

Transatlantic Awards. An award for Italian and American bilateral investments.

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Every year in Milan, the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy holds the ceremony awarding the **Transatlantic Awards**. Protagonists in this year's thirteen's edition were the food and technology sectors, which were the main channels of bilateral investment between Italy and the United States.

Amongst the Italian companies which were awarded the prize there was the **Angel Group**, for its partnership with the Spaceship Company (a Virgin-Boeing-Federal Railroad Administration business group); **Falck Renewables**, which acquired 99% of the Canadian Solar Inc.'s photovoltaic project, Canadian Solar IS-42; **Magnaghi Aeronautica**, for its acquisition of a cutting-edge landing system for space industry from Hsm-Blair; and **Progetto Grano**, which is busy carrying out a series of industrial projects in St. Louis, Missouri for a total investment amounting to 53 million dollars.

On the other hand, the American investment projects in Italy above all were focused on the food and wine and technology industries. **Ruffino** won an award for the acquisition of its own winemaking company whose infrastructures will allow it to produce its own brand of Prosecco DOC; **Starbucks Italy**'s efforts were also recognized for finally opening its first "Roastery" in Italy, and thus engaging first hand with the Italian coffee market. **Cisco Italia** invested one hundred million dollars in its program named "Digitaliani", while ITT opened an Innovation Center in Barge. According to Giuliano Tomassi Marinangeli, the President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy and CEO of Dow Italia the award-winning companies were the best that Italy had to offer, a "concrete proof of Italy's attractive potential among American entrepreneurs" and also proof of the "increasing internationalizing capabilities of our [*Italy's*] companies". Even in the face of the looming tariff wars and of the global economic slowdown, last year's Italian exports to the United States surpassed the 40 billion mark while, in the same timeframe, Italian investments across the Atlantic overtook the total amount of American FDI in Italy by five billion (35 to 30).

Investorvisa.it is offering to its customers the best investment opportunities in Italian start-ups and companies. American entrepreneurs and patrons willing to invest or donate in Italy can apply for an Italian investor visa, with investments starting from 500,000 euros for start-ups and 1,000,000 euros for companies and donations. Investorvisa.it also broadcasted a web conference explicitly thought for the US audience to explain in depth the norms regulating the visa application process and its tax benefits.

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