

The 40 anniversary of the 1976 Friuli (NE Italy): a commemoration to raise the public awareness on preparedness for seismic hazard.

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The Friuli earthquake (NE Italy) occurred on 6 May 1976 is the largest event so far recorded in Northern Italy ($M_s=6.5$). The event caused about 1,000 casualties, and widespread destruction; the sequence lasted more than one year, with two strong aftershocks occurred in September 1976 that brought down the already suffering population. After 40 years, the memory of a devastating earthquake remains in the urbanization, and in the people that lived that dreadful experience. The memories tend to vanish with the quake survivors demise and the new generations have a little knowledge of that catastrophic event that changed the course of history of their area. The commemoration of the anniversary became a good opportunity to refresh the earthquake history, and the public awareness of living in a seismic prone area.

As seismologists, we believe that the seismic risk reduction starts from the education of the next generation and for such reason, we decided to commemorate the 40 anniversary with a special educational campaign, mainly devoted to the students but with indirect benefits on the whole local community. Our activities started on May 2015, with labs and lessons held in some schools, and the creation of a blog (in Italian, <https://verso40anni.wordpress.com>) to collect news, photos, video and all the materials related to the campaign. From February to May 2016, one day per week, we opened our seismological lab in Udine to the school visits and we proposed joined visit to the earthquake museum Tere Motus in Venzone (one of the towns destroyed by the 1976 earthquake), to enlarge the training offers on the earthquake topics.

Still, beyond the visits, by continuing the efforts of our previous educational projects, we involved the students so to be an active part of the seismic mitigation process; that is the case of the students of a school located in Gemona del Friuli that have been deeply involved in seismic noise measurements for microzonation studies (see presentation by Barnaba et al, 2016, this session) and the students of Liceo Paschini of Tolmezzo that will work to improve their Arduino seismograph (see Saraò et al. 2016, this session).

Besides the school activities, a rich program of public conferences on the earthquake and seismic risk topics has been organized by our Department, together with a massive presence of seismological issues on the local media through interviews to us and some earthquake informative articles. Also, in April 2016 we organized a public workshop on seismic networks and monitoring. During that workshop we inaugurated our new Udine's headquarters in the presence of the local authorities.