

The Sicily Peace Security & Prosperity Conference

In memory of the events of 1943

Friday 7 July

0900-0945 VIP and opening session (in Italian)

- Opening remarks by conference chair Mr Steve Gregory, founder, the International Forum for Peace, Security & Prosperity (IFPSP)
- Representative of Catania Municipality
- UK Ambassador to Italy The Rt Hon Edward Llewellyn OBE
- Ambassador of Canada to Italy Elissa Golberg (invited)
- Representative of the US embassy to Italy (invited)
- Secretary Charles Djou, Director, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC)
- Mr Justin Maciejewski DSO MBE, Director, National Army Museum
- Mr Joseph Lonardo, General Counsel, National Italian American Foundation

*The VIP opening session will close and time will be allowed for
VIPs and others to depart if they choose to.*

0945 Sicilian perspectives on the landings in Sicily (in Italian)

- Dr Salvatore Platania, Museo Storico dello Sbarco in Sicilia 1943
- Mr Marco Gimillaro, Catania

1045 Coffee break hosted by Museo Storico dello Sbarco in Sicilia 1943

1100 Keynote speakers (English with simultaneous translation)

- Secretary Charles Djou, Director, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC)
- Dr John Curatola, Military Historian at the Jenny Craig Institute for the Study of War and Democracy, The National WWII Museum, New Orleans introduced by Justin Maciejewski, Director, National Army Museum, London
- Dr Tim Cook, Chief Historian & Director of Research, the Canadian War Museum

1330 Lunch hosted by Museo Storico dello Sbarco in Sicilia 1943

1430 Britain, Ireland and Sicily (English with simultaneous translation)

Dr Joseph Quinn, Their Finest Hour, Oxford University

1515 AMGOT and the reconstruction programme

Speakers will include experts on reconstruction and peace-building from Canada, Germany, Italy, the UK and the US. The session will be moderated by Mr Steve Gregory of the IFPSP

1700 Associazione Siciliana Motoveicoli Storiche (ASMS)

A statement about vintage vehicles on display at Le Ciminiere will be delivered by Professor Angelo Privitera, Dr Federico Magiavacchi and Dr Franco Scalisi of the ASMS.

1715 Day one closes

2100 Evening concert in the amphitheatre in Le Ciminiere Festival Centre (proposed)

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0800 The UK perspective (English with simultaneous translation)

Gavin Mortimer, historian; **Ian Pearson** of the Durham Light Infantry Association; **Mark Howard** on photographing Sicily in 1943; **Steve Erskine**, researcher at The Green Howards Museum; **Elliott Metcalfe** of The Keep Museum; **Bethany Joyce** of The Wardrobe Museum; **Richard O’Sullivan** of the London Irish Rifles Museum and **Michael Leese**.

1030 Coffee break hosted by Museo Storico dello Sbarco in Sicilia 1943

1100 The Tuskegee Airmen (English with simultaneous translation)

Waymand Brothers of the World War II Museum New Orleans will discuss the African-American flying formation.

1145 The Italian perspective (Italian with simultaneous translation)

- **Economic and social perspectives on Sicily in 1943**
Professor Federico Ciavattone, Director of The Center for the Study of Italian Military Parachuting History
- **The impact of events in 1943 on the civilian population.**
Dr Alfio Caruso & Dr Angelo Plumari
- **Catania in 1943. A then-and-now story**
Arch Daniela Viralli will tell the story of the reconstruction of Catania through a sequence of “*Then & Now*” photographs.

1300 Lunch hosted by Museo Storico dello Sbarco in Sicilia 1943

1400 The Italy Second World War memorialisation workshop (English and Italian)

This will be a bilingual, brainstorming workshop which will develop recommendations for new approaches to memorialisation of events in Sicily in 1943. These recommendations will be attached to the report on the proceedings of the conference.

1700 Conference closes

2000 Closing music concert in The Amphitheatre of Le Ciminiere Festival Centre (proposed)

Sunday 9 July

1230 Remembrance Service and wreath-laying at Catania War Cemetery

1830 Remembrance Service and wreath-laying at Syracuse War Cemetery

Monday 10 July

0545 Memorial events on American, British and Canadian landing beaches at Avola, Marzamemi, Pachino and Gela Licata

The 325km Walk for Remembrance & Peace (WRAP) starts.