

FUNDRAISING OF EQUITA PRIVATE DEBT FUND II CONTINUES AND REACHES EURO 131.5 MILLION OF TOTAL COMMITMENTS

- NEW INVESTORS IN EPD II, INCLUDING A LEADING ITALIAN INSURANCE COMPANY AND A MAJOR ITALIAN PENSION FUND, JOIN THE COMMITMENT OF FONDO ITALIANO D'INVESTIMENTO AND THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT FUND SIGNED LAST SEPTEMBER 2020
- EQUITA CONFIRMS ITS FUNDRAISING TARGET OF EURO 200 MILLION

Milan, 16 March 2021

Equita, the leading Italian independent investment bank, today announced an additional closing of Equita Private Debt Fund II (the "Fund" or "EPD II"), the PIR compliant Italian closed-end fund managed by Equita Capital SGR.

The new phase of EPD II's fundraising closed with Euro 31.5 million of commitments and involved four institutional investors, including a leading Italian insurance company and a major domestic pension fund. New investors' commitments added to the Euro 100 million raised in September 2020, allowing Equita to confirm EPD II's target of Euro 200 million (Euro 250 million hard cap).

Andrea Vismara, Chief Executive Officer at Equita, commented: "We are pleased that additional outstanding investors, including a major pension fund, have chosen to invest in our initiative, taking us closer to our set target of Euro 200 million. These new commitments strengthen the investor base of our second private debt fund and prove that private debt is an attractive asset class".

In addition to the fundraising, Equita continues its deal sourcing. The team has already identified three new, potential investments that could further accelerate the capital deployment of EPD II over the course of 2021, with significant benefits in terms of returns for investors. **To date – six months after the first closing – EPD II has already completed four investments** (Euro 42 million, 32% of current commitments) **with an expected gross return of 10%**, and this confirms Equita's strong position in the private debt market and the team's ability to identify and successfully execute investments, also in a challenging environment.

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Equita, the leading Italian independent investment bank, has been offering its expertise and insight on financial markets to professional investors, corporates and institutions for more than 45 years. The holding Equita Group, listed on the "STAR" segment of the Italian Stock Exchange, counts its managers and professionals among shareholders (with approximately 54% of the share capital) and this ensures a strong alignment of interests with investors. With its global markets activities, today Equita is the leading independent broker in Italy that offers to its institutional clients brokerage services on equities, fixed income, derivatives and ETFs. Moreover, thanks to the continuous engagement of the award winning research team – acknowledged for its top quality research – the trading floor supports investors' decisions with valuable analyses and investment ideas on Italian and European financial markets. Equita also leverages on a unique investment banking platform that combines independent strategic advice with unparalleled access to capital markets. The wide offering proposed includes advisory services in M&A, other extraordinary financial transactions, along with equity and fixed income capital raising solutions. Our aim is to best serve all clients, from large industrial groups to small and medium enterprises, from financial institutions to the public sector. Lastly, Equita Capital SGR offers to institutional investors and banking groups its asset management competences and its deep understanding of financial markets, especially in mid and small caps. The strong focus on alternative assets like private debt and the asset management strategies based on distinctive areas of expertise of the Group make Equita Capital SGR the best partner for both investors looking for interesting returns and banking groups that would like to co-develop new products for their retail networks.