



**Italian Private Equity, Venture Capital
and Private Debt Association**

22nd edition of the Claudio Dematté Private Equity of the Year® Award. Winners: Aksìa, Ambienta, Cinven, FSI, FVS, Vertis and Zest

Winner in the Venture Capital category: Vertis SGR and Zest for the Fitprime deal;

Winner in the Expansion category: FSI SGR for the Lynx deal;

Special Mid Market Expansion Award: FVS SGR for the IQT Consulting deal;

Buy Out category winner: Ambienta SGR for the Namirial deal;

Special Big Buy Out Award: Cinven for the Arcaplanet deal;

ESG Award: Aksìa SGR for the MIR – Medical International Research deal.

AIFI, together with main partner **Intesa Sanpaolo**, with the support of **EY-Parthenon** and the participation of **Corriere della Sera**, **Il Sole 24 Ore**, **SDA Bocconi** and **Borsa Italiana**, is promoting the 22nd edition of the Claudio Dematté Private Equity of the Year® Award.

The winners were selected from **19 deals** carried out by **20** private equity and venture capital **investors**, which reached the final stage of the award. The jury that announced the winners, chaired by Innocenzo Cipolletta, is composed of: Francesco Billari, Giampio Bracchi, Giovanni Brugnoli, Stefano Caselli, Silvana Chilelli, Stefano Firpo, Aldo Fumagalli, Marco Ginnasi, Gian Maria Gros-Pietro, Sandra Lanzi, Daniele Manca, Andrea Moltrasio, Roberto Nicastro, Umberto Nobile, Claudia Parzani, Angelo Provasoli, Federico Silvestri, Andrea Sironi, Fabio Tamburini and Fabrizio Testa.

In the **Venture Capital category** (risk capital investment made in the early stages of a company's life, including seed, start-up and later stage venture deals), the award went to **Vertis SGR** and **Zest** for the **Fitprime** deal, a platform specialising in corporate wellbeing. In the **Expansion category** (capital investment deals to finance business development), the winner was **FSI SGR** for the **Lynx** deal, a system integrator specialising in the design and implementation of solutions to support large companies operating in the utilities, banking, insurance and public administration sectors. The **Special Expansion Mid Market Award** went to **FVS SGR** for the **IQT Consulting** deal, an engineering and architecture company specialising in the design of telecommunications, energy, water resources and building digitisation infrastructure. In the **Buy Out category** (purchase of a majority or total stake in a company by private equity funds in partnership with management), the winner was **Ambienta SGR** for the **Namirial** deal, a buy-and-build project in the digital transaction management (DTM) sector. The **Special Big Buy Out Award** went to **Cinven** for the **Arcaplanet**



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deal, a brand active in the pet care retail sector in Italy. The **ESG Award** was given to **Aksia SGR** for the **MIR – Medical International Research** deal, a company active in the field of spirometry and telemedicine.

"For private capital players, the Dematté Award represents much more than a performance indicator: it is confirmation of an approach that focuses on building real and lasting value. It rewards not only financial success, but also the ability to transform companies, strengthen their culture and accelerate their opening up to new markets and new skills. This award reflects the evolution of a sector in which investors are no longer simply providers of capital, but catalysts for growth, innovation and entrepreneurial vision," said **Innocenzo Cipolletta, Chairman of AIFI**.

Umberto Nobile, Private Equity Leader at EY Italy, comments: "At EY, we continue to maintain that private equity represents an important strategic lever for supporting business transformation, which is increasingly felt in the current macroeconomic context. Private equity supports growth, innovation and openness to new markets, facilitating the management of risks and opportunities. The finalists for the Dematté Award are examples of success stories: they demonstrate how solid partnerships and targeted investments can transform local businesses into major national and international players. Convinced of this, we continue to strengthen our EY-Parthenon private equity team to accompany these companies on their journey of transformation and value creation, where human capital, organic and inorganic growth, technology, digitalisation and sustainability are fundamental elements for shaping the future with confidence."



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AIFI, the Italian Association of Private Equity, Venture Capital and Private Debt, was established in May 1986 and is internationally recognised as the institutional and promotional representative of private capital activity. AIFI associates financial institutions that, permanently and professionally, invest in unlisted companies, developing them and offering debt that are flexible and adaptable to the needs of individual companies. The Association also brings together an important network of institutions, institutional investors and professionals who are interested in the development of the industry. In addition to representing its members and being a point of reference for the main analysis and research in the field of alternative investments, AIFI plays an important role in the cultural dissemination of financial markets.

EY-Parthenon provides strategic transformation services to companies, private equity firms and institutions, drawing on the expertise of 25,000 professionals specialising in strategy and deals. As part of EY's broader global strategy, "All in", EY-Parthenon's new structure will enable clients to benefit from the combination of strategic and M&A expertise with the unrivalled multidisciplinary expertise of EY's more than 400,000 professionals and specialists in 150 countries around the world, integrating auditing, technology consulting, risk management, tax and legal assistance, providing innovative, multidisciplinary and cross-functional solutions that are unique in the market.

At a time of geopolitical uncertainty and technology-driven transformation, the demand for consulting services is evolving. EY is responding to these new needs by providing strategic and M&A advice with concrete and measurable value, with significant capacity to manage the execution and implementation phases, developing solutions that work in practice, not just on paper. Thanks to its extensive sector expertise, enhanced by significant investments in AI technology and an investor mindset, EY-Parthenon is able to support CEOs, entrepreneurs, private equity funds and institutions at every stage of their transformation journey, helping them shape the future with confidence.

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