



IFAN No. 14-2025
Version 6
10 October 2025

**52nd IFAN Members Assembly
Workshop Programme
Standards Education: A Strategic Priority**

9.00-13.00, 21st October, 2025, UNI, Via Sannio 2, Milan, Italy, in person or virtually

8.30-9.00 Coffee and registration

Workshop Open Session

9.00-9.15 Welcome, Ruggero Lensi, Direttore Generale UNI

9.15-9.30 Introduction, Vered Oren, IFAN President and Workshop Moderator

9.35 - 9.55 [Nizar Abdelkafi](#), Why Should Higher Education Institutions Teach Standardization?

10.00-10.20 [Geerten van de Kaa](#), Recent Developments in Standards Education in Europe [Virtual]

10.25-10.55 [Gabriela Ehrlich](#), Unlocking opportunity: Why standards education empowers everyone

10.55-11.10 Coffee break

11.15-11.35 [David Tsipenyuk](#), Increasing Standards Adoption Through Training and Awareness

11.40- 12.00 [Weijia \[Vivian\] Xia](#), Youth Standardization Olympiad [Virtual]

12.05 -12.25 [Alberto Galeotto](#), Two case studies: training for contracting authority staff and development of chamber staff skills

12.30-12.55 Panel: Vered Oren, Chair; Ruggero Lensi, UNI; Sergio Mujica, ISO; Gilles Thonet, IEC;

13.00- 13.55 Lunch

14.00 Closed session IFAN Members' Assembly

Zoom Link: IFAN Workshop

Time: Oct 21, 2025 08:00 AM London/9.00 AM Milan

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 827 6523 3560

Passcode: 149425

The Speakers

1. Nizar Abdelkafi



Nizar Abdelkafi is associate professor for Supply Chain Management at Politecnico di Milano. Before Politecnico di Milano, he was head of the research group "Business Model Engineering and Innovation" at the Fraunhofer Society in Germany and lecturer at the Chair for Innovation Management and Innovation Economics at the University of Leipzig. He completed his doctoral thesis at the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH) with excellence and got his habilitation degree at the University of Leipzig. He published many research papers in the field of standardization and co-authored a textbook on ICT standardization (supported by ETSI). He is also a board member of the European Academy of Standardization (EURAS) and is currently involved in the European Horizon project EDU4Standards, which seeks to innovate the teaching of standardization in European higher education.

2. Geerten van de Kaa



Geerten van de Kaa is Associate Professor of Standardization and Business Strategy at Delft University of Technology, and Editor-in-chief of the Journal of Standardisation. In the past years, he has worked on various EU and NWO funded research projects. His research has appeared in high-ranking international journals, including Academy of Management Annals, Organization Studies, IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management, Technovation, and Technological Forecasting and Social Change. At TU Delft he teaches courses on strategic management, technology and strategy, and on 'standards battles'. He holds a PhD from Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University.

3. **Gabriela Ehrlich**



With Swiss Federal degrees in business and communication, and a global career in technical and scientific environments spanning more than four decades, Gabriela Ehrlich served over the past 15 years as Director of Communications, Outreach and Advocacy for the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission). An important part of her function was to make IEC technical work in standardization, testing and certification accessible to non-technical audiences. Today she continues to share her know-how and expertise as Connection Architect at Ehrlich Consulting.

Full profile on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gabrielaehrich>

4. **David Tsipenyuk**



David Tsipenyuk brings a unique and highly relevant combination of experience from international development, learning and development, and the tech sector. As the worlds of work and standards continue to intertwine, his background is particularly timely. He is a seasoned professional dedicated to helping individuals and organizations grow and navigate change.

For over a decade, David focused on designing and delivering impactful learning experiences. His expertise lies in identifying what people need to learn and then crafting programs—whether digital, virtual, or in-person—that are both effective and inspiring. He has worked with a diverse range of clients, from senior leaders at global companies like Maersk and Salesforce to NGOs and government officials. David now brings this knowledge and passion to the standards community as it undergoes a significant transformation.

5. Weijia [Vivian] Xia



Ms XIA Weijia is Director of International Department of China Association for Standardization (CAS)

Her key responsibilities:

IFAN Board Member (2025-2027);

PASC EC (Executive Committee) member;

ISO/TMBG JSAG member, ISO GFPN member;

Chair of NPIC Network (National Platform and Initiative Cooperation) of UNFSS (term of 2022);

Responsible for the international cooperation and international standardization activities of CAS; Serve as China National Committee Secretariat of the Northeast Asia Standards Cooperation Forum (NEASF) and Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) for over 17 years;

PASC EC (Executive Committee) member;

Responsible for the holding of the national standardization competitions for primary and middle school students, organizing the participation in International Standards Olympiad. Leading the teams to participating International Standards Olympiad and won Platinum Prize in the year of 2022 and 2025.

6. Alberto Galeotto



Alberto Galeotto is the Head of Standardization System Relations in UNI.

He deals with the relationship, at technical-political level, with the UNI Federated Bodies, with CEI (Italian Electrotechnical Committee) and with some internal stakeholder of the national standardization system, with the aim to supervise the coherence of the activities of the system and of the other stakeholder involved, contributing to UNI value chain.

He also supports the General Director in the field of coherence and surveillance, in implementing measures to ensure compliance, with particular reference to the relations with the Supervisory Body and to the coordination of the activities of the



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organization related to the CEN (European Committee for Standardization) membership criteria in the CEN Peer Assessment.
He is member of the accreditation committee of Accredia, the Italian Accreditation Body.
Previously, he was Director of Standards, and he has a civil engineering background.