

PRESS RELEASE

The Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation and the United Nations Scientific Advisory Board: A Strategic Alliance for the Future of Research and for the common good.

Turin/New York, 17 March 2025 – The Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation is strengthening its commitment to scientific diplomacy through collaboration with the United Nations Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). President Marco Gilli and Secretary General Alberto Anfossi will be received today and tomorrow at the UN Headquarters to further consolidate the relationship established with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding last December.

The Memorandum is part of the Science and Diplomacy Joint Programme, an initiative developed with the support of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) and the United Nations University (UNU), running from June 15, 2024, to June 15, 2026. The program aims to reinforce the role of science in global governance, enhance public trust in science, support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and promote capacity building and institutional engagement. The Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation is supporting the program by committing USD 1 million over two years, thus entering the pool of selected Institution worldwide that are partnering with the EOSG.

The agreement seeks to facilitate the production of scientific analyses and recommendations for UN policymakers, promoting the integration of science into global decision-making processes. It aims to foster dialogue between the scientific community and international institutions by providing reports, data, and analyses that anticipate trends and technological innovations. This initiative will not only influence high-level decision-making, starting from the UN Secretary General, but also contribute to greater public and policymaker confidence in scientific processes.

This collaboration aligns with the Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation's 2024-2028 Multi-Year Strategic Plan, with its emphasis on the international dimension, and reaffirming the pivotal role of science and technology in economic and social development.

"The collaboration with the United Nations Scientific Advisory Board represents a strategically significant initiative for strengthening scientific diplomacy—an essential pillar in building bridges between nations and fostering the exchange of knowledge and technology among experts and international decision-makers. This synergy is crucial for the development of evidence-based global policies to address key challenges such as climate change, energy transition, food security, and global health. In this context, the Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation, through its commitment to supporting research and innovation and strengthening strategic relationships outlined in the Memorandum, reaffirms its role as a national and international philanthropic actor and facilitator of dialogue between academic institutions, the scientific community, and political stakeholders on an international scale," stated Marco Gilli, President of the Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation.

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