

ACADEMIC WATER DIPLOMACY IN GLACIER LANDSCAPE

SIDE EVENT- WORLD WATER DAY FOR GLACIERS & WORLD WATER DAY 2025

21.03.2025

4.00- 5.30pm

UNESCO Headquarters,
PARIS, FRANCE

WORLD WATER DAY FOR GLACIERS &
WORLD WATER DAY
20 -21 March 2025

SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chiara Biscarini – Maura Marchegiani – Marco Dordoni (Stranieri University of Perugia)

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Università
per Stranieri
di Perugia

CONCEPT PAPER

As part of the World Water Day 2025 celebrations, the event Academic Water Diplomacy in Glacier Landscapes event will explore the critical intersection of science, policy, and education in addressing the glacier preservation of glaciers. Building on the “Academic Water Diplomacy: Science Education Society” event, accredited as a Side Event at the 26th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in June 2024, this side event will delve into the urgent challenges and opportunities tied to water security in particular, particularly in Arctic regions.

It will adopt a multidisciplinary approach, incorporating scientific, technical, legal, and geopolitical perspectives. Central to the discussion is the indispensable role of technical and scientific knowledge—particularly in hydrology and hydraulics—in shaping effective water diplomacy strategies. The focus will also include the implications of climate change, sea-level rise, and warming waters in the Arctic, examining their environmental and geopolitical consequences.

A focus will be placed on the highly topical issue of the Arctic concerning "water security," it will become increasingly significant in the future, with particular attention to Italy's strategy in the Arctic Council as an example of water diplomacy, demonstrating the importance of academic and policy-driven initiatives in addressing complex international water issues.

The program includes an opening speech followed by six expert-led presentations. Panelists from UNESCO Chair network universities will represent a range of disciplines, including natural sciences, engineering, international law, and political science. These contributions aim to foster a comprehensive dialogue accessible to a diverse audience, from academic researchers to policy practitioners and the general public.

This event seeks to advance a deeper understanding of international water law, Arctic geopolitics, and the transformative role of hydrological and hydraulic sciences in securing the future of glacier landscapes. It is an invitation to collaborate, innovate, and act to safeguard these vital ecosystems for generations to come

PROGRAM

WELCOME ADDRESS

Permanent Representative to UNESCO (TBC)

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CONCLUSIONS AND CONCEPT PAPER

IHP Italian National Committee

(RC) REMOTE CONNECTED