

# EVENT REPORT

## WIL Annual Gathering in Rome



8 June 2023  
Palazzo Farnese



PREMIUM  
PARTNER



SILVER  
PARTNER



Lenovo



WTP  
PARTNERS



IN-KIND  
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# Event Snapshot



On 8 June 2023, the European Network for Women in Leadership ([WIL Europe](#)), hosted its Annual Gathering at the Palazzo Farnese in Rome, in partnership with Kering. The event, which welcomed nearly 150 guests, was focused on the theme of sustainability and climate change.

Moderated by WIL General Manager **Nicola Whitehead**, the event kicked off with a dedicated session for the Talents in WIL's [Women Talent Pool](#) (WTP) leadership programme. This session featured exchanges with WIL Member **Cristiana Falcone**, Principal at CBF Strategy, Non-executive Board Director, and WTP 8th edition Patron, and WIL Board Member **Pervenche Berès**, Chair of Association Europe-Finances-Régulations and WTP 7th edition Patron.

After welcome remarks by WIL President, **Thaima Samman**, Founder & Partner at SAMMAN Law and Corporate Affairs, and WIL Member **Marie-Claire Daveu**, Chief Sustainability and Institutional Affairs Officer at Kering, a first panel on *Sustainability in Fashion* was held. Moderated by **Nanni Spitzer**, M&A Partner at Osborne Clarke Germany, this welcomed as guest speakers **Federica Marchionni**, CEO of Global Fashion Agenda, **Mina Piccinini**, Chief Corporate Strategy and Communications Officer at Moncler, alongside **Marie-Claire Daveu**.



The panel was followed by a pitch by **A. Lupo Lanza** and **Furio Francini**, Chairman and CEO of the Accademia Costume e Moda fashion school on the history of the school, and an intervention by **Christian Masset**, France's Ambassador to Italy.

After a **networking lunch break**, during which pieces from three collections from the Accademia Costume e Moda were displayed, a panel debate on *The Green Transition* was held. Moderated by WIL Member **Helena Kazamaki**, Executive Vice President & Group General Counsel at Axens, guests speakers were WIL Member, **Kristin Schreiber**, Director for Ecosystems: Chemicals, Agrifood, Retail and Health at the European Commission, **Stefania Lazzaroni**, General Manager at the Altagamma Foundation, **Francesca Chiara Gennaro**, Chief Investment Officer at CDP Venture Capital SGR SpA and **Laura Muratore**, Executive VP Heads of Sales at Capgemini Italy. This was followed by a pitch by **Linda Stroncerova**, CEO of sustainable fashion brand Duedilatte, and EU Climate Ambassador, **Silvia Moroni**, Founder of Parla Sostenibile.



After a networking coffee break, guests heard from WIL Board Member, **Herke van Hulst**, Partner at Osborne Clarke The Netherlands, who presented WIL's [Empowering Girls project](#) and introduced a video with three participants. This was followed by an intervention by a specially invited delegation of female students from universities across Europe.

After closing words by **Thaima Samman**, a networking cocktail took place on the Palazzo terrace, during which guests joined a unique guided tour of the Palazzo.



# *Exchange with WTP8 & WTP7 Patrons Cristiana Falcone and Pervenche Berès*



Our WIL Annual Gathering kicked off with a special session for the emerging female leaders (Talents) on the 8th and 7th editions of the WTP leadership programme. The leaders met and exchanged with the inspiring Patrons of both editions, WIL Members **Cristiana Falcone** and **Pervenche Berès**, and put their burning questions to them. The session included a discussion in small groups around the question of confidence, following a presentation on the topic by Pervenche, and rounded off with a speed-networking session between WIL Members and Talents.



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## *Welcome remarks*



**Thaima Samman**



**Marie-Claire Daveu**

WIL President **Thaima Samman** and WIL Member **Marie-Claire Daveu** from event partner Kering kicked off the main part of the day which brought together more than 140 WIL Members, Talents, Fellows and guests. This was a chance to welcome the participants and thank the Palazzo Farnese team for their hospitality.



# Panel Debate: Sustainability in Fashion



“ *"Sustainability is inherent to our business strategy. We're focusing on fair production, the link with raw materials and new business models."*

Marie-Claire Daveu, WIL Member

The first debate of the day, moderated by **Nanni Spitzer** (Osborne Clarke), was a chance to reflect on a key issue for the fashion industry today: how to make the industry more sustainable and help achieve climate neutrality by 2050. Guests heard from senior leaders in fashion, **Marie-Claire Daveu** (Kering), **Federica Marchionni** (Global Fashion Agenda) and **Mina Piccinini** (Moncler) as they outlined their organisations' strategies for contributing to a more sustainable world. Participants left the debate with greater knowledge of the challenge and solutions around sustainability in fashion, as well as some takeaways, lessons and ideas for their own industries.

