

ELITE Day - Shaping access to capital for future generations



Milan - 12 October 2023 – ELITE, the Euronext ecosystem that European supports private companies by connecting them to skills, network and capital to drive their sustainable growth in the long-term today celebrates its flagship event: the ELITE DAY.

ELITE DAY

This year's edition of the ELITE DAY, held in Milan at Palazzo Mezzanotte, will focus on the importance of shaping the access to capital for future generations of entrepreneurs and talents with insightful panels and networking opportunities, bringing together entrepreneurs, top executives, and advisors.

The event features discussions, interviews and panels on the challenges faced by private small and medium-sized companies (SMEs), including access to new skills, new relationships and the capital they need for boosting their sustainable growth in an even more diverse and inclusive context at local, European and global level.

Inspiring CEO "Fireside Chats" with Andrea Pontremoli, CEO of Dallara; Massimo Mercati, CEO of Aboca, will delve into growth strategies in the real economy, paving the way forward for SMEs.

Insightful panels with key representatives from Pictet, FSI and Amundi will look into the ways of funding the next generation of entrepreneurs.

A dedicated panel with Farhana Kuddus, Global Director of Diversity & Inclusion; and Alessandro Zollo, CEO of Great Place to Work; will tackle the important issue of Diversity and Inclusion and how organisations can benefit from a greater focus on inclusion.

Andrea Montanino, Chief Economist and Director for Sectoral Strategies and Impact of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti; Giovanni Sandri, Head of Southern Europe of BlackRock; and Vincenzo Esposito, Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft Italia, will also offer their strategic view.

[Link](#) to the programme.

ELITE in numbers and across Europe

Since ELITE's launch, more than 2.100 companies have been part of the ELITE network with an aggregate revenue of more than €150 billion, representing 34 sectors and employing over 500.000 people. ELITE has been a success story, providing concrete support to many private companies to accelerate their growth: close to €1 billion raised with direct support from ELITE for over 260 companies leveraging on the Basket Bond® model, 66 companies have been listed raising €3.8 billion, 187 companies issued 230 bonds raising €3.5 billion, and around 500 companies managed 1.500 M&A deals.

As part of Euronext since 2021, ELITE is fully aligned with the Group's ambition to promote European Capital Markets and to support small and medium private companies finance their growth and it's now focused on expanding its business in other Euronext countries as part of the "Growth for Impact 2024" Group's strategic plan.

In July 2023 ELITE was officially launched in Portugal with a first group of Portuguese companies joining the programme. Further initiatives to expand across Europe include the first French-Italian Accelerator, launched in 2021 and followed by its second edition in 2023, the first joint programme between France and Italy to guide the growth of companies in both these markets. In the Netherlands, in 2022 ELITE and Euronext Amsterdam won the "One Single Hub" tender promoted by RVO, the Dutch government enterprises agency under the Minister of Economic Development and launched a multi-year programme focused on the aggregation or upscaling of proven successful initiatives in partnership with relevant local stakeholders, while introducing a successful SMEs growth programme.

Marta Testi, CEO of ELITE, said: *"In a rapidly evolving world, the most powerful tool is the ability to change and to leverage on the capitals available: relationships, skills and funding to face and to win the challenges that we have in front of us, in any sector and in any business. Since its launched in 2012, ELITE has always been at the forefront in supporting ambitious businesses in their growing path through a wide range of tools and networking opportunities. Today represents a great chance to delve into new skills and capital needed in a fast changing environment having always in mind that the impact of what we're doing now will be clear in its effects in the coming years."*

About Euronext

Euronext is the leading pan-European market infrastructure, connecting European economies to global capital markets, to accelerate innovation and sustainable growth. It operates regulated exchanges in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Portugal. With close to 2,000 listed issuers and around €5.7 trillion in market capitalisation as of end September 2022, it has an unmatched blue-chip franchise and a strong diverse domestic and international client base. Euronext operates regulated and transparent equity and derivatives markets, one of Europe's leading electronic fixed income trading markets and is the largest centre for debt and funds listings in the world. Its total product offering includes Equities, FX, Exchange Traded Funds, Warrants & Certificates, Bonds, Derivatives, Commodities and Indices. The Group provides a multi-asset clearing house through Euronext Clearing, and custody and settlement services through Euronext Securities central securities depositories in Denmark, Italy, Norway and Portugal. Euronext also leverages its expertise in running markets by providing technology and managed services to third parties. In addition to its main regulated market, it also operates a number of junior markets, simplifying access to listing for SMEs. For the latest news, go to euronext.com or follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/euronext) and LinkedIn (linkedin.com/euronext).

About ELITE

Launched in 2012 by Borsa Italiana and now part of Euronext Group, ELITE is the European network of private SMEs which accelerates the process to access private and public capital markets. ELITE's mission is to support companies by connecting them to capital, skills and network to drive their sustainable growth in the long-term. Based on a unique offer of services and solutions, ELITE combines a calendar of workshops and coaching sessions, supporting entrepreneurs and executives upskilling and empowering their strategic plan and business opportunities. ELITE Companies' management teams are also guided on how to fast-track their development and how to access the most suitable funding options for their needs, whether the Basket Bonds®, institutional investors, private equity, venture capital or equity markets. With over 2000 companies and 200 partners admitted since the launch, about €15 billion have been raised by ELITE businesses through 1200+ corporate transactions, highlighting how dynamic SMEs are once they are provided with an efficient access to private and public markets. For the latest news, go to elite-network.com or follow us on LinkedIn (linkedin.com/company/elite_group/).



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