

Think Tank Trinità dei Monti President Speech

“Climate change and circular economy”

Italian Chamber of Deputies

Sala Regina

Rome, 18 November 2019

Ladies and gentlemen,

good afternoon everyone and welcome to the Climate Change and Circular Economy event organized by the Trinità dei Monti Think Tank in collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Rome. I am Pierluigi TESTA, Founder and President of the Think Tank Trinità dei Monti.

First, let me thank our hosting institutions, the Chamber of Deputies and in particular its President, Roberto Fico for the kind hospitality and for giving us the opportunity to hold this important event in such a prestigious hall.

Then let me express my gratitude towards the Norwegian Ambassador, Her Excellency Tveiten, for her cooperation in organizing this meeting and for inviting institutional representatives and companies from Norway. It has been a privilege and an honour to share this path up until today.

Finally let me thank all our panelists for their availability and for the contributions they will discuss today.

Since February 2012 the 'Trinità dei Monti' Think Tank has organised a series of institutional meetings with the overarching view to promoting international dialogue over economic, political and climate issues as well as fostering a problem solving culture in order to create a large pool of skills for the current and future establishment.

I believe that this panel discussion will be an important milestone in the development of the international debate on climate change and circular economy, and the incredible turn out of this afternoon proves me right.

As Trinità dei Monti Think Tank, we decided to cover these two topical issues with the goal of both informing the public and sparking a constructive debate on the possible solutions and opportunities. We wanted to hold such discussion right within the heart of the Italian policy-making institution, here at the Sala Regina of the Camera dei Deputati, as to highlight the centrality of climate change and circular economy over the coming years.

One is a challenge and a threat – climate change. And as every challenge, requires solutions and commitments. In all advanced economies, it called for a new paradigm for decision makers, which comprised two elements: the determination to fight this climate change, and the choice of instruments to do so.

This is why we have invited experts in local and national climate policy making, but also specialized top managers from the private sector, to share with us their achievements and their accomplishments. We wanted to expose Italian practitioners, businessmen and decision makers to the success stories of Norway in tackling climate change, and vice versa! Because our country has a lot to offer as well.

The other theme is a solution – circular economy. The increasing issue of waste disposal and overconsumption is being dealt with at the international, national and local level through circular solutions. Businesses and firms are focusing more and more attention towards this practice, for environmental and efficiency reasons. Circular economy is an eminently project, a fundamental step towards the goal of a sustainable economy.

What the visionary leaders of this new era are proving, is that Europe is a worldwide leader in addressing climate change and circular economy issues.

We are here to witness a comprehensive overview of how these two topics, are offered by Italian and Norwegian experts. The goal is for them and for us, to learn as much as possible from the experiences of each other. There is an incredible potential in dealing with insurmountable issues through a collaborative approach, and we are here to provide the framework that enables it.

I see today as a great occasion for everybody here to share experiences and to reflect over these topics.

I am optimistic about the future of our countries.

Thank you