



## **ABOUT THE ITALIAN BUSINESS & INVESTMENT INITIATIVE**

IB&I is an independent organization dedicated to promoting Italy's small and medium-sized enterprises as an attractive destination for U.S. investment capital, was launched last night at an event held at the Italian Consulate General in New York City. From its headquarters in midtown Manhattan, IB&I provides a platform for collaboration between the U.S. and Italy through its biannual series of investor forums, giving U.S. investors, venture capitalists, policy makers, academics, the international media and other key opinion formers access to talented Italian entrepreneurs and their businesses.

IB&I is sponsored by a select group of leading corporations including: Alitalia, Booz & Co., Booz Allen Hamilton, Enel SpA, Enel Green Power, Eni SpA, Generali, GSE, Innogest SGR, Intesa Sanpaolo, Invitalia, Mediaset and Wind Telecomunicazioni SpA.

IB&I has also established partnerships with representatives from the Italian government including Consulate General of Italy in New York and the Italian Trade Commission in addition to support from various organizations including The American Chamber of Commerce in Italy, the Business Association Italy America (BAIA), Kaminski Partners, the Mind the Bridge Foundation, M31, the National Italian American Foundation, Reed Smith LLP, and the Silicon Valley Italian Executive Council (SVIEC).

## **FERNANDO NAPOLITANO BIOGRAPHY**

Fernando Napolitano is a prominent Italian businessman and champion of Italy's robust SME and start-up sector. As the founder of the Italian Business & Investment Initiative, his primary objective is to facilitate the creation of meaningful synergies between Italy's entrepreneurs and top U.S. venture capitalists, policy makers, academics and other key opinion formers.

A 20 year veteran of Booz Allen Hamilton, Fernando most recently served as Senior Vice President and Managing Director of Booz & Company in Rome, where he led the Organization and Strategy practice for Italy, specializing in the telecoms, media, aerospace and energy sectors. His previous professional experience includes senior positions at Proctor & Gamble Italia and Laben S.p.A, a division of Finmeccanica.

Fernando currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Enel S.p.A., the largest utility in Europe by earnings where he is Chairman of its remuneration committee, and as a member of the international Advisory Board of Innogest SGR S.p.A., Italy's largest venture capital fund. He is also Chairman of Fulbright BEST (Business Exchange and Student Training), a scholarship program for Italian PhD students in science and technology that promotes the advancement of innovative research, sponsored by the American Embassy in Rome and managed by the Fulbright Commission. Fernando is a member of the Harvard Environmental Economics Program, the Italy-USA Council, and is a former member the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy, the Council for Foreign Relations and the Aspen Institute Italia. He is also a member of the Harvard International Advisory Board.



From 2002-2006, Fernando was a non-executive independent member of the BoD of CIRA (Italian Aerospace Research Center) appointed by the Minister of Research and University and from 2002-2005, he was an industry expert within the Digital Terrestrial Television Commission appointed by the Minister of Communications.

Fernando graduated summa cum laude with a degree in Economics from the University of Naples, holds a Master of Science Management from Brooklyn Polytechnic, and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School. An accomplished author, he currently serves as a columnist for Panorama-Economy, the leading Italian business magazine, and is the co-author of the book, "Megacommunities: How Leaders of Government, Business and Non-Profits Can Tackle Today's Global Challenges Together."

Fernando is a former member of the Italian National water polo team and 1984 European Champion. He lives in New York City with his wife and three children.

*For more information about IB&I, please visit [www.italianbusiness.org](http://www.italianbusiness.org) or email [info@italianbusiness.org](mailto:info@italianbusiness.org) with any questions.*