

EUROPEAN CAPITAL
OF INNOVATION AWARDS

& EUROCITIES ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT FORUM



COMPLETE AGENDA

CITIES INNOVATE
SUMMIT

3-4 DECEMBER 2025
OGR TORINO — TORINO, ITALY

AN EVENT BY



European
Innovation
Council



THE EUROPEAN
CAPITAL OF
INNOVATION

WITH THE SUPPORT OF



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3-4 DECEMBER 2025

**OGR Torino,
Corso Castelfidardo 22,
Torino**

START DATE AND TIME

Wednesday 3 December 2025, 09.00 (CET)

END DATE AND TIME

Thursday 4 December 2025, 17:00 (CET)

MAIN VENUE

OGR Torino, Corso Castelfidardo 22, Torino

The **2025 European Capital of Innovation Awards Ceremony** will be hosted by the **City of Torino**, as the current title holder, and embedded within a two-day European **conference on urban innovation and competitiveness**, namely the “Cities Innovate Summit”, co-organised with the **European Innovation Council (EIC) and EISMEA**, in collaboration with **Eurocities**.

Held on **3-4 December 2025 at OGR Torino**, the event will combine political dialogue, technical discussions and on-site visits, engaging city leaders, EU institutions, researchers, and innovators. A key highlight will be the **11th iCapital Awards Ceremony**, recognizing cities with inclusive innovation ecosystems as well the Eurocities Economic Development Forum.

DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2025

EUROCITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM *(Eurocities members only)*

8:30 — 10:30

FOYER FUCINE

REGISTRATION

9:00 — 10:00

TECA B

EDF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

10:30 — 12:30

OGR TECH

PARALLEL WG MEETINGS

WG INNOVATION AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

MEZZANINO

WG CITY BRANDING AND
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

DIDATTICA

WG PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

TECA B

12:30

EUROCITIES GROUP PICTURE

12:30 — 13:30

DUOMO

LUNCH AT DUOMO

CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT
DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY
3 DECEMBER 2025



CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT

13:30 — 14:00

FOYER FUCINE

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

14:00 — 14:05

BINARIO 3

WELCOME

Presenter and Welcome speech of Day 1:

FABIO SGARAGLI, President Open Lab and Gate Real Estate Innovation
with **CLAUDIO ALBANESE**, Vice President of Fondazione CRT

14:05 — 14:30

BINARIO 3

OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONAL OPENING OF THE “CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT”

STEFANO LO RUSSO, Mayor of Torino

VINCENT LANGUILLE, Councillor for European & International Affairs,
Aix Marseille Provence Metropole, EDF Political Chair

SOFYAN MBARKI, Deputy Mayor, City of Amsterdam,
EDF Political Vice-Chair (*video message*)

ANDRÉ SOBCZAK, Eurocities Secretary General

14:30 — 14:40

BINARIO 3

TORINO, EUROPEAN INNOVATION CAPITAL 2025 “Winning through Innovation, Growing through Collaboration, Lasting through Legacy”

CHIARA FOGLIETTA, Deputy Mayor for Innovation, City of Torino
showcasing how Europe’s Innovation Capital is turning bold ideas
into lasting change

CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT

**DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY
3 DECEMBER 2025**



14:40 — 15:00

BINARIO 3

INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEECH

on the transformative role of cities to drive sustainable innovation and improved quality of life in Europe and beyond

GAVIN POOLE, CEO, Here East London

Gavin Poole will present Here East as a model of innovation-driven urban regeneration, born from London's Olympic legacy and now a European benchmark. The keynote distils transferable lessons for European cities on aligning industrial competitiveness with climate resilience and social impact through an "innovation-by-design" approach.

15:00 — 16:15

BINARIO 3

**HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE | FROM COAL TO CODE:
HOW CITIES DRIVE EUROPE'S FUTURE COMPETITIVENESS**

A multistakeholder dialogue on how cities drive Europe's green and industrial transition, enabling a competitive, sustainable, innovation-based economy. The roundtable will explore how place-based strategies, EU funding and ecosystem collaboration allow cities to turn societal challenges into economic opportunities.

