Machiavelli 1527, Fifth Centenary
The Last Years
Marseille – Aix-en-Provence, September 1-3, 2027

On the occasion of the fifth centenary of Machiavelli's death, this conference seeks to place at the centre of discussion the studies and research devoted to the last years of the Florentine Secretary's life, to his last works, and to the most mature phase of his thought and writing. Particular attention will be devoted to his writings on republican institutions from 1520–1521, *The Art of War*, the *Florentine Histories*, the *Clizia*, Machiavelli's final political engagements alongside Francesco Guicciardini and, consequently, the whole of the final part of his rich political and personal correspondence.
From this perspective, we also wish to consider the retrospective influence that the final phase of Machiavelli's thought exerted on the composition and reception of his earlier works. Thus, in studying the "Machiavelli of the last years", it is sometimes the whole of his intellectual trajectory and oeuvre that we seek to reconsider, clearly without any teleological bias.

But the expression "the last years" should also be considered from the perspective of research itself. Our aim is to take stock of the most recent scholarship, of the most significant editorial advances, and of the new projects that have shaped the field of Machiavellian studies over the past ten years. In particular, we wish to outline the main lines of development that are emerging today: the study of Machiavelli's language and his art as a writer; renewed research into his role in diplomatic history; Machiavelli's relationship with the humanist legacy and ancient thought; the worldwide dissemination of his works in several languages; and so forth.

Thirteen years after the publication of the *Enciclopedia Machiavelliana*, edited by Gennaro Sasso and Giorgio Inglese and published by the Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana, this conference is animated by the same inclusive spirit. We welcome contributions from scholars working in all languages and across disciplines: Italian studies (literature and philology), early modern history, the history of political thought and diplomacy, the history of philosophy and law, and the history of theatre and music.
We therefore invite all those who wish to engage anew with the thought of the Florentine Secretary and with the inexhaustible and worldwide fortune of his work to take part in this gathering, without methodological or disciplinary boundaries.

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The parallel sessions will consist of **twenty-minute papers**, with strict adherence to the allotted speaking time. Proposals may be submitted **individually** or in the form of a **thematic session** bringing together three speakers and one chair.
Proposals, whether individual or for a thematic session, should include:

- the title of the paper or session;
- a five-line abstract for each proposed paper;
- the full contact details of the person submitting the paper or session proposal, as well as those of each speaker and the chair.

Proposals should be sent to raffaele.ruggiero@univ-amu.fr by **January 10, 2027**.
Those who submit a proposal will receive confirmation of its acceptance by **January 31, 2027**.

Registration for the conference will take place on the website machiavel1527@scienceconf.org by July 31, 2027 (the website will go live with all the details about the conference on November 23, 2026.).

Registration fee: €60
Reduced fee for doctoral students and non-tenured researchers: €30
The registration fee also includes participation in the **official conference dinner**, which will take place on **September 2 at 8:00 p.m.**

Institutional Committee: **President of Aix-Marseille University** (Eric Berton), **Consul General of Italy** (Valentina Muiesan), **Director of the Italian Cultural Institute**, Marseille (Angelo Izzo), **Head of the Accademia dell'Arcadia** (Maurizio Campanelli).

Scientific Committee: **Giorgio Inglese** (Chair), **Raffaele Ruggiero** (Secretary), **Emanuele Cutinelli-Rendina, Maria Cristina Figorilli, Jean-Louis Fournel, Manuel Rivero-Rodriguez, Emilio Russo, Elena Valeri**, **Jean-Claude Zancarini**

«Gli anniversari [...] producono spesso autentiche valanghe di chiacchiere moleste, ma, al di là e al di sopra di queste, hanno anche la capacità di costringere gli studiosi di buona volontà a fare il punto sullo stato delle ricerche, a migliorare la loro informazione, a vincere la pigrizia [...]. Chiamare a un'impresa comune specialisti di diversi Paesi significa realizzare, nel campo degli studi, l'unica democrazia che a questi si riveli conforme e non estranea: quella della reciproca conoscenza e del conseguente confronto delle opinioni. [...]. Machiavelli è scrittore difficile, che non consente banalizzazioni. Tanto meno le consente in quanto il suo "metodo" fu quello che a lui era suggerito dalla *verità effettuale della cosa*, non dalla *immaginazione di essa*; il che implicava non l'adesione immediata e ingenua alle cose del mondo, ma una retrocessione, per attingerle al di qua delle sovrapposizioni ideologiche che a quelle si erano come aggiunte» (Gennaro Sasso, *Prefazione* all'*Enciclopedia Machiavelliana*, Roma, Istituto dell'Enciclopedia italiana, 2014).