PIANOFORTE travel grant activity report

M.Sc. Cecilia Riani, University of Pavia, Italy

Poster presentation (PTh-13) at the European Radiation Protection Week in Berlin 2026

Thanks to the PIANOFORTE travel grant, I had the opportunity to present my research within the PIANOFORTE-funded IMAGEOMICS project with a poster entitled “Screening for molecular signatures of radiotherapy and immune system activation in breast cancer: a spatial multi-omics approach applied to ex vivo cancer samples” (PTh-13). This allowed for rich scientific exchange and direct feedback from peers and experts. Alongside the poster presentation, the overall progress of the project was presented by the Principal Investigator of IMAGEOMICS, Dr. Katalin Lumniczky, in the Thursday session “Innovation in Therapy & Imaging”. This allowed further scientific exchange and joint discussion.

Moreover, I had the opportunity to take part in the Early Career Researcher (ECR) activities and to get to know the other ECRs in the field. I really appreciated the AI workshop on the first day, where the role of artificial intelligence in different radiation protection sectors was discussed. In particular, I found Dr. Florian Rauser’s lecture “Government and regulatory authorities: How could AI change future roles, required skills, and career opportunities in the public sector?” very engaging. The visit to the Bundesamt für Strahlenschutz on Friday was also very interesting, as it helped me understand the research work and daily activities carried out there, ranging from radon measurements to in vitro/in vivo radioactivity measurements.

In general, I had the opportunity to attend diverse scientific sessions, such as “Innovation in Therapy & Imaging”, “Nuclear Medicine & Theranostics” and “AI in Medical Radiation Protection”. I was also able to get to know all the platforms within the MEENAS framework and to understand the key challenges and perspectives for radiation protection research over the next 10 years.

To conclude, I would like to thank the PIANOFORTE consortium for funding early career researchers to present their scientific results at such a high-level conference.

This partnership has received funding from the European Union’s “EURATOM” research and innovation program under the 101061037 grant agreement.