

# The Freedom for Italy Network Bulletin

<https://www.assoknowledge.org/freedom-for-italy/the-freedom-for-italy-network>

Week ending 27 February 2026



## Top speakers confirmed for Freedom for Italy Rome conference



Fourteen experts, historians and leaders of Italian military museums have been confirmed as speakers at the Freedom for Italy history network conference at Circolo Ufficiali delle Forze Armate d'Italia in Rome on 17 April.

The conference will be chaired by **Professor Marco Altobello** of the Museo dell'Aviazione e dei Tuskegee Airmen, Campomarino. Keynote speakers include **Alessandro Sciolari**, Secretary General, The Freedom for Italy network, and **Guido Molinari** of The Allies Museum Rome

The story of the Allied landings at Salerno in September 1943 will be told by **Dr Marco Botta** of the Museum of Operation Avalanche of Eboli (SA).

Confirmed speakers for the session about the Volturno, Winter and Gustav lines are **Professor Giuseppe Iglieri**, Scientific Director of Museo Internazionale delle Guerre Mondiali; representatives of the **Garigliano Museum in Castelforte**; **Luciano Bucci** of the War Museum Winterline Venafro and **Michele di Lonardo**, an authority on the battles for Cassino in 1944.

**Arch Sara Isgro** will speak about the work of the Istituto di Storia e Cultura dell'Arma del Genio.

Confirmed speakers in the session about the museums specialising in Operation Shingle which began on 22 January 1944 include representatives of **Esposizione Museale della Battaglia di Aprilia**. **Filippo Spadi** from Museo della Linea Gotica in Casinina will tell the story of the battles for the Gothic Line.

Three speakers will describe the work of Italian war cemeteries; **Pietro Rogacien**, architect of the Polish Corps Museum in Monte Cassino; **Mark Ireland**, Supervisor of The Sicily-Rome American Cemetery, and **Dr Dirk Reitz**, Landesgeschäftsführer Sachsen at Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge.

“We are delighted to have such a high-quality line-up,” says Freedom for Italy Vice Chairman Edmund O’Sullivan. “We hope the conference will lay the foundations for a national network of Italian museums specialising in events in Italy in 1943-45 which will be able to develop connections with their international counterparts.”

---

## News in brief

- Canadian musician Paul McKendrick has released *The Greatest Generation*, an original song dedicated to the memory of the men and women who served in the Second World War. It can be heard here: <https://soundcloud.com/paul-mckendrick-1>
- The 2nd Annual Florida State Tuskegee Airmen dinner is to be held at Westgate Resorts in Orlando on 26 March. For information, contact [FloridaTACDF@gmail.com](mailto:FloridaTACDF@gmail.com)
- The number of WW2 Italian Facebook Group followers has increased to 10,3000. You can join the group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/824472158292781>
- A new headquarters of the friends of the Association Linea Volturno 1943 was opened at Via Roma 8 in Piana di Monte Verna on 22 February. You can contact the association here: [lineavolturno1943@gmail.com](mailto:lineavolturno1943@gmail.com)
- A short Freedom for Italy network documentary about the preparations for Operation Diadem in 1944 can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/s1EBKko6vBM>
- Pen & Sword Books of the UK has published *The Italian Way of War* about the evolution of Italy's military capacities in its first 50 years as a nation. You can order it here: [www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/The-Italian-Way-of-War-Hardback/p/57267](http://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/The-Italian-Way-of-War-Hardback/p/57267)