Featured Speakers:

TEEMU HAAPALEHTO, Director for Economic Development, City of Espoo

MARCO GAY, President of Unione Industriali

WILLEM VAN WINDEN, Professor of knowledge-based economy, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

FRANCESCA DORIA, Head of Unit EU & place-based Innovation Ecosystems, EISMEA

ALBERTO ANFOSSI, Secretary General, Compagnia di Sanpaolo and European Commission Expert

16:15 — 16:20

CLOSING OF THE PLENARY PART OF DAY 1

16:20 — 16:45

BINARIO 3

COFFEE BREAK AND TRANSFER TO OTHER ROOMS

CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT

**DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY
3 DECEMBER 2025**



16:45 — 18:15

PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS

**1. SCALING URBAN INDUSTRIAL
TRANSITIONS: MODELS AND TOOLS**

**OGR TECH
DIDATTICA**

Moderator: **KATHERINE OLIVER**, Principal at Bloomberg Associates

YVONNE RAMDIN TRIP, Innovation Lead, City of Rotterdam
HARRI AIRAKSINEN, Director of EU Affairs, Tampere Region EU Office
COLIN SINCLAIR, CEO KQ Liverpool and Sciontec Developments
Limited, Chair Invest Liverpool City Region Taskforce

**2. ATTRACTION AND RETENTION:
HOW TO MAKE LIVEABLE AND MAGNETIC
CITIES FORTALENTS AND INVESTMENTS**

BINARIO 3

Moderator: **PAOLA BABOS**, Adjunct Director, ITC/ILO

YESENIA OTAMENDI, Head of International Affairs, City of San Sebastian
BAS BEEKMAN, Managing Director Amsterdam International Business,
City of Amsterdam
FRANCESCA VILLANI, Economic development officer for Talent
Attraction & Retention, Investment promotion, Metropolitan City of Bologna
MATTEO PESSIONE, OGR Torino for Torino Talent Gateway

**3. AI, DATA AND GOVERNANCE
FOR URBAN TRANSITIONS**

DUOMO

Moderator: **HUBERT BEROUCHE**, Urban AI

SONJA WILKENS, Teamleader Startup and Funding, City of Mannheim
KALOYAN KARAMITOV, GATE - Sofia City Living Lab Manager, Gate,
Sofia University “Big Data for Smart Society” Institute
WIM DE KINDEREN, Programme Director European Affairs
at Brainport Development
FIORENZA SUCCU, Chief Evangelist, Ai4Industry Foundation

CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT

**DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY
3 DECEMBER 2025**



**4. FUNDING THE TRANSITION: SUSTAINABLE
FINANCE FOR LOCAL INNOVATION**

**OGR TECH
MEZZANINO**

Moderator: **THOMAS PROROK**, Director at KDZ Centre for Public Administration Research

MATTHIEU GUERLAIN, Finance Director, City of Bordeaux & Bordeaux Métropole

GUILLAUME TOURNAIRE, European Affairs policy officer, Grenoble-Alpes-Métropole

FILIFE SILVA FERNANDES, Advisor to the Mayor, City of Braga

TOMMASO BUSO, Associate at Bankers Without Boundaries

5. (UPON INVITATION ONLY)

**POLITICAL ROUNDTABLE | “UNLOCKING
URBAN TRANSITIONS: THE ROLE OF THE
MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK”**

**OGR TECH
TECA B**

18:15 — 18:30

CLOSING REMARKS & NETWORKING INVITATION

18:30 — 20:00

RECHARGING BREAK

20:00 — 22:30

SNODO

**NETWORKING DINNER AT SNODO IN OGR
(Room Ristoro and Room Dopolavoro)**

DAY 2 - THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 2025

iCAPITAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Moderator: **VERONICA MAFFEI**, Journalist, U.S. correspondent

08:30 — 09:30

**REGISTRATION
WELCOME COFFEE**

**FOYER
BINARIO 3**

09:30 — 10:15

BINARIO 3

WELCOME ADDRESS

VERONICA MAFFEI, Journalist, U.S. correspondent
DAVIDE CANAVESIO, President of OGR Torino

OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONAL OPENING

STEFANO LO RUSSO, Mayor of The City of Torino
PIERFRANCESCO MARAN, Member of the European Parliament
MOMCHIL SABEV, EISMEA Director
FRANCESCO PROFUMO, EIC Board member
ANDRE SOBCZAK, Secretary General, Eurocities

10:15 — 11:00

BINARIO 3

**“CITIES AS INNOVATION PLATFORMS: EMERGING
FUNCTIONS, EVOLVING GOVERNANCE AND ALLIANCES
FOR IMPACT”**

A panel discussion moderated by Veronica Maffei, with Professor **FRANCESCO PROFUMO**, EIC Board Member, and representatives of the finalists of the European Innovation Capital Awards 2026, namely:

