

PRESS RELEASE

THE BANKER AWARDS 2020: INTESA SANPAOLO WINS AS 'BANK OF THE YEAR IN WESTERN EUROPE' AND 'BANK OF THE YEAR IN ITALY'

Intesa Sanpaolo is the first Italian bank recognized as Western Europe's best bank

Milan, 3 December 2020 – Intesa Sanpaolo has been awarded as '**Bank of the Year in Western Europe**' and '**Bank of the Year in Italy**' by *The Banker*, the specialist publication of the Financial Times Group.

The award marks the first time that an Italian bank has received the recognition as '**Bank of the Year in Western Europe**'.

The Banker Awards are assigned annually by *The Banker*, the magazine published from London since 1926, with a worldwide readership of about 90,000 banking and finance professionals.

In its selection, *The Banker*'s panel of international judges considered Intesa Sanpaolo's strong financial performance and the successful merger with UBI Banca that has created an Italian banking champion able to successfully compete at the European level. The panel gave particular importance to the vital role Intesa Sanpaolo has played in supporting the Italian economy and society throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. *The Banker* also noted Intesa Sanpaolo's taking the lead in the development of Italy's green economy.

Carlo Messina, CEO of Intesa Sanpaolo, stated: "*Recognition as the best bank in Western Europe, in a year of extraordinary complexity, is a source of pride for all the people of Intesa Sanpaolo. Boosting the real economy and combating growing social difficulties have never been more urgent than in 2020; this is our shared responsibility as a bank. Our business model continues to give us the strength to be Italy's engine of sustainable and inclusive growth.*"

Intesa Sanpaolo was also recognized in Croatia and in Serbia with PBZ receiving the '**Bank of the Year in Croatia**' award and Banca Intesa Beograd receiving the '**Bank of the Year in Serbia**' award.

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About Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo is one of the most solid and profitable banks in Europe, providing wealth management, consumer banking, corporate and investment banking, asset management and insurance. As the market leader in Italy, Intesa Sanpaolo serves nearly 14.6 million customers through digital and traditional channels. The Group's international subsidiary banks provide for an additional 7.2 million customers in Central Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Intesa Sanpaolo is recognized as one of the most sustainable banks in the world. The Group believes that value creation should be interpreted broadly, supporting social purpose and driving the real economy. As part of its commitment to sustainable growth, Intesa Sanpaolo has created a €5 billion financing facility dedicated to the circular economy. The Group's large-scale project for economic inclusion and poverty alleviation includes a Fund for Impact to provide €1.2 billion in loans to those parts of society that find access to credit difficult. Intesa Sanpaolo is deeply committed to cultural initiatives that it promotes on its own and together with partners in Italy and abroad, including permanent and temporary exhibits of the vast artistic patrimony at the Gallerie d'Italia, the Group's three museums located in Milan, Naples, Vicenza and soon also in Turin.

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