



Asilomar 1975-2025: EMBO, EMBL and the Politics of Scientific Expertise

Prof. Francesco Cassata

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About the speaker

Francesco Cassata is Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Genoa. In November 2022, he was granted a 3-year secondment at the Centro Linceo "Beniamino Segre" of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, on a research project on the early history of EMBO/EMBC/EMBL.



He has published on the history of eugenics and scientific racism, on the history of the "Lysenko controversy", on the history of molecular biology in Italy (particularly, the EMBO founder Adriano Buzzati-Traverso and the International Laboratory of Genetics and Biophysics in Naples).

On the history of EMBO and EMBC, he has published: "A Cold Spring Harbor in Europe". EURATOM, UNESCO, and the Foundation of EMBO", (*Journal of the History of Biology*, 2015); "A 'heavy hammer to crack a small nut'? The creation of the European Molecular Biology Conference (EMBC), 1963–1970", (*Annals of Science*, 2024).

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