## NICHE | Annual Lecture 2025



## The Water Cultures of Italy: A Historical Perspective



Centre for Environmental Humanities (NICHE)

at Ca' Foscari University of Venice





European Research Council

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Event organized as part of the project "Water-Cultures. The Water Cultures of Italy, 1500-1900" (PI prof. D. Gentilcore)



## **David Gentilcore**

Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Dept. of Humanities and NICHE

Welcome remarks and introduction

Francesca Tarocco

**Director of NICHE** 

What would a history of society look like with water placed at its core? Focusing on two case studies, the talk will discuss recent work to create a new holistic approach to the study of human interactions with water over time, in particular the period 1500-1900. The aim has been to write the history and culture of a given society, the construction of its identities and forms of self-representation, based on its changing relationships with water. By "water cultures", we shall look at both material aspects (such as hydraulic engineering, water capture techniques, legislation, and management) and non-material features (symbolic responses, beliefs and practices, knowledge structures). By so doing, the talk also aims to contribute historical awareness and sensitivity in the vitally important area of water resource use, management and protection.

**24 February** 2025 **5 PM** (CEST)

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