

Profile of Francesco Nachira

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Introduction

The comprehensive profile of Francesco Nachira is described by two interrelated components:

1. Professional activities related to research and innovation
2. No-profit Scientific, Social and Cultural Activities and Interests

as the socio-economic forces shape the science (and therefore the derived technology and innovation) which is not neutral but is determined by socio-economical environment.

Summary

Experience in strategies and policies for socio-economic development, education/training and competence building; digital strategies based on interconnected networks of local ecosystems of innovation and open knowledge sharing.

Multidisciplinary and multifaceted experience acquired throughout years of work in different working places and engagements:

- Scientific & Policy Officer (of the European Commission) with different roles (Lead R&D sectors and monitoring its research activities and projects; Contribution to Policy Papers & Strategies; Launch of Studies and Cooperation);
- Management (of a non-profit Multimedia Digital SME) pioneer in providing services in ICT-based media and political communication, economic and business strategies;
- Strategic consultancy for Public Administrations and SMEs (in a information brokerage service cooperative)
- Technical Director for projects funded by EC and European Space Agency (in Large Technical Company)
- Advisor to the Deputy Director of a State-Owned Company, dealing with development of less developed regions of the Southern Italy
- Developer of International Projects (in R&D Department of a multinational Engineering company)
- Researcher (at the Italian National Geophysical Institute of Italian National Council of Research) in databases and networking
- Lecturer (at international courses of the IIRG International Institute for Geothermic Researches of Pisa) of "Fundamental Computer Science and Computer Applications in Geothermics" at the "14th International Postgraduate Course in Geothermics" organized from Italian Foreign Affairs Ministry and Unesco.
- Creating cooperative companies

The professional activity was always associated with active engagement as active member and supporter of many no-profit social associations and communities and advisory groups.

Integrated background about theoretical and practical experience in: Computer Science, Communication and Information Society; Research Projects and Programmes Governance; Research and Innovation; Policy of Research and Innovation; Policies for Development; Knowledge and technology transfers; Education and training; Economics and Copyright law.

Studies in "Physics" at Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa and "Scienze dell'Informazione" (Computer Science) at the University of Pisa; Languages and Economics at University of California, Berkeley.

No-profit Scientific, Social and Cultural Activities and Interests

Member and supporter of several associations, communities, advisory groups.

from 1995 : Associazione [Libero Sapere](#) (Free Knowledge)

Founder and member of the scientific committee

Libero Sapere was originated by the need to develop a theoretical analysis on the role of knowledge as intangible assets and primary means of production in economy of the XXI century and the necessity to claim them as a common in the battle for socialism of the XXI century;

Libero Sapere focuses on the role of knowledge assets in defining the structure of power and in the international division of labour; it aims at identifying the key battles and the related economic models of transition.

from 2004 : Associazione A.Gramsci Bruxelles

Founder and member of the scientific committee

Belgian Social and Cultural Association founded by some Italians expatriated in Belgium. Organizing and / or co-organising cultural activities; promoting events, roundtables, exhibitions, screenings of films and documentaries, training courses and seminars to improve the knowledge of the members of the Association and/or general public; publishing of books, public documents, magazines.

Aims and activities:

- training and dissemination of culture (following Gramsci's philosophical approach)
- epistemology think thank focus non neutrality of science/technology
- seminars and training related to information technology, communication and multimedia
- seminars and training related to information technology, communication and multimedia
- conferences about critical responsible consumption
- actions of defense of the rights of the citizens and workers
- initiatives to fight social exclusion, xenophobia, racism

1990 - 1996 Cultural Association "Progetto Leonardo" (Pisa).

Founding member ; member of the editorial board of "Rumori"

Aim of "Progetto Leonardo" was to "build a long-term think-thank of high-level interlacing multidisciplinary knowledge"

"Progetto Leonardo" organised meetings, seminars, working groups, brainstorming and debates on scientific, social and political topics, with the participation of students and University professors.

"Progetto Leonardo" also published the journal "*Rumori - per la critica della politica e della scienza*".

