

## The Institute

INDIRE - Istituto Nazionale di Documentazione, Innovazione e Ricerca Educativa (National Institute for Documentation, Innovation and Educational Research) is the oldest research institute of the Italian Ministry of Education. It was founded in 1925 as a National Educational Exhibition with the aim of collecting and exploiting school activities of that period. Over the years, it has always accompanied the evolution of the Italian school system.

Today, the Institute is the **reference point for educational research**. INDIRE **promotes school innovation processes**: developing new teaching models, testing the use of ICT in education and training, redefining the relationship between space and time in learning and teaching. The Institute has a **long experience in in-service training for teachers, non-teaching staff and school heads**; recently, it led some of the most important e-learning experiences in Europe. INDIRE, together with Invalsi - Istituto nazionale per la valutazione del sistema educativo di istruzione e di formazione (National Institute for the Educational Evaluation of Instruction and Training) and inspectors of the Ministry of Education, **is involved in the National Evaluation System for Education and Training**. In this context, it supports the improvement of teaching methods, professional behaviour of school staff, learning achievements and school environment.



By means of qualitative and quantitative monitoring, database and research reports, INDIRE analyses and documents phenomena relating to changes in the curriculum of technical and vocational education and to the link between school and the labour market.

## History

The Institute was established in 1925 as a National Didactics Exhibition of the outputs made by the “new” schools, those institutes that put into practice the theory of Giuseppe Lombardo Radice on teaching methods as “active” experiences. In 1929 the National Teaching Museum was established, in 1954 it was transformed into the Centre for Teaching Studies and Documentation and in 1974 it became Library for the Pedagogical Documentation (BDP). During the 80’s **the Library used the ICT as a pioneer, profoundly transforming the very idea of teaching documentation**. The use of ICT became an innovative engine for the dissemination of knowledge.

In 1999 designed and launched the first teacher training course completely online, which received more than 90000 registrations.

In 2001 BDP became Istituto Nazionale di Documentazione per l’Innovazione e la Ricerca Educativa (INDIRE) National Institute for Educational Documentation, Innovation and Research. Between 2001 and 2011 **INDIRE has been engaged in major initiatives for Italian online teacher training** and actions to promote technological and teaching innovation at school.

In 2007, INDIRE became Agenzia Nazionale per lo Sviluppo dell’Autonomia Scolastica (National Agency for the Development of School Autonomy). In September 2012 INDIRE was restored.

Today INDIRE continues its mission to promote teaching innovation at school and to support learning processes. Since 2013 it has been part of the National Evaluation System.

## Political and administrative bodies



**The president of INDIRE is Giovanni Biondi**, who is the legal representative of the Institute, has the power to delegate and is in charge of the institutional relations.



**The General Director is Flaminio Galli**, who is in charge of management implementing the board of Directors’ resolutions and the President’s measures. The GD directs, coordinates and controls the organizational structure and the routine.

## Contacts

From 1925 the Institute's location has been the same: Palazzo Gerini is located in the city centre of Florence (Santa Croce district). INDIRE has three branch offices for interregional Units in Turin, Rome and Naples. The Italian National Agency Erasmus+ INDIRE (sectors: School education, Higher education and Adult learning) is also part of the Institute, is based in Florence with a branch office in Rome.

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