professor in Management at the Università Cattolica in Milan (2017-2020) and at the University of Bologna (2020-2023). She is currently an Associate Professor in Management at the University of Bologna. She was a visiting scholar at Leeds School of Business, University of Colorado (2013) and HEC Paris (2016); and visiting professor at JUNIA-ISA (2022 and 2023). Her research concerns entrepreneurial decision-making with a focus on diversity (e.g., culture, gender) and social inclusion. Her research has been published in international journals such as the Journal of Business Venturing, Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal, Small Business Economics, International Journal of Management Reviews, Entrepreneurship and Regional Development, Journal of Technology Transfer. She coordinates and is a member of numerous European and national projects on these issues and has been a consultant for the OECD and UN-IOM.

### 10:25-10:40 Reflections on local public policies, international mobility and entrepreneurship



**Rosa Grimaldi** is full Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management at Alma Mater Studiorum, Università di Bologna (Bologna, Italy). She is Deputy Major in Bologna for Innovation, Attractiveness and Economic promotion. She is also the Director of the Executive Master in Technology and Innovation Management (EMTIM) at BBS (Bologna Business School – University of Bologna), a one-year program targeting executives of the most important innovative industries and SMEs. She is on the board of directors of MAPS SpA (2021-now) and BolognaFiere SpA (2022-now).

From 2014 to 2016 she has been the Coordinator of the International PhD in Management at the University of Bologna. From November 2015 to October 2021 she has been Vice Rector for Entrepreneurship and Relations with Companies at the University of Bologna.



Regional Government Officer-**Gianluca Baldoni** studied economics in Modena. He is currently employed in the Government of Emilia-Romagna Region (Italy), in the department of Investment attraction, and internationalisation where He is in charge of managing the regional financial measures supporting companies' internationalisation and of international promotion of regional economy.

### 10:40-10:55 Keynote speaker:



**David Halabisky** is a project co-ordinator in the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities. He is currently working on several projects related to entrepreneurship policy, including a multi-year project on inclusive entrepreneurship and is the main author of the Missing Entrepreneurs reports. Prior to joining the OECD in 2011, David worked for more than a decade in the Canadian Public Service where he worked on SME policy at the Federal Ministries of Industry, Finance and Labour. Mr. Halabisky has won several awards during his career, including a Best Paper Prize from the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada. He has degrees in economics from the University of British Columbia and McMaster University.

### 10:55-11:20 Keynote speaker:



Professor **Monder Ram** OBE is the Director of the Centre for Research in Ethnic Minority Entrepreneurship (CREME) at Aston University. One of the foremost international scholars researching ethnic minority entrepreneurship, Prof Monder Ram's work has helped to shape the field over the past 3 decades. From his considerable research output to the founding of the Centre for Research in Ethnic Minority Entrepreneurship, Prof Ram has become established as a leading scholar and impactful researcher. His commitment to engaged scholarship has resulted in several social science inspired initiatives that have benefited diverse and overlooked communities. His research outputs are complemented by a lengthy record of external research funding awards from prestigious sources such as ESRC, NERC and Low Pay Commission as well as from national and regional public bodies. Prof. Ram has held visiting Professorships at Lund University and Turku University in Finland. He serves as an advisor to the All Party Parliamentary Group for BAME Business Owners and is a member of the Ethnic Minority Business Group at the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

## 1:20-12:30 Panel discussion



**Shawgi Ahmed** works as the Director of the public Leadership department with PLACE Network, a Paris-based start-up that unlocks the hidden opportunities of newcomer talent in Europe. And he is also the co-founder of Emerging Leaders, which is a next-generation acceleration program for newcomers with a strong ambition to penetrate strategic networks and influence the fields of civil society along with public leadership in Europe.

He has an MBA degree in Innovation Management from Ecole des Ponts et Chausses in Paris, France.



**Chiara Davalli** – EBN, European Business and Innovation Centre Network. Chiara is Impact Manager at EBN. She develops and manages several EU funded projects supporting innovative entrepreneurship in different fields, defining better tools, methodologies and policies to support impact-driven innovation in Europe and beyond. Chiara works closely with European and non-European incubators, accelerators and clusters to define better innovation support mechanisms at regional, national, European and international level. She is a mentor for early-stage impact driven startups. Chiara works on international collaborative programmes with partners in Africa, Lebanon, India and Brazil: she is responsible for the BIC Africa Acceleration Programme for Women Entrepreneurs, and she is Advisory Board member of ENRICH in LAC Association. She is passionate about social and responsible innovation, and social and inclusive entrepreneurship: she coordinated the Better Incubation programme and she is in charge of the EBN Social Economy Special Interest Group that counts today more than 45 members from 16 countries.



Italian by Nationality and global in outlook, **Patrick Landi** is an investment professional with track record in Private Equity, Venture Capital, Impact Investing, Fund Management and Investment Banking. In the past two decades he has executed and facilitated financial transactions in over 20 countries around the globe. Thus developing the ability to build and scale both buy-side and sell-side financial sector business and gaining extensive experience and footprint in both developed and developing Markets with a particular Attention to Africa and Impact Investing.





**Silsila Mahboub** is participating to the conference as a nominated representative of EU-COMAR - European Coalition for Migrants and Refugees. Silsila is from Afghanistan, living in Bulgaria for more than eight years. An student of economics, writer, entrepreneur, and singer. Silsila is working with different organizations who help refugees in the process of integration. She is a Community Manager in Refugee Advisory Board.



**Vira Mistry** is an intersectional feminist, international consultant and development professional from India. She has a Masters in International Development and a Masters in International Relations. Her work has focused on the areas of gender, diversity and inclusion and youth participation. her background includes grassroots activism, entrepreneurship and with International NGOs. She believes in an interdisciplinary approach to her work, with experience in project coordination, research, designing educational material and workshops, grassroots activism and movement building. Through this she seeks to find meaningful and sustainable solutions in the areas of anti-racism, safeguarding, youth participation and gender to address and unpack structures of power.



**Giuseppe Torluccio** is an Ordinary Professor of Banking and Finance at the University of Bologna. He was appointed as a faculty of centre of excellence at the University of Bologna. Giuseppe is involved in consulting and has authored publications in financial intermediation, management and social business financing. He earned an MBA at the Olin Business School – Washington University in St. Louis. He was a Director of Master Financial Markets and Intermediaries, and PhD program in banking and finance at the University of Bologna. He is involved in many social studies and related activities, as Director of Yunus Social Business Centre – University of Bologna and as a Vice president of Grameen Italia Foundation.



**Marina Sarli** has a long career as EU fundraiser, project manager, trainer and consultant.

Born in Potenza (IT) and living in Athens (GR) since early 2000s, she has more than 20 years of work into EU programs mainly focusing on the thematic fields of social entrepreneurship, inclusive societies, global citizenship education, advocacy for change and double transition.

Since 2016 she covers the role of EU Programs Lead of the Impact Hub Network also coordinating the work of the Network's EU Cluster for a strategic approach to EU institutional funds.

In her career she was the General Director of the established Greek Youth Organisation Elix, until 2009. In 2002 she founded Fair Trade Hellas, the first Fair Trade Association in Greece, while in 2009 - after the birth of her daughter Chiara - she started her freelance career.

She has been active in consultancy, training, advocacy and governance into the European Development Cooperation Sector (covering two mandates for the 3-years international board of the Concord Confederation of European Association for Development and Relief), and she has just joined the governance body of SOS Méditerranée Italy.

For Impact Hub she is coordinating and managing, among others, Mig.En.Cube project.