1978 - 1985 Cultural association "Alice: Civic networking in Italy"

Founding member and promoter

Aim of the association was to promote opportunities of social and cultural use of the network among the citizens and public authorities, viewed as a way to enforce democracy and peoples' knowledge. Alice supported the formation of local groups able to manage hubs and to offer education and (low-cost distributed open-source) electronic communication facilities. The network local hubs will offer people a virtual place for debates in order to promote social activities and will permit to receive unfiltered information from the world, to be in touch with the local administration and will offer news and internet mail facilities.

1979 - 1985 Cultural association "Gustavo" (the Local branch of "Alice" in Pisa)

Founding member and computer network expert

"Gustavo" organised seminars and technology transfers. Gustavo managed a network hub that connects and provide internet access to all the major grassroots organizations of Pisa (more than 20) and several citizens.

1990 - 1994 Member of the Underwater Operative Unit Archaeological Association of Italy (Archeoclub d'Italia) and Member of the National Task Force of "Archeoclub d'Italia - underwater section". Participating as underwater photographer and archaeological operator with computing experience in underwater expeditions (i.e. the first [and last] Italian-Soviet joint archaeological underwater expedition in the Black Sea in 1991)

Other Associations

ASSOLI (Associazione Italiana per il Software Libero) Member from 2000

AI*IA (Associazione Italiana per l'Intelligenza Artificiale - Italian association for Artificial Intelligence) - Founder Member in 1998. Member until 1994

EFF (Electronic Frontier Foundation) - Member

ACM (Association for Computer Machinery) - Member until 1995

AICA (Associazione italiana per l'informatica ed il calcolo automatico - Italian Association for Computer Science) - Member until 1994

Major international Conferences and Initiatives launched

Co-organiser of several initiatives for promoting critical knowledge and awareness, promoting a critical view considering the interactions between science-technology-innovation thread and the social-economic aspects, forming a socio-economic ecosystem [-1-](#) and [-2-](#)

All the major initiatives - in order to guarantee robustness and a comprehensive open and independent view - are organised through a cooperation amongst a multiplicity of institutions/organisations having both different point of views and fields of activity. Examples of such initiatives are:

[EcoySol](#) : [Ecosystems and Software Libero](#) Week of promotion of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Venezuela and Europe for the development of Digital Ecosystems and Free Software towards cooperative paradigms for the 21st century.

Oct. 4th - Oct. 6, 2008, Rome, Italy (at Italian Parliament, CNR, Fondazione Basso) (in cooperation with more than 20 organisations, [here](#))

IIE : [Internet Identity Eco-system Seminar: WORKSHOP on INTERNET IDENTITY ECOSYSTEM \(agenda\)](#): The evolution of the Internet: Towards a common, or a capture and surveillance of collective intelligence?

Oct. 4th - Oct. 6, 2014, Rome, Italy, Teatro Valle

In cooperation with W3C, Internet Society, Fondazione Teatro Valle Bene Comune, et alii ([committee](#))

The primary purpose of this seminar is to develop a common background to understand new forms of production and valorisation based on the Internet and the emerging identity eco-system. In particular, this workshop wants to investigate the emergence and expansion of the "identity marketplace" and focusing on its implications/consequences on the economy and shifting relationships of power.

Due to the complexity of the emerging identity ecosystem, many analysis have been limited to specific disciplinary backgrounds. With this approach the actors involved in the production and shaping of this system (such as developers, hackers, and designers), often perceive only a very limited role, while those who develop socio-economic approaches do not understand the technical details.

This initiative aims at activating a process of re-composition from various disciplines that will raise awareness of the stakes of the political economy of the Internet, resulting in a common vision that can lead to the creation of a constituency to work on awareness, rights, claims, self-governance issues, and technical standards.

Professional Activities

	1995 - 2011 European Commission Scientific/Policy Officer Directorate General Information Society and Media (now DG Connect) Bruxelles, Belgium
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Until 10/2011 active in service at the European Commission as Scientific/Technical Officer or as Head of Unit of the Directorate General Information Society and Media
Main Functions and Duties: Policy Development and Strategy Contribution; External Dissemination; Research Programme and Project monitoring.

Promoting development related to digital technologies, with special focus on ICT technologies supporting competence building, empowerment and participative/local knowledge-intensive development.

Negotiation and Monitoring of the R&D projects supporting socio-technical integration, open source approaches, knowledge sharing and international cooperation. (during the 6th and the 7th European R&D Framework Programme, Unit: e-Business and Unit: International Relations).

