



CoffeeTalk@ISOF

EXTENDED EDITION

The search for life in the Universe

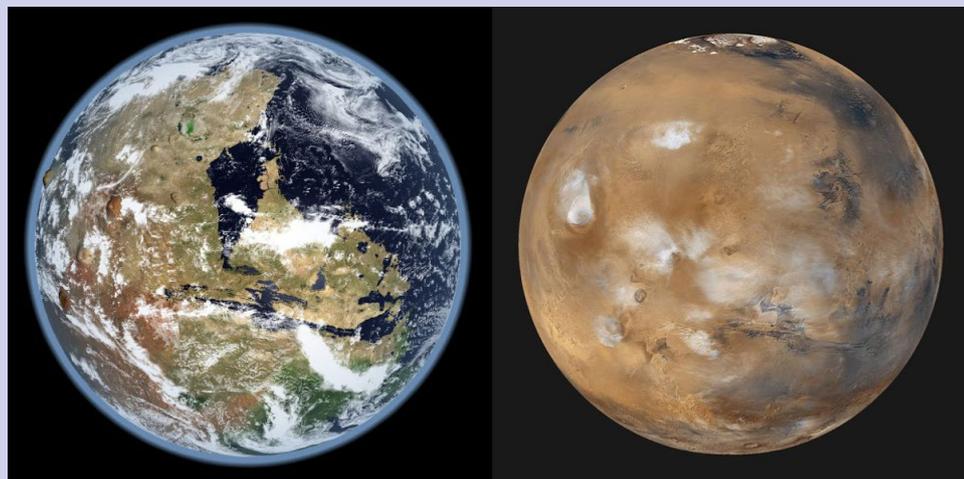
Roberto Orosei

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***Roberto Orosei** is research scientist at the Institute of Radioastronomy of INAF, and Adjunct Professor at the School of Science of the University of Bologna. He obtained a PhD in remote sensing at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1999, and spent two years as Research Fellow at the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) in Noordwijk, the Netherlands. Since his graduate student years, he was involved in the study, development, operations and data analysis of spaceborne experiments. He is a member of the science team of several sensors in planetary exploration missions, such as the VIRTIS and VIR imaging spectrometers aboard ESA's Rosetta and NASA's Dawn spacecrafts, and the Titan Radar Mapper and SHARAD radars aboard NASA/ESA/ASI's Cassini and NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter space probes. Since 2015 he is the Principal Investigator of the MARSIS subsurface sounding radar aboard ESA's Mars Express mission, which is probing the subsurface of Mars to detect ice and water. In 2007, main belt asteroid 1993 RB3 was named 19224 Orosei.*

Is life, and in particular intelligent life, a unique phenomenon, or are there other places, other ways in which it can develop and thrive? This question has accompanied man since he began to wonder about the nature of the Universe and his place in it, but the search for an answer became possible only through the scientific and technological advances of recent decades. The seminar will present a short account of what life outside the Earth could be like, and what are the characteristics of an environment to allow its appearance. The most recent results of the search for traces of life in the solar system and the first indications on the habitability of extrasolar planets will then be discussed. Finally, current and future projects for the search of intelligent extraterrestrial life will be presented.



Thursday 17 March 2016, 14:30
ISOF 12 – Meeting Room (1st floor)
CNR Research Area
Via Gobetti 101, Bologna



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