

**PRESS RELEASE**

**THE BANKER AWARDS INTESA SANPAOLO AS  
"BANK OF THE YEAR IN ITALY" FOR 2021**

*Milan, 2 December 2021* – Intesa Sanpaolo has again been recognized as “Bank of the Year in Italy” by *The Banker*, the Financial Times Group’s leading publication for the sector, on the occasion of the annual “Bank of the Year Awards” for 2021.

In their selection this year, *The Banker*’s judges paid particular attention to the role played by banks in providing stability and supporting the collective effort towards recovery from the pandemic – areas in which Intesa Sanpaolo distinguished itself. The judges placed continued emphasis on those banks that have led the way in helping customers and the wider economy to meet the needs of the future, and which have adapted best to establishing long-term growth in the face of such global change.

Carlo Messina, CEO of Intesa Sanpaolo, commented: “This year’s award recognizes the Group’s success in a period of extraordinary commitment and transformation, strengthening our determination to work, every day, towards sustainable and inclusive growth. With a sense of pride and responsibility as Italy’s leading bank, we will continue to leverage our strength and know-how to help businesses and families, through actions such as our commitment to provide over €400 billion in medium/long-term lending in support of Italy’s National Recovery Plan, as well as through initiatives that will soon be announced as part of our new 2022-25 Business Plan”.

The Group’s subsidiary **Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Albania** was also awarded the special recognition of “**Bank of the Year for Banking in the Community 2021**”, for the support provided to local communities, including financial education for children and the economic empowerment of women.

Regarded as the industry standard for assessing banks globally since 1926, *The Banker*’s “Bank of the Year” recognizes the world’s leading institutions. A rigorous and highly analytical process is made to reach each “Bank of the Year” decision and *The Banker*’s reputation for independence, authority and integrity is applied to each submission.

## **Intesa Sanpaolo**

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### **About Intesa Sanpaolo**

Intesa Sanpaolo is a wealth management & protection company, Italy's leading bank and one of the most solid and profitable bank groups in Europe. It offers commercial, corporate investment banking, private banking, asset management and insurance services. The Intesa Sanpaolo Group has approximately 13.5 million customers in Italy and 7.1 million customers abroad through commercial banking subsidiaries in 12 countries in Central-Eastern Europe and Middle East and North Africa as well an international network to support corporate customers across 25 countries. Intesa Sanpaolo is recognized as one of the most sustainable banks in the world and is committed to becoming a reference model in terms of sustainability and social and cultural responsibility. Intesa Sanpaolo supports major economic inclusion and poverty reduction projects, including a €1.5 billion impactfund for loans to social groups who struggle to access credit. The Group has a €6 billion fund dedicated to the circular economy. The Group is also deeply involved in cultural initiatives in Italy and further afield, with the aim of preserving, promoting and sharing Italy's historical and artistic heritage, also thanks to permanent and temporary exhibitions hosted at the Gallerie d'Italia, Intesa Sanpaolo's museums located in Milan, Naples, Vicenza and, soon, Turin.

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