



Mario Monti

Mario Monti is **President of Bocconi University** (since 1994) and Italian **Senator for life** (since 2011). In August 2020 he has been appointed **Chairman of the “Pan-European Commission on Health and Sustainable Development: Rethinking Policy Priorities in the light of Pandemics”**, convened by WHO/Europe.

In November 2011, with Italy close to default, President Napolitano called on Monti to form a government of national unity, taking the positions of **Prime Minister** (2011-2013) and **Minister of Economy and Finance** (2011-2012). The confidence vote by Parliament saw the highest majority in post-War Italy. Eliciting cross-party support, the government overcame the **financial crisis**, initiated **structural reforms** and obtained vital improvements in **Euro-area governance**.

After months of negotiations under Italy’s pressure, Germany, the Netherlands and Finland - which had strongly opposed the idea of interventions in order to stabilize sovereign bond markets – changed position and joined a unanimous statement by the **Euro Summit** (June 2012) calling for such interventions. This provided the ECB with the highest political coverage for a shift in monetary policy, which was in fact announced shortly afterwards by the ECB President.

Monti had previously served for ten years as **Member of the European Commission** (1995-2004). As Commissioner for the **Single Market** (1995-1999) and **Competition** (1999-2004), he fostered market integration whilst promoting tax coordination; and sanctioned high-profile cases of abuses of dominance (e.g. Microsoft), anticompetitive mergers (e.g. GE/Honeywell) and illegal state-aids (e.g. German government’s guarantees to public banks).

He has been the author of **A New Strategy for the Single Market**, a report to the President of the European Commission (2010), and the chairman of the High-level Group created by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission that released the report **Future Financing of the EU** (2017), with emphasis on Own Resources, now the key to the EU Recovery Plan.

Born in Varese, Italy, in 1943, he graduated from **Bocconi University** and pursued graduate studies at **Yale University**. He was professor of Economics at the University of Trento, at the University of Torino, and then at Bocconi, where he was **Rector** between 1989 and 1994.