

NEWSLETTER

October, 2025

ExcellCity: Strengthening the Scientific Excellence and Innovation Capacity in the Area of Smart City through Twinning

ExcellCity Winter School 2025

The ExcellCity Winter School 2025 took place from October 27 to 31, 2025, at the University of Library Studies and Information Technologies (ULSIT) in Sofia, Bulgaria, in partnership with the University of Messina (Italy) and the University of Murcia (Spain).

The event brought together students, PhD candidates, researchers, and international experts for a five-day academic program dedicated to Big Data, Agentic AI, and Microservices for Smart and Secure City Environments. Throughout the week, participants took part in lectures, discussions, and practical workshops focused on the development of innovative digital solutions for smart and sustainable urban ecosystems.



The program featured:

Day 1: Introduction to FIWARE, Artificial Intelligence, and digital security

Day 2: IoT and AI for Smart Agro, security in FIWARE, and digital twin applications

Day 3: Big Data Warehousing, Cloud and Edge resource orchestration, and Kubernetes hands-on practice

Day 4: PhD research presentations, AI-based workflows in distributed systems, and Edge Analytics

Day 5: Agentic AI at the Edge and in the Cloud, Big Data Analytics in practice, and discussions on future research collaboration

The Winter School concluded with a collaborative session exploring new directions for academic and research cooperation between ULSIT, the University of Messina, and the University of Murcia. Participants expressed their enthusiasm for continuing joint initiatives in the fields of AI, Big Data, and smart city technologies - laying the foundation for future innovation in digital urban transformation.

