



**EUROPEAN MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION (EUMA)  
EUROPEAN HIKING ASSOCIATION (ERA)**

In close cooperation with  
**CLUB ALPINO ITALIANO (CAI)**

organise  
**The 4<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN TRAILS AND PATHS CONFERENCE**

9 - 12 October 2025,  
Macugnaga, Italy

**Organising and Executive Committee**

Josef Klenner	EUMA President
Boris Mičić	ERA President
Steen Kobberø-Hansen	ERA Board member, E-path WG chairman
Angelo Latorre	ERA Board member
Bojan Rotovnik	EUMA Expert Group "Trails"
Antonio Montani	EUMA Board member
Andreas Aschaber	EUMA Secretary General
Valeria Sartori	CAI International Cooperation working group
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Edeltraud Haag	EUMA Administrative support
Jana Harnochová	ERA Administrative support
Iulia Cianfrone	CAI Administrative support

**Objectives**

The conference aims to promote a deeper understanding and wider adoption of digital technologies and tools in trail management – both to improve access to information for users and to support the sustainability of natural trail environments for those who manage and safeguard them.

Specific attention will be given to encouraging the use of digital tools by trail users, such as mobile apps and online maps, which can enhance the hiking experience and foster more responsible outdoor practices.

In doing so - especially thanks to the participation of trail experts, walking and hiking network professionals, and key institutional stakeholders - the conference wants to foster the discussion aiming at creating a common framework on what we mean by “trails” in today’s context, to align definitions with modern needs and facilitating recognition and funding opportunities at the European level.

Finally, the conference has the ambition to serve as a platform for exchanging best practices in addressing the challenges of overtourism through digital solutions, helping to preserve the integrity and longevity of natural landscapes.

## Key Themes

The Conference is articulated around the following topics:

- **Digitization & digitalization:** Exploring the role of digital tools in enhancing trail sustainability and managing trail databases.
- **Overtourism:** Implementing strategies to mitigate the effects of high visitor numbers on popular trails through digital innovations.
- **Common “trail” framework:** Recommendations and proposals to update and harmonize trail definitions, aiming to foster shared understanding among stakeholders and stronger alignment with European-level policies.

## Conference outcomes

The conference aims to support sustainable trail management practices and policies through digital innovation.

Fostering connections among European trail managers and enhancing knowledge-sharing across borders would be achieved, and it would allow **proposals for updating trail definitions** to align with EU policies and facilitate access to funding opportunities. Another key output will be the creation of a **digital database** collecting best practices and solutions to address overtourism on trails.

Participants will also have the chance to discover the added value of **digital tools for trail management**, such as Webmapp, EUMA, and ERA E-paths, which support the efficient organization and sharing of trail data. In addition, real-time monitoring systems will be presented as tools to better assess environmental impacts and manage visitor flows, contributing to more **sustainable trail use**.



## Conference Programme

### Thursday, 9 October

**Afternoon** Participants arrivals  
EUMA expert group meetings

*Welcome Dinner*

### Friday, 10 October

**Morning** Working day - Conference at Congress House

*Lunch*

**Afternoon** Working day - Conference at Congress House

*Dinner*

### Saturday, 11 October

**Morning** Working day - Conference at Congress House

*Packed lunch*

**Afternoon** Activities by CAI (hiking activities) / Free activities

*Dinner*

### Sunday, 12 October

**Morning** Working day (Conclusions) - Conference at Congress House  
Official end of the conference

*Packed lunch*

**Afternoon** Activities by CAI (hiking activities) / Free activities / Departures

## Registration form

The registration form will be available on the [Italian Alpine Club website](#) from the 5 May 2025.

## Submission of the papers

01/06	<b>Deadline for submission of the abstracts.</b> The authors should submit the title, summary, and keywords in English. Summarize up to 300 words.
14/06	Deadline for notifying authors about the acceptance of the paper. The Executive and Editorial Committee will carry out the selection of papers.
01/07	Publication of the final program, including the abstracts.
20/08	Deadline for submission of the presentations.

## Author's guide to abstracts and presentations

- Details in the attached PDF file.
- The documentation should be sent to: [info@european-mountaineers.eu](mailto:info@european-mountaineers.eu)

## General notes

- Information will be regularly updated on the [Italian Alpine Club website](https://www.clubalpinaitalia.it/)
- The official language of the conference is English
- For additional information regarding the submission of papers, interested authors can contact: [info@european-mountaineers.eu](mailto:info@european-mountaineers.eu)
- The author's presentation time will be limited
- Proceedings with conclusions will be available in electronic format