Donatella Sciuto

Rector of Politecnico di Milano

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Donatella Sciuto is Rector of Politecnico di Milano, where she is Full Professor of Information Processing Systems. She graduated in Electronic Engineering at the same university, got her PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder (USA) and a Master's Degree in Business Administration at Bocconi University. Since January 2023, she has been at the helm of the first technical university in Italy, as the only female rector since its foundation.

She serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Italy, the Board of the Italian Institute of Technology and the Technical and Scientific Committee of the National Cybersecurity Agency. She is a member of the Supervisory Board of STMicroelectronics and Corriere della Sera Foundation, as well as other boards of listed companies. She has co-authored more than 400 scientific articles and holds 4 international patents. She was named President of the IEEE Council of Electronic Design Automation, an international scientific society based in the United States, and member of the Academia Europaea. She has been appointed IBM Women Leader in Artificial Intelligence and Inspiring Fifty Italy.

She collaborates in various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) initiatives aimed at girls. She has launched the diversity & inclusion program at Politecnico di Milano (POP – Polytechnic Equal Opportunities), where, as former Executive Vice Rector, she oversaw research strategies and teaching innovation (POK – Polimi Open Knowledge).

Vision

"United in diversity for sustainable growth". With this objective, in 2023, Donatella Sciuto was elected Rector of the first technical university in the country and among the top twenty globally in the three domains of study and research: seventh both in Design and Architecture, and thirteenth in Engineering, according to the QS World University Rankings 2024.

Leading the university is a commitment that, after twelve years as Vice Rector (2010-2022), Sciuto undertook on solid ground and with a vision open to international dialogue and to the growth of talents. The goal set for 2028, at the end of her mandate, is to train students, future professionals and researchers to manage technological and social challenges in Europe and in the world, reduce inequalities, and promote sustainable development.

To implement this vision, Sciuto has introduced significant innovations within the university. She has proposed a shared management, expanding the governance to twelve Vice Rectors and about fifty delegates. This extended approach reflects the scope of the objectives set out in the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan and in the first Strategic Sustainability Plan of the University.

The 2023-2025 Strategic Plan reflects the principles underlying sustainable growth in its fullest connotation, with a focus on four main strategic domains of interest: People, Research, Training, and Social Responsibility. In terms of implementation of the Plan, the goals set in the Strategic Plan are operatively declined into four operations – that coincide with the four strategic domains of interest - seventeen actions, and thirty-one performance indicators.

The first Strategic Sustainability Plan of Politecnico di Milano is the natural continuation of the University's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. It embodies and complements a vision centered around the well-being of individuals, the environment, and the community. The Plan offers a dual perspective. Internally, it seeks to educate the community of Politecnico, comprising nearly 60,000 individuals,

including students and staff, who annually initiate around 10,000 young professionals to the labour market. Externally, it considers a broad context, examining various levels of impact, from immediate local surroundings to the global arena.

To delineate the action points of the 2023-2025 Strategic Sustainability Plan, six priorities tied to the university's institutional missions have been identified: Inclusion and equal opportunities, Sustainable research, Sustainability in teaching, Right to education, Innovation and social responsibility, and Environment.

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