

**PRESS RELEASE**

**THE INTESA SANPAOLO GROUP RECEIVES THREE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS FROM EMEA FINANCE MAGAZINE**

- **Intesa Sanpaolo best bank in Italy**
- **VUB best bank in the Slovak Republic**
- **Banca Intesa Beograd best bank with foreign capital in Serbia**

*Milan, 24 June 2013* – The Intesa Sanpaolo Group has recently received three prestigious awards from the London based economic and financial periodical publication, **EMEA FINANCE Magazine**.

**Intesa Sanpaolo** received the "**Best Bank in Italy 2012**" award in the "Europe's EMEA Finance Banking Awards" category, **VUB Bank** in the Slovak Republic received the "**Best Bank in the Slovak Republic 2012**" award, and **Banca Intesa Beograd** received the "**Best foreign Bank in Serbia 2012**" award.

*"I am proud of these awards, which represent the high professional standards of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group," said **Enrico Cucchiani**, CEO of Intesa Sanpaolo. "In light of a complex scenario, which is currently marked by high volatility," he added, "Intesa Sanpaolo has adopted a strategy focused on prudence, and has defined a clear set of management priorities aimed towards strong financials and strengthening stability coefficients in order to achieve sustainable profitability. Despite the on-going recession in Italy," he concluded, "the performance of the group is in line with or better than our main European peers in terms of key performance indicators, and will continue to be our 'guiding star'. Furthermore, Intesa Sanpaolo is among the few banks in the world already in line with Basel 3 requirements".*

EMEA FINANCE Magazine ([www.emeafinance.com](http://www.emeafinance.com)), a Group Exporta Publishing & Events Ltd publication, is considered an independent voice at the highest level of integrity and journalism ethics, addressed to the financial community. The criteria for the award took into account the quality of service provided to customers, the degree of innovation of products offered, the level of competition on the local market, profitability and capacity for sustainable growth, and financial analysts' and external research institutes' research and evaluation.

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Intesa Sanpaolo is positioned among the top banking groups in the eurozone and is a leader in Italy in all business areas (retail, corporate and wealth management). The Group offers its services to 10.9 million customers through a network of 5,300 branches located throughout the country with market shares below 15% in most regions. Intesa Sanpaolo has a selected presence in Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East and North Africa, with over 1,500 branches and 8.3 million customers of subsidiaries operating in retail and commercial banking operations in 12 countries. It also has an international network specialized in supporting corporate customers, which oversees 30 countries, in particular the Middle East and North Africa and the areas in which they are most active Italian companies, such as the United States, Russia, China and India.

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