



PRESS RELEASE

## THE CONVENTION STELLINE 2021 “INTERNET, A PLACE TO PROMOTE READING” HAS ENDED

Milan, 1st October 2021.

More than 3,000 participants for the 118 events which took place during the four stages of this 26th edition, 2,300 people registered on the online platform and about 700 people physically present at milanese kermesse, the only one in which it was possible to participate in person: these are the figures of the convention ended yesterday evening at Palazzo delle Stelline.

With 120 speakers from all over the world, including Norway, Czech Republic, Germany, Slovenia, Netherlands, Belgium, United States, Greece and UK, the international dialogue has been one of the key points of the 2021 edition. The numbers of the Convegno Stelline Biblioteche 2021 are quite significant and they were not easily predictable only a few months ago: “These long months of forced pause and inactivity have been an opportunity to change perspectives and activities - says **Sara Speciani**, C.E.O. of Editrice Bibliografica, amongst the organizers of the event, together with the Association Biblioteche oggi - It was important to take the courage and "dare" this 2021 edition, in order to discover that we were right in deciding to organize the event both in presence and in the virtual format, notwithstanding all the involved difficulties. We wanted to offer the widest range of solutions, with the opportunity to participate online, to ask questions and interact with the speakers on one hand, and the possibility to come back to meet in person, to exchange experiences and to visit the exhibitors' booths, on the other: the figures and the first feedbacks we are already receiving seem to prove we were right”.

Amongst the speakers, many famous names, from the philosopher **David Weinberger** to the writer and Director of the Salone del libro of Turin, **Nicola Lagioia**, from **Paul Ayriss**, Vice Director of the London 'University College to **David Lankes**, author of texts which revolutionized the approach to the librarianship, one of which has been translated into Italian and published in the middle of Covid era: “Biblioteche innovative in un mondo che cambia (Editrice Bibliografica, 2020)”.

Yesterday, during the final day of the Convention, a **focus about the literature for teens**, achieved thanks to the scientific coordination of the Sistema bibliotecario di Milano, partner of the Convention, gave the opportunity to exchange experiences from Norway, UK, Poland and Spain. The key concepts were creativity, relationship and digital as engines for the promotion of reading amongst the teenagers. “The main mistake is thinking of the Web or the social network and the entertainment experiences as something that keeps boys and

girls away from reading – observed **Elena Traina, from Norfolk Library and Information Service (UK)** –. However, asking a teenager to choose between creativity and reading is like asking him or her if they prefer to eat or to drink”.

“The experiences heard so far highlight the growing importance of the relationship between reading books and the Web – added **Stefano Parise, Director of the Area Biblioteche for the Milan Municipality** – especially for the young sections of the population. Despite the opposition still present in our field, the Web’s role as cultural environment is now so evident that the Centre National du Livre chose it as primary place to promote the reading. And now that the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities is working at the first National Plan for the promoting of reading, this represents a solicitation that we address directly to the National Book Center in Rome”.

Developed to meet the needs of new ways of interacting during the pandemic, the platform PEx (Punto Exhibition) made it possible a direct discussion with the audience, thanks to its interactive features, as well as the realization of further moments of deepening. Just to name a few, the Convegno Scuola (Convention about the School) and Convegno Archivi (Convention about Archives), two important moments to take stock of school libraries and the state of archives.

The “Convegno scuola: lettura e biblioteche a scuola” (Convention about the School: Reading and Libraries at School) hosted the panel ““La biblioteca scolastica oggi: riflessioni e suggerimenti per docenti, insegnanti ed educatori” (School libraries today: reflections and suggestions for teachers and educators); in which took part Amalia Maria Amendola - Cepell, Maria Greco – Cepell, Paola Pala – MLOL, Loredana Perego - Forum del libro, Luigi Catalani – Wikimedia, Tiziana Cerrato - Coordinamento delle reti di biblioteche scolastiche e Daniela Poli - Aie #ioleggoperché.

“Archivi leggeri, anzi leggerissimi” (Smart Archives) with the scientific direction of Gabriele Locatelli and Lorenzo Pezzica, has been the opportunity for a first assessment of the output coming from the different innovative experiences of narration and fruition by the community, undertaken by the archives during the epidemiological emergency.

-----

## [PRESS AREA](#)

### **Press Office Convegno Stelline**

Maria Vittoria Gatti - mavi.gatti@mvgpress.it; 329.4219258 Paola Chini -  
ufficiostampa@bibliografica.it; 02.84253051