

14th International Workshop on
FIBER OPTICS IN ACCESS NETWORKS – FOAN2026

Subevents at FOAN2026:



One of the special focuses of FOAN 2026 this year is free-space optics (FSO). Attendees will have the chance to hear about the latest developments in this field—from leading Indian theoretical scientists and prestigious laboratories, to gaining practical experience and seeing live demonstrations.

You will have the opportunity to hear firsthand how multi-aperture FSO systems can enhance both performance and reliability, partly because smaller telescopes are less directional, which simplifies the alignment process. Additionally, you'll witness hands-on demonstrations of Fraunhofer HHI's latest products in this field.

A highlight of FOAN 2026 will be the live demonstration of Fraunhofer HHI's latest free-space optics (FSO) equipment. Led by Ronald Freund and Max Julius Bode, this session will showcase how multi-aperture FSO systems boost performance and simplify alignment, offering practical insights into future optical communications.



Ronald Freund

Head of Department Photonic
Networks and Systems



Max Julius Bode

Research Associate, Fraunhofer
Heinrich-Hertz-Institute



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ROUND TABLE:

Telecom as a High-Tech Industry: Bringing Back Its Attractiveness

FOAN 2026 also aims to revive the telecom industry's high-tech appeal by highlighting its evolution through innovation, new business models, emerging services, exciting challenges, and a critical look at monetization opportunities.

Attendees will hear about these trends throughout the conference, and at the FOAN Round Table, they will have the opportunity to discuss and finalize key possibilities and challenges related to:

- **Optical Network as a Service (ONaaS)**
- **Bandwidth as a Service (BaaS)**
- **Smart as a Service** (Smart Home, Smart City, Smart Rural)
- **WiFi Sensing**
 - Next-generation WiFi (WiFi 7, WiFi 8)



Gorazd Penko

Head of Reference Laboratory
(FTTH / xDSL / CPE IAD)

You will also hear firsthand about:

- user experiences with **2.5 Gbps** connections—who truly noticed the difference, and which users eventually decided it wasn't for them.
- the **network requirements** that arise (if arise) when offering **1 Gbps** speeds to all users on a single access node (AN)

If you have ideas or experience in the following services, we warmly invite you to join the discussion and share your insights:



Annachiara Pagano

FiberCop S.p.A. (fibercop.com)

- **Sensors as a Service**
 - Sensors networks as a service

Through inspiring talks, demonstrations, and interactive discussions, FOAN 2026 will help define the path forward for telecommunications as a truly innovative, attractive, and dynamic sector.

- **Security as a Service**
- **Cloud Gaming as a Service**
- **Edge Computing as a Service (ECaaS)**
- **AI/ML Services over Telecom Network**
- **Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS)**
- **Quantum Key Distribution as a Service**
- *...and many others!*



We are looking for an experienced individual to provide an additional 10-minute introductory talk.

