 **The Italian Republic**

Country: Italy

Committee: LEGAL

Agenda Item: Developing International Legal Frameworks for the Use of Artificial Intelligence

Italy, officially the Italian Republic, is a country in Southern and Western Europe. It consists of a peninsula that extends into the Mediterranean Sea, with the Alps on its northern land border, as well as nearly 800 islands, notably Sicily and Sardinia. Italy shares its borders with France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, and two enclaves: Vatican City and San Marino. It is the tenth-largest country in Europe by area, covering 301,340 km2 (116,350 sq mi), and the third-most populous member state of the European Union, with a population of nearly 60 million. Italy's capital and largest city is Rome. Italy joined the UN in 1955.

Italy has a rich industrial tradition and a unique ecosystem comprising large enterprises and numerous small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). This ecosystem has embraced technological innovations, from the advent of industrial machinery to the Industry 4.0 paradigm. The AI revolution builds on this foundation, aiming to integrate AI technologies deeply into Italy's socio-economic fabric.The updated AI strategy reflects changes in the technological landscape since 2021, including the rise of generative systems and the development of foundational models. This strategic revision is driven by a need for innovation that respects ethical considerations, focuses on enhancing Italy's unique strengths, and addresses the requirements of the modern AI-driven economy.

The 2020 Strategy for technological innovation and digitalisation by the Ministry for Technological Innovation and Digitalisation foresees the creation of an ‘Alliance for Sustainable Artificial Intelligence’ with the aim to provide guiding principles for the development of trustworthy AI solutions. The national AI strategy also emphasises the importance of campaigns to inform citizens on the characteristics, opportunities and risks of AI as much as on its potential misuse.