



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics**



# Conference on Non-Digital Game-Based Learning in Physics and STEM Disciplines

## DESCRIPTION:

The use of games is a well-established teaching technique widely used at different levels of education in many countries.

The current focus of research on educational gaming is frequently concentrated on digital-only platforms, such as apps for tablets and PCs, and webapps. However, the objective of this conference is to convene experts and users of non-digital tabletop games to teach physics and other STEM subjects for secondary and higher education, including board, card, dice and tile-based games. The advantages of using non-digital technology against its computer-based counterparts include cost-effectiveness, ease of use in remote regions with limited resources and infrastructure, accessibility to learners with special needs, and the possibility of local development or localisation at a low cost.

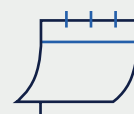
## MORE INFORMATION:

During the course of the activity, a selection of free, open-source and commercial tabletop games will be demonstrated with hands-on sessions, and case studies of various game development experiences for STEM education in Italy and abroad will be presented by the authors.

The activity is primarily intended for educators and researchers interested in using, creating or localising tabletop games for STEM disciplines. Particular attention will be given to participants.

## TOPICS:

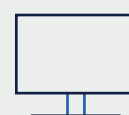
- Best practices in the design of educational non-digital tabletop games for Physics and STEM disciplines in secondary and higher education.
- Accessibility considerations for learners with special needs.
- The role of games in various educational environments, including formal (schools and universities), informal and non-traditional (museums, libraries, and after-school programmes) and community-driven game-based learning initiatives.
- Practical hands-on examples of non-digital tabletop games for Physics and STEM.



**23 - 25 June 2026**



**Trieste, Italy**



### Applications and Deadlines:

For applicants requesting financial and/or visa support

**25 March 2026**

For all other applicants

**1 June 2026**

## DIRECTORS:

G. Fior, ICTP, Italy

A. Gregorio, University of Trieste, Italy

## LOCAL ORGANIZER:

C. Fonda, ICTP, Italy

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

E-mail: [smr4206@ictp.it](mailto:smr4206@ictp.it)

Web: <https://indico.ictp.it/event/11132/>

Female scientists are encouraged to apply.



## GRANTS:

A limited number of grants are available to support the attendance of selected participants, with priority given to participants from developing countries. There is no registration fee.

