

The welcome speech of Elena Pasoli
Exhibition Manager, Bologna Children's Book Fair



Welcome to all of you, dear European IBBY sections' members and friends.

This is the second time we host this Conference and I can tell you, also on behalf of BolognaFiere President Mr. Gianpiero Calzolari, that we are really very proud to highlight the last day of the Fair with such a meaningful event. As you know, the Bologna Children's Book Fair is one of the founders of the Italian section of IBBY. This means something, something that we've been aiming at since the very beginning of our long history: the commitment of promoting the power of books and reading, of supporting the relationship between cultures and heritages, of doing all our best to improve the quality of children's books and their reach to young readers all over the world.

When it comes to children and their lives today, multilingualism is one of the main issues we all face in all our countries. It's my great pleasure and honour to introduce to you the Italian writer Roberto Piumini, an author who's been sensitive to multilingualism along his whole career. I'm sure he'll be the best introduction to our discussions.

Elena Pasoli
Bologna
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