



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Greetings:**

As Governor of Texas, I am pleased to welcome you to the XV Conference of Italian Researchers in the World.

The Lone Star State boasts a rich cultural heritage, reflecting a diverse and talented population. Since the early days of our history, people have traveled from lands both near and far to call Texas home, adding to the vibrancy and uniqueness of our great state. As we celebrate and embrace our mutual heritage as Texans, it is important to remember the significance of our varied backgrounds, cultures, and traditions in building the Texas we see today.

For hundreds of years, Texas has been deeply influenced by individuals of Italian descent, and to recognize this part of our shared history, a variety of cities with large Italian-American populations host various Italian cultural celebrations in honor of their heritage. The Texas Scientific Italian Community continues to play an important role in shaping this legacy by promoting research and science as well as honoring Italian heritage and culture.

I hope this video conference provides your organization with the opportunity for you all to network and celebrate the many achievements and successes of Italians and Italian Americans, especially in fields of science, medicine, technology, law, and the humanities. The Lone Star State joins you in celebrating the impact that Italian culture has had and continues to have on our everyday lives.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in sending best wishes for an enjoyable and informative conference.

Sincerely,

Greg Abbott  
Governor