

Monica Mondardini

Monica Mondardini, 58, graduated in Statistical and Economic Sciences at the University of Bologna.

Her professional activity has been in the publishing and finance sectors and she has had important experience abroad, in particular having spent nine years in France and eleven in Spain.

She began her career in 1985 at Gruppo Editoriale Fabbri, taking part in an international development programme, which in 1989 led her to Spain.

In 1990 she joined Hachette, the leading French publishing group which belongs to the Lagardère group; she at first managed the Spanish branch of Hachette Livre and then, in 1993, was appointed Director of the international branch, headquartered in Paris, and member of the Executive Committee of Hachette Livre. In this position she managed the group's foreign businesses, present mainly in Spain and Latin America.

In 1998 she joined the Generali Group as Managing Director of Europ Assistance, with headquarters in Paris. Europ Assistance is a services company, including insurance, with a worldwide presence, and is a pioneer in its sector and a brand of great prestige.

In 2001 she was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Generali Spain, with offices in Madrid, where she remained until the end of 2008. Generali is one of Spain's principal insurance companies; it was the result of a structured process of acquisitions of local companies by Generali and under her management the acquired companies were turned around, reorganised and integrated, making Generali one of the most important players in the market.

In 2009 she returned to Italy to become Chief Executive Officer of Gruppo Editoriale L'Espresso, now known as GEDI Gruppo Editoriale (following the merger with Itedi, publisher of 'La Stampa' and 'Il Secolo XIX'), the principal Italian daily-newspaper publisher and leader in online news, as well as constituting one of the biggest multimedia groups in Europe. She was Chief Executive of the company until April 2018.

In May 2013 she became Chief Executive Officer of CIR S.p.A., the holding company that controls Sogefi S.p.A., of which she is Chairman, GEDI Gruppo Editoriale, of which she is Deputy Chairman, and KOS S.p.A., of which she is a Director.

She is also an independent Director of Crédit Agricole S.A..

In 2006 she received the "Targa all'Italianità" from the Comites di Madrid, reserved for Italians resident in Spain who have brought prestige to their own country. In 2014 she was recognised by the French Embassy in Rome and the French Chamber of Commerce as the economic personality of the year in the relationship between the two countries. In 2016 she received the title of "Chevalier dans l'ordre de la Légion d'Honneur" from the French state.