Serving in several Units/Sectors of the DG Information Society (now DG Connect): International Relations; Enterprise; Networking; e-Government; Urban and Rural Areas; e-Business; Small and Medium Enterprises; Tourism. International Relations; Enterprise Networking; e-Government.

Creation of the concept of Digital Ecosystem for Development / Digital Business Ecosystem (see [DBE book](#)) during the 6th European R&D Framework Programme. Head of the Sector "Technologies for Digital Ecosystems" (<http://www.digital-ecosystems.org>).

Within the "International Relations Unit", focused on non-EU industrialised countries, supported international cooperation on knowledge sharing and open source (e.g **ECOySOL "Scientific and technologic cooperation between Europe and Venezuela, on Digital Ecosystems - <http://ecoysol.org>**).

Promoting the concept of the integration among the Scientific Research / Technology / Innovation and the social science and technology as tool for understanding the socio/economic evolution of the society; considering that the development of science and technology is not neutral but is determined by socio-economical environment and depends by the existing social relations

	1993 - 1995 Alfea Multimedia Founder, Stakeholder and member of Board of Directors Pisa, Italy
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Management of Alfea Multimedia: **non-profit organisation, pioneering internet-mediated new forms of interactive communications and of social networking.**

Multidisciplinary non-profit cooperative (merging of a media and communication atelier ["Arsenale" of Pisa]); a ICT Technology company; business and strategy consultants), which integrates personnel and knowledge with experience in media communication (movies, documentaries), political communication, and internet technologies; focused on web-based Internet business communication.

E.I.B.S.	1993 - 1995 EIBS: Engineering and EC Information Brokerage Services Founder and CEO Italy
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Strategic consultancy on IT innovation for Municipalities, Public Administrations (P.A.) and SMEs enabling them to take advantage from the opportunities created by the global information and communication infrastructure. Consultancy for ICT solutions for the local Public Administration and for implementing participatory interaction with the citizens. Supporting SMEs and Public Administration for participation in EC-funded projects; coordination and management of EC-projects ; European Commission external expert. Consultant for specific technical and strategic studies, regulations, local policy development and overviews; speeches in conferences.

Design and implementation of the civic networks supported by Public Administrations and/or grass-root organisations.

EIBS - in 1995 - in Bologna, Italy designed and implemented "Iperbole" (making of Bologna, the second Digital City, after Amsterdam).

The Municipality of Bologna focused its governance policies and plans towards a concrete commitment in the use of networking technologies for the delivery of information and services to communities/citizens, and the development of eCitizenship and digital rights. **The Iperbole Civic Network is a kind of "holistic platform" for information, e-services, interaction and exchange with and among administration and end-users; a participative web site; a space shared by public interest and no-profit bodies of the metropolitan area,;an ongoing laboratory to promote the knowledge society at local level.**

[rigel] [engineering]	9/1991-12/1992 Rigel Engineering s.a. Technical Director and Coordinator of EC and ESA projects Bruxelles, Belgium
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"Rigel Engineering sa" (Bruxelles - Belgium) is a small engineering company operating in software development and integration; **Development of R&D Projects of the EC Framework Programme and projects of the European Space Agency [ESA];** Technologic transfer of the results.

The research projects (EC founded research projects in ESPRIT, RACE, Eureka frameworks) formed 60% of the company revenue. The non-research projects deals with ESA and EC support.

Main activities:

- technical direction;
- writing of research projects proposals
- co-ordinator of ESPRIT R&D projects

Intersiel	3/1991 - 9/1991 Società Interregionale Sistemi Informativi Elettronici S.p.A. : Intersiel (company part of the state-owned Italian conglomerate Finsiel) Rome and Rende (CS), Italy Advisor to Telcal Deputy Director
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Assistance in **design and development strategies on a large initiative aiming at fostering the deployment of ICT in a Less Developed Regions of Southern Italy.**

Definition of plans and scenarios for public intervention, socio economical studies, involvement of local actors, constituency building aiming at promoting the adoption of the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in the regions of South-Italy (e.g. implementing the Piano Telematica Calabria).

