

PRESS RELEASE

**EQUITA Private Debt Fund III
completed an investment,
right after the closing of its
first fundraising phase**

**The private debt team
ranked #1 in the "Europe Direct
Lender Subordinated" league table
and was awarded best hybrid
private capital investor of the year**

Milan, October 1st, 2024

EQUITA Capital SGR, one of the leading multi-strategy asset managers in Italy focusing on alternative assets, **announces that EQUITA Private Debt Fund III ("EPD III") successfully completed its first investment.**

The private debt team assisted a leading private equity firm by providing **€8 million of subordinated debt** issued by one of its portfolio companies, with the aim of optimizing the

company's financial structure. The company is active in the healthcare industry and owns several patents and certifications that allows it to sell its products globally.

The investment was finalized by EPD III (which qualifies as an **Article 8 product** under the European SFDR, thus promoting environmental, social and governance best practices) and occurred right after the fund's first closing, the latter completed with €106 million raised and €130 million of total commitments. Several outstanding institutional investors were involved in the fundraising process, including pension funds, insurance companies and banks. Going forward, **the private debt team will continue to focus on the fundraising, with the aim of reaching €300 million of commitments by the end of 2025.**

The team will also continue to build its pipeline of investment opportunities and deploy capital, with the aim of further consolidating its market position, which has seen EQUITA ranking **#1** in the **"Europe Direct Lender Subordinated"** league table and **#2** in the **"Southern Europe Direct Lender"** and **"Italy Direct Lender"**¹ league tables. Recently, the team was also awarded **best 2024 hybrid private capital investor** by Financecommunity and Latham & Watkins.

Paolo Pendenza, Managing Partner and Head of Private Debt at EQUITA, commented: *"This investment confirms our ability to deploy capital at a fast pace, with obvious benefits for our investors. The goal is to close the fundraising in 2025, targeting €300 million. This will lead the private debt asset class to increase its assets under management above €600 million, an important milestone for us, after just 8 years in the market".*

¹ "European Direct Lender Rankings – First Half 2024" (Debtwire).

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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 exclusive partnership with Clairfield who identifies crossborder 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 to learn more... because WE KNOW HOW