## Wrap-up

[Maria-Christina Sotiropoulou](#)

Head of Development and International Affairs at Mines Paris-PSL and Participant in WIL's WTP leadership programme



Left to right: Marie-Claire Daveu, Federica Marchionni, Mina Piccinini & Nanni Spitzer



# Pitch by Accademia Costume & Moda



In a short pitch by A. Lupo Lanzara and Furio Francini, leaders at the Accademia Costume e Moda, guests learned more about the history, mission and impact of this prestigious school, which was founded by Lupo's grandmother Rosanna Pistolese in 1964 and which counts the current and previous Creative Directors of Gucci amongst its alumni. During the lunch break, our lucky guests had the chance to see three sustainable collections chosen by the school and meet the designers.



## Intervention by Ambassador



Ahead of the **networking lunch**, guests were treated to a special welcome by France's renowned Ambassador to Italy, **Christian Masset**.

*Photos by Christian Mantuano*



# Panel Debate: The Green Transition



“Tackling the challenges and opportunities of the Green transition with inspiring women. We need all stakeholders’ views, expertise and commitment to make it a successful journey.”

Kristin Schreiber, WIL Member

After lunch, a second debate moderated by WIL Member **Helena Kazamaki** (Axens) offered our guests a broader look at what different industries are doing for our planet. They heard from **Kristin Schreiber** (European Commission), **Stefania Lazzaroni** (Altagamma Foundation), **Francesca Chiara Gennaro** (CDP Venture Capital) and **Laura Muratore** (Capgemini), four female leaders representing different sectors about how their organisations are contributing to the transition to a green economy.

## Wrap-up

Raluca Nita

Customer Relations Operations  
Manager at Orange and Participant in  
WIL's WTP leadership programme



Left to right: Laura Muratore, Kristin Schreiber, Stefania Lazzaroni, Francesca Chiara Gennaro and Helena Kazamaki



## *Pitch by sustainable fashion brand - Duedilatte*



Following the debate, participants heard a presentation from growing sustainable company Duedilatte's CEO, **Linda Stroncerova**, about their innovative work to make fabrics from coffee, rice and milk. During the networking break shortly afterwards, guests had the opportunity to interact with some sample Duedilatte fabrics and exchange with Linda.

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## *Contribution by EU Youth Ambassador*



Just before the **networking coffee break**, Italian EU Youth Ambassador and founder of Parla Sostenibile, **Silvia Moroni**, shared with our audience what younger generations are doing to address the climate emergency and gave her tips and insights into how we all can, and must, contribute to making the world more sustainable.



# Empowering Girls Project Latest News



After coffee, WIL Board Member **Herke van Hulst** gave guests an update on WIL's Empowering Girls project, for which she is the Ambassador, where she spoke about the importance and impact of role models for constructing one's future career. This was followed by the projection of a short video with testimonials from three of the project's inspirational participants: Maayane Aharouni, Uchindami Kachale and Nefertiti Dogani.

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## Intervention by delegation of students



Three of the **13 students** studying at universities in Germany, France, Italy and the UK, who had been invited to attend our Gathering and meet the women in our network, took the stage to share what their experience of participating in the day had been. Their intervention was followed by closing words by WIL President **Thaima Samman** and a cocktail on the terrace of the Palazzo, during which guests had the opportunity to go on an guided visit of the magnificent Palazzo Farnese building!



# Networking breaks



*Networking Coffee*



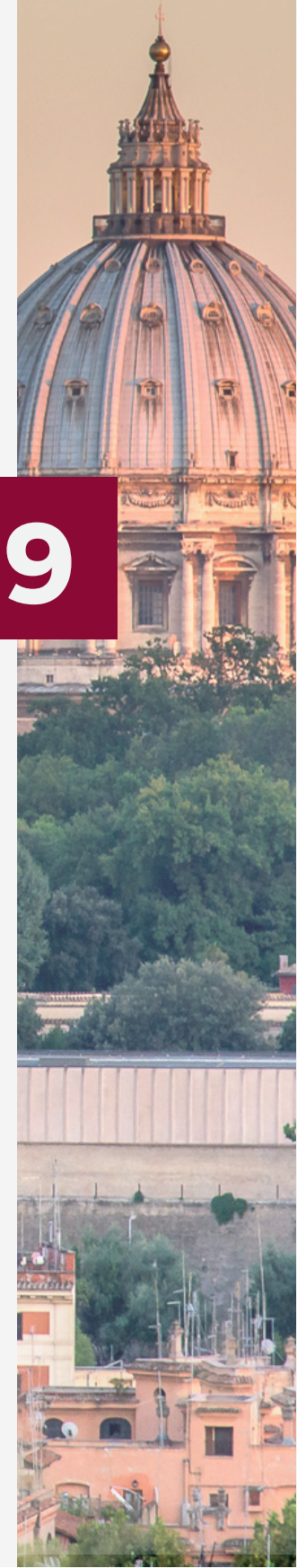
*Networking Lunch*



*Closing Networking Cocktail*



# More Event Photos



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