

Blog information:

Between 8 and 12 September 2025, José Abellán, Anna Maria Stagno, and Laura Moro attended the International RURALIA Conference: *“Countryside and Towns. Rural Settlements in the Context of Urban Hinterlands in the Medieval and Modern Periods”* (Kłodzko, Poland, 8–14 September 2025).

Laura Moro and Anna Maria Stagno presented the paper **“The Relationship Between Rural Hinterlands and Towns Through the Study of the Road System: Case Studies from the Ligurian Apennines Between the 18th and 21st Centuries”**, a collaborative work with Alessandro Panetta, Giulia Bizzarri, Caterina Piu, and Raffaele Voccia. In the same session, José Abellán Santisteban presented the paper **“From the Mountains to the Towns: The Role of *Cortijos* in the Mutual Exchange Between Mountain and Urban Economies in the Sierra Nevada (Spain), 17th–21st Centuries”**, in collaboration with Ylenia Paciotti and José María Martín Civantos from the University of Granada.

Both contributions highlighted the importance of understanding landscape dynamics and emphasized the strong role of social bonds in the areas of the Ligurian Apennines and Sierra Nevada.



Figure 1 L. Moro during her presentation showing the cartographical issues and analysis.



Figure 2 A.M. Stagno explaining the importance of paths and roads in the mountainous areas



Figure 3 J. Abellán the complexity in the connection between Rural spaces and cities.