

## PRESS RELEASE

### **EQUITA leads Italy's 2023 league tables for independent investment banks and plans for growth with new advisory services and presence in Rome**

- **#6 advisor by deal count in M&A advisory and #1 among independent Italian players, with a growing positioning in recent years**
- **#1 cash equity franchise by number of IPOs and overall ECM transactions**
- **The only non-banking financial institution ranking among top 10 advisors in DCM**
- **#1 independent broker on equities, bonds, cash equity options and ETFs**
- **New area of expertise in real estate advisory following the launch of the partnership with EQUITA Real Estate**

*Milan, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024*

**EQUITA is pleased to announce the results of the Italian investment banking league tables for 2023, in which the Group ranked as the #1 independent investment bank in Italy**, thanks to several landmark transactions completed in a challenging market environment.

In 2023, **EQUITA ranked #6 M&A advisor in Italy by deal count** (31 mandates completed by EQUITA SIM and EQUITA K Finance, representing €22 billion total value) **and #1 among independent Italian advisors**<sup>1</sup>. These ranks, together with the increasing number of mandates and value of transactions closed in recent years, confirm the **growth trajectory of the team in advisory services. In the period 2021-2023, EQUITA closed 103 deals worth €95 billion total value, nearly doubling the 46 deals close in 2018-2020 with a total value of €50 billion.**

**The Group confirmed its leadership also in Italian capital markets with a very successful 2023.** The team closed 28 transactions, representing a total deal value of €7.7 billion. **The Equity Capital Markets team (ECM) ranked #1 IPO franchise in Italy with 6 IPOs, more than any other financial institution in Europe.** The team also ranked **#1 cash equity franchise by number of deals in the domestic market**<sup>2</sup>. Such result confirms the team's leadership in the sector, and demonstrates EQUITA's ability to successfully price a wide range of transactions in terms of offer sizes (from €15 million to €600 million), market caps (large, mid and small) sectors (luxury, consumer & fashion, gaming, industrials, etc) and markets (Euronext Milan, Euronext Growth Milan).

<sup>1</sup> Source: EQUITA analysis based on Mergermarket data. Deal counts include EQUITA SIM and EQUITA K Finance mandates. Definition of "Independent" excludes players involved in lending activities.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Dealogic.

On the fixed income side, **the Debt Capital Markets team (DCM) was the only non-banking financial institution in the 2023 top ten for high yields and not rated issues**<sup>3</sup>. The team acted as a placement agent, dealer, joint-lead manager or co-manager in **8 transactions**, and set another milestone by **successfully completing its 20th Euronext Milan Bond issue since 2014**. The team also confirmed its leadership in the issue of corporate bonds below €250 million.

**The strong positioning of the investment banking teams was achieved thanks to the daily, synergistic collaboration of bankers with the Group's Global Markets division and the analysts of the Research Team:** the **leading market shares of the trading floor** in the brokerage of equities, bonds, cash equity options and ETFs (confirmed in the 2023 rankings announced by AMF Italia, the Italian Association of Brokers in Financial Markets – read the [dedicated press release](#)) and the **unique breadth of analysts' research coverage**, were some of the key factors that made EQUITA stand out in a tough year for financial and capital markets such as 2023.

**In 2024, the Investment Banking team will continue to focus on growth and diversification, both in terms of product offering as well as in terms of geographic reach.** The latter will be strengthened by an increased presence in Rome, following the recent opening of a new office, with the aim of boosting advisory services and building long-lasting relationships with the financial, institutional and business community in the Capital.

**The team will also continue to position as the go-to partner for entrepreneurs, corporates, financial institutions and investors, and will benefit from the know-how of recent senior hirings and newly onboarded senior advisors**, such as **Stefano Donnarumma** and **Silvia Rovere**, well-known managers who have joined the partnership to help the Group develop new areas of expertise in renewable infrastructures and real estate advisory.

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EQUITA is the leading independent Italian investment bank. As the go-to partner of investors, institutions, listed companies, corporates and entrepreneurs, EQUITA acts as broker, financial advisor and alternative asset management platform by offering a broad range of financial services that include M&A and corporate finance advisory, access to capital markets, insights on financial markets, trading ideas and investment solutions, in Italy and abroad, assisting clients with their financial projects and strategic initiatives. Drawing on half a century of experience, EQUITA is committed to promote the role of finance by creating value for the economy and the entire financial system, thanks to its deep understanding of markets, strategic transactions, and sustainability. A unique business model, where research is at the core of the strategy and where clients get access to a leading trading floor constantly connected with financial markets globally, a successful track-record in the execution of investment banking transactions – enhanced also by the international partnership with Clairfield who identifies cross-border opportunities for Italian and foreign companies – and a proved expertise in the management of investment funds, especially in illiquid asset classes like private debt, private equity, infrastructures and renewables. EQUITA stands out for its independence and integrity, the commitment of its professionals to best-serve clients, and the concept of “partnership” that sees its managers and employees as shareholders of an investment bank listed on the Italian Stock Exchange as “STAR” company. Visit [www.equita.eu](http://www.equita.eu) to learn more... because WE KNOW HOW

<sup>3</sup> Source: EQUITA analysis on Bondradar and Bloomberg data.