



Department of Law
University of Cagliari
International conference
Hybrid event – online and in-person

NON-LINGUISTIC NORMATIVITY

Norms Beyond Words

9-11 June 2025

Aula Lai via Nicolodi 102, Cagliari

Filippo Aureli (Universidad Veracruzana)

Patrick Maynard (University of Western Ontario)

Karl Mertens (Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg JMU)

Barry Smith (SUNY)

Michael Tomasello (Duke University)

Barbara Tversky (Stanford University-Columbia University)

Tadeusz Zawidzki (George Washington University)

An organic, philosophical reflection on norms first arises in the 20th century, when philosophers, logicians, jurists, sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists and economists began to question the nature of norms and the role they play in our everyday lives. Alongside this reflection, a new picture of human beings also emerges. Humans are not only teleological, symbolic and social animals, but also nomic animals: creatures

that can act in accordance with norms and live within a nomosphere, in a world of norms of which they are often unaware.

This philosophical reflection on norms has often been dominated by a form of logocentrism. During the last century, most philosophers and legal thinkers accepted the idea that rules are established through words and the idea that they are made up of words, as if norms and normativity could not exist outside the framework of language.

But is this really the case?

Recent studies on normativity challenge this traditional logocentric conception of norms and underscore its limitations. Innovative findings in areas such as the theory of mindshaping, the psychology of normative cognition, research on the neurological processes involved in normative behaviour, inquiries into normative abilities in preschool children and preverbal infants, studies on drawn norms and normative drawings, explorations into normativity in the animal world, and investigations on deontic artifacts, all contribute to a deeper and multifaceted understanding of normativity.

This conference aims to explore these new dimensions of normativity that go beyond the traditional logocentric view and open up novel, stimulating directions for research on normativity.

Giuseppe Lorini (University of Cagliari)

ORGANISERS

Olimpia Giuliana Loddo (University of Cagliari)

Participation in the conference is free of charge.

Please register to attend the conference, either in person or online, by filling out the form at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/xTRCvXgqoAdineCi8>

• **Registration deadline: May 24, 2025**

• The streaming link will be sent by June 8

Info: normactivity@gmail.com

We acknowledge financial support under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Mission 4, Component 2, Investment 1.1, Call for tender No. 104 published on 02/02/2022 by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR), funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU – Project Title: Normative artifacts and normative drawings: investigating non-linguistic regulation (NAND) – CUP: F53D23003500006 - Grant Assignment Decree No. 968 adopted on 30/06/2023 by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR).