

**Giovedì 12 Marzo 2026 ore 18:00**  
**Auditorium Club House**  
**Centro Comune di Ricerca – Ispra**

## Conferenza-dibattito

### Earthquakes: Perspectives from Seismologists and Engineers

**Camilla Cattania – Assistant Professor, MIT**  
**Paolo Negro – Active Senior, JRC**

In recent years, growing attention has been devoted to the consequences of disasters associated with climate change. However, earthquakes continue to cause significant loss of life and substantial economic damage worldwide. As in the case of climate-related disasters, natural phenomena themselves are not solely responsible for their impacts; vulnerability and exposure play a decisive role.

If the physical mechanisms governing earthquakes were fully understood and reliably predictable, and if buildings and infrastructure were consistently designed and constructed to withstand strong ground shaking, seismic events would result in far fewer catastrophic consequences.

Earthquakes have occurred throughout Earth's history, yet both seismology and earthquake engineering are relatively young scientific disciplines. Accurate short-term prediction of earthquakes remains beyond current scientific capability, and many existing buildings and civil engineering structures—particularly older ones—remain vulnerable to strong seismic events.

A seismologist, **Camilla Cattania**, and an earthquake engineer, **Paolo Negro**, will present their research activities and illustrate how advances in both disciplines contribute to improving safety and societal resilience.

