

## EQUITA AND BOCCONI UNIVERSITY RENEW THEIR PARTNERSHIP FOR FOUR YEARS STRENGTHENING THE COLLABORATION ON CAPITAL MARKETS

THE LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EQUITA AND BOCCONI UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN REINFORCED WITH A NEW FOUR-YEAR PARTNERSHIP ADDRESSING THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR APPLIED RESEARCH ON CAPITAL MARKETS

EQUITA AND BAFFI CAREFIN - CENTRE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH OF THE BOCCONI UNIVERSITY - WILL JOINTLY CREATE THE "EQUITA RESEARCH LAB IN CAPITAL MARKETS", AN INNOVATIVE RESEARCH LAB FOCUSING ON APPLIED RESEARCH AND POLICY IMPACT, RAISING AWARENESS OF CURRENT FINANCIAL TOPICS IN ITALY AND ABROAD

AS PART OF THE PARTNERSHIP, EQUITA WILL SPONSOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FEMALE STUDENTS, PROMOTING PROGRESS IN HUMAN CAPITAL AND GENDER EQUALITY

Milan, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Equita, the Italian independent investment bank, and Bocconi University renewed their research collaboration with a new four-year partnership which follows the two consecutive three-year agreements signed in 2013 and 2016.

Since 2013, Equita and Bocconi University, through the Baffi Carefin Research Center, have promoted applied research and publications on relevant financial topics, stimulating the debate on structural elements, development factors and possible solutions for the growth of capital markets for Italian companies.

The renewed partnership has the objective of strengthening the influential role of the research conducted by Equita and Bocconi University via the creation of the "Equita Research Lab in Capital Markets". This will be a laboratory focusing on applied research and policy impact, raising awareness of current financial topics. The organization of public events in Italy and abroad to stimulate debates on Italian capital markets will be of key importance to promote the findings of the Equita Research Lab in Capital Markets. Equita will also develop a website to collect and promote the research published as part of the partnership and increase the visibility of the public events sponsored by Bocconi University and Equita.

The agreement between Equita and Bocconi University will also promote the development of human capital and gender equality. In addition to providing free access to research papers and presenting key findings at public events, Equita – considering its role as supporting partner of the university – will sponsor scholarships for female students attending Master's Degree in finance and Executive MBA at the Bocconi University to promote the participation of women in the financial industry.

Francesco Perilli, Chairman of Equita, commented: "The partnership between Equita and Bocconi University has been very fruitful: we established the Equita Capital Markets' Monitor and sponsored research initiatives on an ongoing basis. The expertise developed together and the evolution of the macroeconomic and financial environment - which constantly requires the investigation of new areas of innovation - convinced us to continue the journey began with the Bocconi University by signing a new four-year partnership agreement".

Andrea Vismara, Chief Executive Officer of Equita, commented: "Thanks to our collaboration with Bocconi University over the last six years, Equita has been able to further enrich its deep understanding of Italian capital markets and contribute actively to the debate on this important topic". Vismara continued: "We are always keen to support students and invest in their education, and this time we will promote both the development of human capital as well as gender equality".

Gianmario Verona, Dean of the Bocconi University, commented: "The role of Equita in applied research and the promotion of diversity within the finance domain is a badge of honour for Bocconi. We want to thank Equita for having confirmed, again, its support to our university and set up goals that promotes knowledge and development of human capital".

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