

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Establishment of the “Welfare, Italia” Think Tank**

*Presentation of the project created by the Unipol Group and The European House – Ambrosetti today at the 45th edition of the Forum.*

*Cernobbio, 7 September 2019 – The “Welfare, Italia. Laboratorio per le nuove politiche sociali”, (Welfare Italy. Workshop for the new social policies) project promoted by the Unipol Group in 2010 will now be transformed into a think tank. On the back of ten years’ experience and the active contribution of hundreds of stakeholders in the sector, the project will be reinvigorated through a partnership with The European House – Ambrosetti.*

The “Welfare, Italia” Think Tank presented today at the 45th edition of the Ambrosetti Forum will provide a real contribution to the definition of welfare as a driver for the social and economic development of the country in addition to inclusivity and sustainability. It will function as a permanent platform for discussion, sharing ideas and placing value on good public, private and non-profit practices.

The Unipol Group and The European House – Ambrosetti have numerous goals:

- **to create a permanent observatory on the welfare system in Italy** that looks at developments in the applicable economic, social and technological scenarios;
- **to identify and study international benchmark cases** to give inspiration to Italy when drawing up public and private welfare policies;
- **to define a vision of welfare that gives value to the complementary role that the private and the voluntary sectors** can play in supporting a more inclusive, sustainable growth path in the country;
- **to identify policies and proposals to optimise and give value to all components of the national welfare system;**
- **to implement a distinctive, authoritative platform to discuss all strategic welfare matters.**

The goals are aimed at meeting a number of challenges that the country’s welfare system is preparing to face such as: supporting social growth by developing the welfare system, since 16.2% of GDP is currently absorbed by welfare costs (pensions and assistance) while only 1.0% of GDP is absorbed by services (family cheques, support for pre-school and maternity and paternity leave for single-parent families, etc.); arranging for new forms of social protection and inclusion (income support, continuous training, combating poverty); redirecting social

support to changed family structures which have a higher impact on single-member families compared to the past (between 2010 and 2018, this figure grew from 28% to over 33% of the total); exploiting opportunities made by scientific and technological progress to improve prevention services, management of chronic diseases and welfare payments; supporting integration between public and private welfare since private healthcare spending in welfare is now worth 40 billion euros, with only 9% of this funded by integrated solutions and the rest borne by families who remain out-of-pocket, while about 30% of the workforce (7.9 million workers) have taken out some form of complementary pension; finally, increasing the universal nature of healthcare and welfare protection, including by expanding corporate welfare into the fabric of national production.

The think tank will draw up a strategic report to define its medium-long term vision for the Italian welfare system and describe the scope of services that will form the basis for protection and social cohesion. The document will also provide specific insights into areas of interest for welfare, in addition to strategic and policy guidelines for institutions, the business community and the voluntary sector.

The strategic report will be presented at an **Annual Forum**, with the first appointment scheduled for **4 December 2019 in Rome**, when the results will be debated and discussed between **political leaders, representatives of the institutions and the business community**.

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### **The European House – Ambrosetti**

The European House – Ambrosetti is a professional group of about 200 professionals established in 1965. It has grown significantly since then thanks to the contribution of many partners and has numerous operations in Italy, Europe, and throughout the rest of the world.

The Group has five offices in Italy and several foreign offices, in addition to other partnerships all over the world. Its strength lies in its ability to support companies in the integrated management of the four critical aspects in the creation of value: Seeing, Planning, Creating, and Enhancing Value.

We have provided Italian companies with consultancy services for over 50 years, including about 400 customers, producing more than 50 studies and strategic scenarios aimed at Italian and European institutions and companies, and about 30 governance pacts for family-run businesses. About 2,000 national and international experts are also involved in 300 events held every year to assist over 10,000 managers on their growth paths.

The Group has an invaluable asset consisting of very high-level international contacts in the various business sectors, including heads of leading international institutions and individual countries.

For the fifth year in a row, The European House – Ambrosetti was ranked as the top private think tank in Italy, in the top 10 in Europe and the 100 most-appreciated independent think tanks out

of 6,846 at global level in the 2017 edition of Global Go To Think Tanks Report by the University of Pennsylvania.

For further information, visit [www.ambrosetti.eu](http://www.ambrosetti.eu) and follow us on [twitter.com/tehambrosetti](https://twitter.com/tehambrosetti)

### **Unipol Gruppo S.p.A.**

Unipol is one of the main insurance groups in Europe with total premiums of approximately €12.4bn, of which €8.0bn in Non-Life and €4.4bn in Life (2018 figures). Unipol adopts an integrated offer strategy and covers the entire range of insurance and financial products, operating primarily through the subsidiary UnipolSai Assicurazioni S.p.A., founded at the start of 2014 and a leader in Italy in the Non-Life Business, particularly MV TPL. The Group is also active in direct MV insurance (Linear Assicurazioni), transport and aviation insurance (Siat), health insurance (UniSalute) and supplementary pensions, and maintains a presence in the bancassurance channel. It also manages significant diversified assets in the real estate, hotel and agricultural (Tenute del Cerro) sectors. Unipol Gruppo S.p.A. is listed on the Italian Stock Exchange.