LASSE FRIMAND JENSEN, Mayor, City of Aalborg
FLORENT CHOLAT, Councillor of Grenoble Alpes Métropole
MICAELLA KYTHREOTI MHLABA, Municipal Councillor of Nicosia
ANDREW LEWIS, City Council’s Chief Executive, Liverpool
JON INSAUSTI MAISTERRENA, Mayor, City of San Sebastian
MAAIKE VAN ASTEN, Director of Economic & Sustainability Affairs, acting as City Manager, City of Rotterdam

CITIES INNOVATE SUMMIT
DAY 2 - THURSDAY
4 DECEMBER 2025



11:00 — 11:30

BINARIO 3

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 — 12:00

BINARIO 3

AWARDS CEREMONY

The ceremony will be opened and supported by **MOMCHIL SABEV**, EISMEA Director and **STEFANO LO RUSSO**, Mayor of The City of Torino and will host political representatives of the Finalists Cities.

12:00 — 12:30 **BINARIO 3**

CLOSING EUROCITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Moderator: **ANDRE SOBCZAK**,
Secretary General, Eurocities

CHIARA FOGLIETTA,
Deputy Mayor City of Torino
VINCENT LANGUILLE,
Metropolitan Councillor for European
& International Affairs of Aix Marseille
Provence Metropole
NADIA QUEVEDO,
Commissioner for Economic
Promotion, Commerce and
Hospitality of the City of Barcelona

12:00 — 12:30

DUOMO

PRESS CONFERENCE

Reserved session — access restricted to finalist city delegations and media representatives.

12:30 — 14:00

SNODO

LUNCH BREAK (Room Ristoro and Room Dopolavoro)

14:00 — 14:30

TRANSFER TO SITE VISITS

14:30 — 17:00

STUDY VISITS*

17:00 — 17:30

TRANSFER TO OGR



***STUDY VISITS**

Four thematic study visits will offer participants a deep dive into key areas of innovation, industrial transition, and social cohesion in Torino.

Each itinerary includes site visits, meetings with local actors, and exploration of replicable best practices in urban development.

OBJECTIVES

Offer participants an immersive experience of local innovations.

Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices among participants.

Promote the excellence of Piedmont and Torino in the field of urban innovation.

Below the detail of the 4 optional study visits.

1. POST-INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION AND URBAN DECARBONISATION

This visit explores the transformation of post-industrial areas into sustainable urban models.

ENVIRONMENT PARK (ENVIPARK)

A leading hub for green economy and environmental technologies

PARCO DORA

A former industrial zone converted into a major public green space, symbolizing urban decarbonisation and regeneration

Activities:

- Guided visit to Envipark's facilities and innovative projects
- "Walkshop" in Parco Dora showcasing green infrastructure and reclaimed public



2. MOBILITY 5.0: FROM RESEARCH TO REAL-WORLD TESTING

A look at the future of mobility through the lens of research, experimentation, and industry — without forgetting Torino's automotive heritage, from its iconic museums to its evolving urban landscapes.

CAMPUS LUIGI EINAUDI

Test & dialogue with local key partner engaged into the current “AuToMove” autonomous collective on demand shuttle service operated at the University of Torino Premises.

MUSEO DELL'AUTO

Iconic Museum now hosting a “Future Mobility” room and providing space for further dialogue with local mobility key actors.

PISTA LINGOTTO

An iconic site now repurposed for public use.

Activities:

- Lab tours and live demonstrations of applied technologies
 - Presentations on smart mobility projects
- Discussion on policy frameworks and urban testbeds for future mobility
 - Iconic site visits on past automotive industrial site in Torino

3. STARTUPS AND TALENT ATTRACTION

An itinerary centered on Torino's entrepreneurial ecosystem and strategies to attract and retain talent.

POLITECNICO DI TORINO

Support structures for technology-based entrepreneurship

OGR TECH

Innovation hub hosting startups focused on AI and emerging tech

ISPIC

(Intesa San Paolo Innovation Center)

Activities:

- Meetings with startups and innovation program managers
 - Exchange on talent attraction policies in Torino



4. SOCIAL INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Exploration of community-based innovation, civic engagement, and hybrid welfare models.

SOCIALFARE

Italy's first center for social innovation and impact acceleration

CASA DEL QUARTIERE DI SAN SALVARIO

A civic hub supporting grassroots regeneration and community-driven services

Activities:

- Presentations on social impact projects and blended financing models
- Interaction with practitioners, activists, and community members
- Discussion on collaborative governance and city-citizen pacts



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