

Mariangela Zappia (Viadana, 1959)

A Board Director of Intesa Sanpaolo and a member of the Board's Nomination Committee and the Board's Governance Committee.

She was the Ambassador of Italy to the United States of America from July 2021, the first woman to hold this position.

She graduated in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Florence, where she also obtained a specialisation in Diplomatic Studies and International Relations.

She embarked on a diplomatic career holding increasingly senior positions at: the Italian Embassy in Dakar, Senegal (1986-1990), the Consulate General in New York (1990-1993), the Press Service and Spokesperson's Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome (1994-1997), the Italian Embassy in Brussels (1997-2000); the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York (2000-2003); as Head of the Mediterranean, Middle East, and Balkans Office at the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2007); Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva (2007-2011).

She was European Union Ambassador to the UN and International Organizations in Geneva (2011-2014), Permanent Representative of Italy to the North Atlantic Council (NATO) in Brussels (2014-2016); Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister and G7-G20 Sherpa (2016-2018); Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York (2018-2021).

In her career, she gained extensive leadership and managerial experience of complex structures. She is a regular speaker on international politics and economics, Italy's role, and a variety of multilateral and global security topics.

She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Italian Academy at Columbia University in New York, of the Advisory Board of Innovit in San Francisco, and of the Board of Directors of the Council for U.S.-Italy Relations. She is Honorary President of the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy. She was a Member of the Senate of the International Automobile Federation (2018-2021).

She is Commander of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (*Commendatore*).

She received the "Mela D'Oro" award (2019) by the Fondazione Marisa Bellisario for the advancement of women in public institutions; the "Top Diplomacy" award (2022) by the Fondazione Guido Carli; and the "Robert Francis Kennedy Human Rights" award (2023) by the RFK Italy Foundation.

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