"Global Challenges in Assistive Technology" – Discuss with the international expert community in the world's oldest university town
Bologna, Italy, 27-30 August 2019

The Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) invites AT and accessibility experts, researchers, manufacturers, providers and users of AT, and everyone who works in a field where AT is deployed, to join together to tackle a wide range of topics. From 27-30 August 2019, the University of Bologna (Italy) and the independent Assistive Technology (AT) service provider AIAS, will host AAATE's 15th international conference, themed "Global Challenges in Assistive Technology: Research, Policy and Practice." The conference will address issues related to technology and disability: technological developments in the field of AT, including ambient assisted living (AAL), smart environments, and the Internet of Things (IoT) applications; social assistive robotics; digital and connected health; virtual and augmented reality. Also addressed will be the ethical implications of these new possibilities, data privacy, and self-determination of users with disabilities and older adults; innovations in AT for cognitive, sensory, and motor disabilities; the impact of societal changes that make assistive technology ever more relevant and needed; and the need to provide wider access to AT on a global scale.

AAATE's 2019 conference is the opportunity to get a broad as well as **in-depth picture of new developments and research outcomes in Assistive Technology and related fields**. It is the platform for **researchers to share their work and present in front of an international expert community** hosted by the oldest university in the world, namely the University of Bologna. It is the space for **national and regional authorities to hear about pilot projects, new policies and technological advancements**. It is a 3-day master class for **professionals working with AT** to learn about the newest trends in both solutions and service delivery. It is the place to be and connect with peers for everyone working in the field of AT and accessibility.

The call for papers has been published and we invite all of you doing research in this field to **submit your abstract** on basic and/or applied research in AT as well as proposals for thematic sessions **by 15 March 2019 (extended deadline).** More information can be found here: http://aaate2019.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/2018/11/AAATE2019_conf_Flyer_final.pdf

Whether you are interested in just participating or more actively contributing to the conference, have a look at http://aaate2019.eu. There are many ways of getting involved and join in our expert community. We are looking forward to inspiring exchanges! Regular updates can be found on @aaate_net and under the hashtag #AAATE2019.