

Press release

Carlo Comporti appointed Chair of the European Securities and Markets Authority

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), the EU's financial markets regulator and supervisor, is pleased to announce that Carlo Comporti has been appointed as its next Chair. The appointment was confirmed by the Council of the European Union at its meeting today in Brussels. Mr Comporti will take up his position on 1 November 2026.

Verena Ross, current ESMA Chair, said:

"It is a pleasure to welcome Carlo as the new Chair of ESMA. Together with the Board of Supervisors, I wish Carlo all the best in his new position. He brings decades of experience in European financial markets regulation and knows ESMA well. I look forward to seeing ESMA continue to grow under his leadership."

"For my part, it has been a true honour to lead ESMA as Chair for the last 5 years. The dedication, professionalism and expertise of ESMA colleagues have been the driving force behind everything we have achieved together. I am deeply grateful to them for making this journey so rewarding. I would also like to warmly thank my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors for their trust, support, and collaboration throughout these years."

Carlo Comporti, incoming Chair, said

"I am honoured to have been entrusted with this role at a time when ESMA is at the heart of discussions shaping the future of European financial markets. I am thankful to the members of the Board, the European Council and the European Parliament for their trust, and I look forward to working closely with them, as well as with the European Commission, the European Central Bank and other authorities and stakeholders across the financial sector."

"Now more than ever, ESMA plays a critical role in ensuring that European markets further develop and integrate, to support the needs of companies, investors and citizens. I am eager to join the ESMA team and collaborate directly with colleagues who contribute every day to such a dynamic organisation."

Prior to his appointment, Mr Comporti served as a Commissioner at CONSOB (Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa) since February 2022. During this period, he was also a member of ESMA's Board of Supervisors and Management Board, Chair of its Digital Finance Standing Committee, and a member of the IOSCO Board, where he chaired the Audit and Finance Committee. Before joining CONSOB, he served as CEO of Promontory Italy and COO of Promontory Europe, a business unit of IBM Consulting, from 2011 to 2022, having previously held the position of Directeur Général of Promontory France. He served as Secretary General of the Committee of European Securities Regulators (CESR) from 2008 and played a key role in the transition from CESR to ESMA in 2010 and 2011.

Notes for editors:

- ESMA is the EU's financial markets regulator and supervisor. Its mission is to enhance investor protection and promote stable and orderly financial markets in the European Union. It achieves this objective through:
 - three strategic priorities: a. fostering effective markets and financial stability, b. strengthening supervision of EU financial markets, c. enhancing protection of retail investors, and
 - two thematic drivers: enabling sustainable finance; and facilitating technological innovation and effective use of data.
- The Chair of ESMA is responsible for preparing the work of the Board of Supervisors and chair both the [Board of Supervisors](#) and the [Management Board](#), ensuring effective governance, strategic oversight and the delivery of ESMA's priorities.
- The Chair represents ESMA externally and is accountable to the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.
- The Chair is appointed by the Council of the European Union, following confirmation by the European Parliament, on the basis of a shortlist drawn up by ESMA's Board of Supervisors.
- The selection process was launched by ESMA following a [vacancy notice](#) and was open to applications from suitably qualified candidates.
- The selection procedure was conducted in accordance with ESMA's Regulation and followed an open and competitive process.

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