

8th TRUST Project Meeting, Ancona, 17-18 Feb 2025

Ancona, Italy, February 2025

The Partners of the Project TRUST “*digital TuRn in EUrope: Strengthening relational reliance through Technology*” coordinated by **Francesca Spigarelli** from UniMC, gathered on 17th-18th February in Ancona for the 8th Scientific Board and 8th Steering Committee Meetings. The event was organized in collaboration with the academic partner Università Politecnica delle Marche.

The agenda began with the **8th Scientific Board** and the **8th Steering Committee meetings**, which focused on the ongoing state of the art, the scientific achievements and the collaborative effort across various work packages to foster young researchers’ development and to conduct dissemination, knowledge sharing and outreach activities. These discussions underscored the strong intersectoral cooperation among the partners and the interdisciplinary collaboration between legal, technical and social science fields involved in the project.

A series of events then followed, representing a great opportunity to allow knowledge exchange and boost stakeholder engagement.

First, **Barbara Chiuconi** from UniMC presented the **CARDEA Project** “*Career Acknowledgment for Research (Managers) Delivering for the EU Area*”, dedicated to the improvement of the European Research & Innovation system by strengthening the capacity for research management in EU public research organisations.

The **national workshop** and the **3rd interdisciplinary roundtable** were devoted to the challenges presented by blockchain and distributed ledger technology since their inception, presented by **Marco Baldi** from UNIVPM. A focus group then followed to launch an open discussion on AI and BCT led by **Adriano Mancini**, from UNIVPM and Trust WP3 Leader.

The **6th Brokerage event** welcomed as speakers **Giorgio Guidi** and **Giulio Brandimarti**. Guidi is founder and CEO of The Hive, a start-up and business accelerator with a core mission on Innovation and New Technologies including BCT and AI. He also act as President of the network of incubators of Central Italy (Incentro). **Giulio Brandimarti** is CEO and Co-founder of Solidity2, which develops innovative services and systems adopting BCT, AI solutions and smart contracts in numerous business models and fields.

On day two, the Trust Partners met to discuss **opportunities for new collaborations** with the aim of developing R&I activities **leveraging on the scientific results of the TRUST project**.

This was followed by the opening of the **TRUST Winter School on Blockchain Technology (BCT) and Entrepreneurship**, organized in collaboration with the PhD Course in Technology Transfer and Innovation of UNIVPM and with the PhD Course in Law and Innovation of UNIMC. The winter school, opened by **Francesca Spigarelli**, was structured in two sessions.

The first dedicated to the traceability of the supply chain in Made in Italy sectors, with the contributions of **Martina Orci** from UNIVPM, **Michele Ferrato**, Export Manager of Campo S.C.A., **Lorenzo Settimi**, Key Accounts, Marketing & Communication of Mancini Pastificio Agricolo and **Cosimo Savio**, CEO of Savio Firmino S.r.l.

The second, introduced by **Valentina Giannini** from UNIVPM and dedicated to start-ups and enterprises specialized in the development of BCT, featured **Alessandro Chelli**, CEO and Co-Founder of Trusty S.r.l., **Giulio Brandimarti**, CEO of Solidity2 srl and **Carla Brugulat Rica**, CEO of the TRUST partner Eseleos S.L.

The Winter School enabled networking between the TRUST research team and entrepreneurs, whilst giving an opportunity to the PhD students to better understand how BCTs are reshaping businesses and start-ups in the marketplace.

The Project Partners will meet again with stakeholders and entrepreneurs during the **TRUST final conference** that will be held in **Osaka**, Japan during the **Expo 2025**.