Maria Pia Fanti is full professor of System and Control Engineering at the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering of the Polytechnic of Bari (Italy).

She received the Laurea degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Pisa (Italy), in 1983. She was a visiting researcher at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, in 1999. Since 1983 she has been with the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of the Polytechnic of Bari (Italy), where she was Assistant Professor from 1990 till 1998 and Associate Professor from 1990 till April 2012.

Maria Pia Fanti is IEEE fellow for contributions to modeling and control of discrete event systems.

Her research interests include Discrete event systems, Petri net, consensus algorithms, networked and control systems, management and modeling of logistic systems, automated manufacturing systems, automatic guided vehicle systems, traffic networks, and healthcare systems.

Maria Pia Fanti is Editor of IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering and Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems.

She is Member at large (2016-2018) of the BoG of the IEEE System, Man, and Cybernetics Society, Member of the scientific committee of the Italian Federation of Automatic Control (SIDRA).

She is Co-Chair of the Technical committee on Discrete Event Systems for the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society, Chair of the Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society Chapter of the IEEE Central & South Italy Section, member of the IFAC Technical Committee on Discrete Event and Hybrid Systems

She received in 2008 from the IEEE SMC Awards Committee the "IEEE SMC Best Associate Editor Award" and the "Most Active Technical Committee Award of the SMC Society"

She is authors of 2 books and of 250+ peers refereed papers including 77 journal articles, 10 book chapters, and many conference proceeding papers.