

## PRESS RELEASE

### **SME - Capital Market Observatory launched**

### **Two PhD scholarships launched**

### **A new collaboration between Consob and the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - Cetif**

Consob and Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore announce the launch of the new Osservatorio Pmi (SMEs Observatory), an initiative that aims to become a point of reference on a national basis for the analysis of the conditions of access and permanence on the capital market by Italian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The Observatory will focus, among other things, on the dynamics related to the appetite for financial innovation, the use of sustainable resources and the adoption of digital technologies. It will also study the incentive factors influencing the growth and development paths of SMEs.

The Scientific Director of the Project is Federico Rajola, Full Professor of Business Organisation and Director of Cetif - Research Centre on Technology, Innovation and Financial Services of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, assisted for Consob by Paola Deriu, Head of the Studies Division, and Daniela Costa, Councillor of the Economic Studies Office, and for Cetif by Chiara Frigerio, Associate Professor of Business Organisation and Secretary General of Cetif.

**Doctoral Scholarships:** For the purposes of the Observatory, two doctoral scholarships have been activated for young researchers, in Management and Innovation, financed by Consob, on the topics of innovative models with reference to finance and business organisation of SMEs

The call for PhDs is on the website of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore with a deadline of 30 July 2024.

"This collaboration with Consob," commented Prof. Rajola, "provides an entirely new analysis perspective aimed at deepening our knowledge of the development dynamics of SMEs with reference to the capital market and the spread of organisational and digital innovation processes. The Observatory will provide useful data and insights to support SMEs in their strategic decisions'.

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For more information on the Pmi Observatory, visit our website at.

<https://www.cetif.it/research/progetto-di-ricerca-osservatorio-sulle-pmi-italiane>.

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