The Conference provides an overview of recent pathogen research findings, methodologies, instruments, and multidisciplinary approaches functional to pandemic preparedness. The multiple focus of the event encompasses prevention, surveillance, detection, drug discovery and treatment.

**INVITED SPEAKERS**
- Tatjana Avšič-Županc, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Lucia Banci, University of Florence, Italy
- Tulio De Oliveira, KwaZulu-Natal and Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Daniel Hurdiss, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- Yoshihiro Kawaoka, University of Tokyo and National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan; University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- Marion Koopmans, Erasmus University Medical Center, Netherlands
- Fabrizio Maggi, L. Spallanzani National Inst. for Infectious Diseases, University of Insubria, Italy
- Johan Neyts, University of Leuven, Belgium
- Tom Peacock, Pirbright Institute, UK
- Rino Rappuoli, Biotecnopolo Foundation, Italy
- Emma Thomson, University of Glasgow, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, UK
- Martin Weigt, Sorbonne Université, France

**TOPICS**
- Emerging and re-emerging viruses with pandemic potential
- Risk of viral zoonoses and its mitigation
- Diagnostics, surveillance and capacity building in resources limited settings
- Immunization and preventive approaches
- Drug discovery: stocking the shelves for the next pandemic
- Biosafety and Biosecurity when dealing with viral infections
- Multidisciplinary approaches, infrastructure, and cooperation
- Future challenges in pandemic preparedness

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