



46th International Symposium on POPs and Related Pollutants - Dioxin 2026

Riva del Garda (I) Sept 13-18, 2026

**Hybrid pre-event Workshop**  
**PFAS: a multi-generational challenge**  
**May 6, 2026**

Molecular Horizon Congress Center, Bettona, PG, Italy

Organized by: Centro Umbro di Ricerca e Innovazione "CURI" - University of Perugia, Italy

Appointed by Dioxin 2026 Symposium Organizing Committee

2026 marks the 50th anniversary of the Seveso "dioxin" incident. This pre-event of the Dioxin 2026 Conference aims to introduce young researchers, university fellows and experts in the field to the international scientific context of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Within this framework, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been selected as a paradigm for a mandatory multi-sector approach, due to their environmental persistence, mobility, and, in some cases, bioaccumulation and toxicity. Following a foresight approach, because of their chemical and physical properties, PFAS represent a multi-generational challenge. Invited speakers will illustrate the international context and the state of the art with a cross-cutting approach encompassing the environment, the food chain, the biota, and the human beings.

**Programme**

09.30 Welcome Address.

*Prof. Gabriele Cruciani, UNIPG, Perugia, I.*

09.50 Introduction to the workshop.

*Prof. Jean-François Focant and Dr. Werner Tirlir, Dioxin 2026 Conference.*

**Session I. The international framework**

10.05 The PFAS family landscape: emissions from production, use, and disposal/recycling across different manufacturing sectors.

*Dr. Gianfranco Brambilla, ISS, Rome, I.*

10.30 International Conventions Relevant for Controlling Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs).

*Dr. Roland Weber, POPs Environmental Consulting, Schwäbisch Gmünd, DE.*



- 10.55 Coffee break
- 11.20 Untargeted Methods: Are they suitable to Determine PFAS in Human Blood?  
*Dr. Dorte Herzke, NILU, Tromsø & NIPH; Oslo, NO.*
- 11.45 PFAS in the food chain: where do we stand?  
*Dr. Stefan P.J. van Leeuwen, WUR, Wageningen, NL.*
- 12.10 Poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances in the Arctic - sources, fate and impacts.  
*Prof. Roland Kallenborn, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Ås, NO.*
- 12.35 PFAS toxicity mechanisms and potential interactions with lipid metabolism disruptors.  
*Prof. Francesco Galli, UNIPG, Perugia, I.*
- 13.00 Question and answers - Lunch break
- 14.35 The role of atmospheric Deposition in delivering PFAS to water bodies.  
*Prof. Marta Venier, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, USA.*
- Session II. PFAS: hints from the territory.**
- 15.00 Analytical strategies to monitor PFAS in environmental matrices and biota.  
*Dr. Simone Moretti, UNIPG, Perugia, I.*
- 15.25 Considerations about PFAS in marine mammals stranded along the Tuscany coast.  
*Dr. Michele Mazzetti, ARPAT, Livorno, I.*
- 15.50 Long range transport of PFAS in the atmosphere: a study at the EMEP site of Monte Martano.  
*Prof. David Michele Cappelletti, UNIPG, Perugia, I.*
- 16.15 PFAS awareness in citizens: the role of investigative journalism.  
*Dr. Gianluca Liva, freelance Journalist, Udine, I.*
- 16.40 Discussion and Conclusions

Free registration

For more information and registration click [here](#)