	<p>1986 - 1991 Engineering - Ingegneria Informatica spa (Private software engineering company) Rome and Pomezia, Italy Computer Scientist and Researcher, Technical Director of the R&D dpt</p>
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Activities:

- project management of the R&D AxIS project (an 100 man year R&D project on Integrated Project Support Environment building)
- looking for funding / business opportunities / new collaborations and contacts for the R&D Dept (e.g. from IMI and EC)

	<p>1986 Sysdata spa Pisa, Italy</p>
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Activities:

Responsible for the Computer Graphics and Technical Support for Computer Aided Design Packages

 <p>Istituto di Geoscienze e Georisorse Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche</p>	<p>1984 - 1985 Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica [ING] (now included in the Istituto di Geoscienze e Georisorse [IGG]) Institute of the National Council of Research [CNR] (Italian Research public institution), coordinating researches in Geophysical Field Researcher Pisa, Italy</p>
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Researcher of the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica (a Government Organization coordinating researches in Geophysical Field) allocated at the University of Pisa.

Activities:

- Project Manager for the Engineering Working Unit in the Research Project of National Council of Research on Object Oriented Databases
- Integration of the National Geothermal Data Banks (of the CNR), with the Earth Science Data Base (of the University of Pisa); the resulting schema has been choosed as the basis of the today data Base of the Inventory of Geothermal Resources of the Italian Ministry of Industry.
- Seismic and vulcanic events modeling.

 <p>Istituto Internazionale di Ricerche Geotermiche Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche</p>	<p>1983 Istituto Internazionale di Ricerche Geotermiche [IIRG] (now included in the Istituto di Geoscienze e Georisorse [IGG]) Institute of the National Council of Research of Italy [CNR] (Research public institution) Teacher of Fund. Computer Science and Applications in Geothermics Pisa, Italy</p>
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Teacher of "Fundamental Computer Science and Computer Applications in Geothermics" at the "14th International Postgraduate Course in Geothermics" organized from Italian Foreign Affairs Ministry and Unesco.

<p>Compunet srl</p>	<p>1981 - 1986 Compunet srl (Private Company, services of software and networking design) CEO, Owner, Software Design and development Pisa, Italy</p>
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Small software company, operating consultancy on IT Research Projects.

Design and implementation of applications in the following sectors: databases, cartography, territorial management, statistics and simulation. Support to the definition of research projects

Education

	<p>1978 - 1981 Pisa Università Pisa, Italy University Degree in Scienze dell'Informazione (Information Science)</p>
	<p>1977 - 1978 Scuola Normale Superiore Pisa, Italy 1st year of Physics (Admission, Grant)</p>
	<p>1984 and 1992 Summer sessions University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, USA 1. Language - 2. Business and Economics</p>
	<p>2000 Summer session Centro de Idiomas y Computación para Extranjeros, "José Martí" Avana, Cuba Spanish ; Summer Sessions 2000</p>

Languages

Italian:	Native
English:	Full professional proficiency
French:	Professional working proficiency
Spanish:	Limited working proficiency
German:	Elementary proficiency (passive)

Journals

Member of Editorial Boards of

Rumori : periodico dell'associazione Rumori per la critica della politica e della scienza (1991-1994)

Journal ("fanzine") aiming at developing and fostering critical thinking on the policy of science. The journal, leveraging on papers/participants with the plurality of interests and knowledge from different disciplines and skills, exploited such plurality for developing a critics to the sectorial knowledge and proposed new approaches for building knowledge, reshaping university and research institutions.

Aurora: periodico di informazione e cultura degli emigrati (2008 -2012)

Member of Editorial Board

European on-line journal for the emigrated Italians . Provide in-depth informazion on social topics, politics and local issues for the Italian community

Publications

Nachira F., Nicolai A., Dini P., Le Louarn M., Rivera Lèon L. editors, (2007), "**Digital Business Ecosystems**", European Commission DG Information Society and Media, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg, (ISBN 92-79-01817-5) pp.214 (here summary and single chapters ([website](#)) (here in [HiRes](#)) ("[Preface](#)" Nachira, F., Nicolai, A., Le Louarn, M. & Rivera Leon)

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"Sviluppo di un sistema di gestione dati cartografici nell'ambito della Banca Dati Geotermici", in Atti del convegno S.I.M.P., 12-13 ott. 84.
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"Il percorso formativo del laureato in Scienze dell'Informazione", in collana prospettive universitarie dopo la maturita', gruppo agrario ed informatico, Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano, Bolzano, 1984.
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