



Prof. **Elena Cattaneo**

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CV

Elena Cattaneo is director of the "Laboratory of Stem Cell Biology and Pharmacology of Neurodegenerative Diseases" at the Department of Biosciences of the University of Milan and the National Institute of Molecular Genetics. She is Full Professor of Pharmacology. Her lab research focuses on Huntington's disease. Using in vivo approaches, human embryonic stem cells and genome editing, the laboratory aims to understand how HTT affects neuronal cell physiology and to develop new pharmacological, genetic and cellular strategies to postpone or counter the onset and/or the progression of the disease. She has published more than 190 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals. E. Cattaneo is active in public dissemination and awareness raising events. In 2013 she was appointed Senator for Life by the President of the Italian Republic Hon. Giorgio Napolitano for her scientific merits.

Friday 16th, 2024

**Aula Magna, Dipartimento di Chimica e
Chimica Industriale, Via Dodecaneso 31,**

Genova

ore 11.00

Opening Lecture, cycle XXXIX

***The scientist's privilege and ethical
responsibility: navigating the frontiers of
knowledge***

Abstract

The presentation will center on the role and social responsibility of the scientist: to find answers to questions that no one had ever asked before, to be the first to contemplate something that no other human being had ever seen is a privilege that comes with an enormous ethical responsibility. The responsibility to step outside the confines of the laboratory to tell the public about one's work and discoveries, triumphs but also failures, with the utmost sincerity; the responsibility to defend scientific evidence and correct procedures. The social role of science is to provide all the necessary tools, findings, and probabilities to make well-founded rational decisions. No one can replace science and scientists in this endeavor.