

1st Michele Taruffo Girona Evidence Week

(23 – 27 May 2022) – Girona / Spain

Call for Papers

Evidence & Proof: Expert Evidence and Evidential Reasoning (Workshop)

Organisers & participants:

- Dr Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou (Northumbria University – U.K.)
- Professor Tony Ward (Northumbria University – U.K.)
- Professor Alex Biedermann (University of Lausanne – Switzerland)
- Professor Paul Roberts (University of Nottingham – U.K. / CUPL – Beijing, China)
- Professor Carole McCartney (Northumbria University – U.K.)

This **full-day workshop** which will be part of the **1st Michele Taruffo Girona Evidence Week**, aspires to increase understanding of complex legal issues in the field of expert evidence with a particular focus on the alleged “crisis” of forensic science and its use in the criminal justice system, as identified by several blue-ribbon committee reports.

A primary focus of the workshop – in line with the general theme of the Conference – will be an analytical approach to the inferential structures underpinning expert witness testimony (and pre-trial reports) on the one hand, and assessment of evidence on the other hand. The former include among other things

- the (misconceived) decisional nature of reports and testimony of forensic scientists
- a critical assessment of recent proposals to tackle forensic identification issues with methods borrowed from machine learning (and, A.I.)
- the psychiatrists’ assessment of symptoms in judgments about mental capacity.

The latter include the relations between the pronouncements of forensic scientists and the evidence assessment or decisions of fact-finders (professional judges or jury). The overarching goal will be to stimulate discussion between participants and workshop organisers on ways to enable sound and mutually intelligible communication between experts and decision-makers.

We welcome contributions on issues related to forensic science or other scientific or non-scientific forms of expert evidence (in either a criminal or civil context) and papers drawing on other disciplines such as psychology and argumentation theory as well as law.

Please submit *a*) your abstract (max 500 words), and *b*) a short CV by **31 January 2022** to the following email address: kyriakos.kotsoglou@northumbria.ac.uk. Following the selection process, successful applicants will be notified by **15 February 2022**. Please note that the deadline for the official registration of workshop participants is **28 February 2022**. More information about the registration process is available on the Conference’s website: <http://www.gironaevidenceweek.com>.

The working language of the workshop will be English.

For general enquiries please contact us at the abovementioned email address.