

**A FURTHER SIGNIFICANT UPGRADE IN ILLIMITY'S ESG RATINGS:
SUSTAINALYTICS' ESG RISK RATING IS ALSO INCREASED**

**THE BANK IS MOREOVER ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE
BANKS ACCORDING TO THE NEWSWEEK AND STATISTA RANKING**

Milan, 11 October 2022 – illimity Bank S.p.A. (“illimity” or the “Bank”) has had its ESG Risk rating upgraded by **Sustainalytics**, one of the world’s leading providers of indices and benchmarks. illimity’s rating has been uplifted by two risk categories, from 35.4 (High Risk) to **15.6 (Low Risk)**, taking it to the top levels of the Italian banking sector.

Sustainalytics has increased illimity’s rating on the basis of its sound management of ESG risks, the policies and programmes it has introduced in that sphere and the high degree of responsibility shown by the Bank towards investors and other stakeholders.

The upgrade comes on the heels of the significant rise in July of the ESG ratings assigned by Standard Ethics and MSCI, currently “EE-” and “A” respectively.

The new ratings reflect the native ESG nature of illimity, which since its formation in 2019 has been following a path designed to include a whole series of sustainability criteria in the Group’s business strategies, processes, policies and governance.

This has also led to the Bank being included as one of the **World’s Most Socially Responsible Banks** in the prestigious ranking of 175 banks drawn up by **Newsweek** and **Statista**.

The ranking is based on an analysis of publicly available sustainability data for 750 banks in 35 countries around the world and on a survey of 45,000 bank customers.

illimity is ranked fifth in Italy and 58th globally for best ESG practice. The final listing is the combined result of a series of factors, including customer perception of a bank’s ESG reputation, an analysis of over 30 sustainability KPIs specific to the banking sector, an assessment of a bank’s non-financial disclosures such as its annual sustainability report and a careful review of business reputation.

Silvia Benzi, CFO & Head of Strategy, Sustainability & IR in **illimity**, commented: *“We are pleased with the recognition awarded us so far, which is testament to the virtuous path taken and the results already obtained by illimity in the sustainability sphere. In its almost four years of growth and strategic development, the natively digital Bank has increasingly built ESG principles into its processes, governance and business model. We will therefore continue to work hard along the course we have set to achieve not only sustained, but also sustainable, growth.”*



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illimity Bank S.p.A.

illimity is the high-tech banking group founded and headed by Corrado Passera that was created with the aim of responding to specific market needs by way of an innovative and specialist business model. More specifically, illimity extends financing to high-potential SMEs, purchases distressed corporate loans and services these through its platform neprix, and provides digital direct banking services through illimitybank.com. illimity SGR, which sets up and manages alternative investment funds, the first of which dedicated to UTP loans, is also a member of the Group. The story of the illimity Group began in January 2018 with the launch of the special purpose acquisition company SPAXS S.p.A., which ended with a record 600 million euro being raised on the market. SPAXS subsequently acquired Banca Interprovinciale S.p.A., with the resulting merger between the two giving rise to “illimity Bank S.p.A.” which has been listed on the Italian Stock Exchange since 5 March 2019 (ticker “ILTY”), first on the MTA exchange and since September 2020 on the STAR segment (now Euronext STAR Milan). The banking group, headquartered in Milan, can already count on over 830 employees and ended the first half of 2022 with assets of around 5.1 billion euro.