

Preface

The 27th Workshop “From Objects to Agents” (WOA 2026) was held in Salerno, Italy, from June 15 to June 17, 2026. The workshop was hosted by the University of Salerno and represented the 27th edition of a long-standing scientific event devoted to agents and multi-agent systems.

The main theme of WOA 2026 was:

New Challenges on Trustworthy Autonomous Agents and Cognitive Systems

The workshop focused on current and emerging challenges related to autonomous agents, multi-agent systems, trustworthy artificial intelligence, cognitive computation, generative AI, large language models, explainability, transparency, situation awareness, and human-centered intelligence. In particular, WOA 2026 aimed to provide a forum for researchers and practitioners interested in the design, development, and application of intelligent and trustworthy autonomous systems.

The topics of interest included, among others, agent-based modeling and simulation, autonomous and cognitive agents, multi-agent systems, agent-oriented software engineering, coordination and cooperation among agents, trustworthy and explainable agents, neuro-symbolic approaches, LLM-based and agentic AI, formal methods and reasoning, distributed and self-organizing systems, agent platforms and middleware, digital twins, Internet of Things, human-agent interaction, and real-world applications of agent technologies.

WOA 2026 received 60 submissions. Each submitted paper was assigned to three reviewers and was evaluated with respect to scientific quality, originality, relevance to the workshop topics, technical soundness, and clarity of presentation. The final decisions were taken by the Program Chairs on the basis of the reviewers’ reports.

Following the review process, 42 papers were accepted for publication in these proceedings. In addition to the papers included in the proceedings, WOA 2026 hosted a dedicated session for already published or non-original contributions. These works were presented for dissemination and discussion purposes and were not included in the present volume.

The workshop program covered several research areas, including agent-based modeling and social simulation, LLM-based multi-agent systems and agentic AI, NLP and conversational systems, formal methods and multi-agent system theory, trustworthy and neuro-symbolic agents, applied AI, perception and reasoning, and distributed agent architectures.

The workshop concluded with a Mini-School dedicated particularly to students and early-stage researchers.

Salerno, 2026

Lidia Fotia

General Chair

Rosario Gaeta

Program Chair

Valentina Pitoni

Program Chair