This book proposes a novel, descriptive theory that unveils the linguistic mechanisms lurking behind judicial decisions. It offers a comprehensive account of the ongoing debate, as well as a novel solution to the problem of understanding legal pragmatics.

Linguistic pragmatics is based on a theory created by Paul Grice, who observed that people usually convey more than just the amalgam of the meaning of the words they use. He labeled this surplus of meaning a “conversational implicature.” This book addresses the question of whether implicatures occur in the legal language, illustrating why the classic Gricean theory is not applicable (without substantial modification) to the description of legal language and proposing a novel approach based on a modification of Andrei Marmor’s “strategic speech.”

h. 3 p.m.
**Chairman:**
Claudio Luzzati (Università degli Studi di Milano)

h. 3,15 p.m.
**Discussants:**
Filippo Domaneschi (Università degli Studi di Genova)
Nicola Muffato (Università degli Studi di Trieste)

h. 4,15 p.m.
**Author’s replies**