

Preface to the EVALITA 2023 Proceedings

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1. Preface

EVALITA 2023 is an initiative of AILC (Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Computazionale)¹ and it is endorsed by the Italian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AIXIA)² and the Italian Association for Speech Sciences (AISV)³. As in the previous editions (<http://www.evalita.it/>), EVALITA 2023 is organized along a set of selected tasks, which provide participants with opportunities to discuss and explore both emerging and traditional areas of Natural Language Processing and Speech for Italian. The participation is encouraged for teams working both in academic institutions and industrial organizations.

This volume includes the reports of both task organizers and participants to all of the EVALITA 2023 challenges. In the 2023 edition, we coordinated the organization of 13 different tasks belonging to four research areas, being:

Affect

- **EMit** – Categorical Emotion Detection in Italian Social Media (O. Araque, S. Frenda, D. Nozza, V. Patti, R. Sprugnoli)
- **EmotivITA** – Dimensional and Multi-dimensional Emotion Analysis (G. Gafà, F. Cutugno, M. Venuti)

Authorship Analysis

EVALITA 2023: 8th Evaluation Campaign of Natural Language Processing and Speech Tools for Italian, Sep 7 – 8, Parma, IT

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CEUR Workshop Proceedings (CEUR-WS.org)

¹<https://www.ai-lc.it/en/>

²<https://aixia.it/en/>

³<https://www.aivv.it/>

- **PoliticIT** – Political Ideology Detection in Italian Texts (D. Russo, S.M. Jiménez-Zafra, J.A. García-Díaz, T. Caselli, M. Guerini, L.A. Ureña-López, R. Valencia-García)
- **GeoLingIt** – Geolocation of Linguistic Variation in Italy (A. Ramponi, C. Casula)
- **LangLearn** – Language Learning Development (C. Alzetta, D. Brunato, F. Dell’Orletta, A. Miaschi, K. Sagae, C.H. Sánchez-Gutiérrez, G. Venturi)

Computational Ethics

- **HaSpeeDe 3** – Political and Religious Hate Speech Detection (M. Lai, F. Celli, A. Ramponi, S. Tonelli, C. Bosco, V. Patti)
- **HODI** – Homotransphobia Detection in Italian (D. Nozza, G. Damo, A.T. Cignarella, T. Caselli, V. Patti)
- **MULTI-Fake-DetectIVE** – MULTImodal Fake News Detection and VERification (A. Bondielli, P. Dell’Oglio, A. Lenci, F. Marcelloni, L.C. Passaro)
- **ACTI** – Automatic Conspiracy Theory Identification (G. Russo, N. Stoehr, M. Horta Ribeiro)

New Challenges in Long-standing Tasks

- **NERMuD** – Named-Entities Recognition on Multi-Domain Documents (T. Paccosi, A. Palmero Aprosio)
- **ClinkaRT** – Linking a Lab Result to its Test Event in the Clinical Domain (B. Magnini, B. Altuna, A. Lavelli, M. Speranza, R. Zanolli)
- **WiC-ITA** – Word-in-Context task for Italian (P. Cassotti, L. Siciliani, L. Passaro, M. Gatto, P. Basile)
- **DisCoTEX** – Assessing DIScourse COherence in Italian TEXTs (D. Brunato, D. Colla, F. Dell’Orletta, I. Dini, D.P. Radicioni, A.A. Ravelli)

The workshop, held in Parma on 7 and 8 September 2023, represented an occasion for all participants from both academic institutions and private companies to disseminate their work and results and to share ideas through

sessions dedicated to each task and a general discussion during the plenary event. We carried on with the tradition of the *Best system* award. It represented an incentive for students, IT developers, and researchers to push the boundaries of the state of the art by facing tasks in new ways, even if not winning.

We would like to thank our supporters: Talia⁴, Almwave⁵, Aptus.AI⁶ and Logogramma SRL⁷. Our gratitude goes also to the University of Parma for hosting the event. In addition, we sincerely thank the *Best System* award committee (Felice Dell’Orletta, Bernardo Magnini, Azzurra Mancini, Stefano Menini, Viviana Patti) for providing their expertise and experience. Moreover, we acknowledge the AILC Board members for their trust and support. We warmly thank our invited speaker Julio Gonzalo, for having shared his knowledge and insights with his talk. Last but not least, we would like to thank all the task organizers and participants who made this edition special with their enthusiasm and creativity.

Chairs

Mirko Lai, University of Turin
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Marco Polignano, University of Bari
Valentina Russo, Logogramma SRL
Rachele Sprugnoli, University of Parma
Giulia Venturi, Institute for Computational Linguistics “A. Zampolli”, ILC-CNR

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Fabio Celli, University of Trento

⁴<https://talia.cloud/>

⁵<https://www.almawave.com/it/>

⁶<https://www.aptus.ai/>

⁷<https://www.logogramma.com/>

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Best System Award Committee

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Parma, September 2023