

ILLIMITY REACHES €1 BILLION OF NPL PORTFOLIO AND ENTERS THE NPL FINANCING MARKET

Acquisition of a portfolio with Gross Book Value of €206 million

First NPL Financing deal of €50 million

Milan, 29 November 2018 – **illimity** (the bank controlled by SPAXS S.p.A., now Banca Interprovinciale S.p.A.) continues its activity in the NPL sector, with a total portfolio of NPL loans reaching approximately Euro 1 billion in gross nominal value. SPAXS announces today a new acquisition by its subsidiary bank of a portfolio of corporate non-performing loans with a nominal value of Euro 206 million.

The portfolio was acquired on the primary market by UniCredit and consists of unsecured non-performing loans to Italian corporates, with an average ticket size of Euro 2.7 million. The investment is in line with the 2018-2023 strategic plan in terms of returns.

illimity also announces its first deal in the NPL Financing market. The bank has signed a financing contract to an affiliate of funds managed by Fortress Investment Group for an amount of Euro 50 million, guaranteed by a portfolio of non-performing corporate secured loans with a gross nominal value of Euro 1.2 billion.

Andrea Clamer, Head of the NPL Investment & Servicing Division, commented:

"Two months after the Business Combination came into effect, the NPL Investment & Servicing Division has already acquired four portfolios, reaching a nominal value of approximately Euro 1 billion, and several portfolios are currently under valuation in a highly dynamic market. Today we have also announced our first deal in the NPL Financing business and several other transactions are already being assessed. With our specific expertise, which enables us to support investors also during the early stage of the purchasing process, we aim to become one of the key players in this market".

For further information:

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SPAXS

SPAXS, promoted by Corrado Passera and Andrea Clamer, is the first Italian entrepreneurial SPAC (Special Purpose Acquisition Company) created to acquire and capitalise a company operating in the banking sector. The institutional placement of SPAXS, completed on 26 January 2018 for Euro 600 million, qualified the Company as the largest SPAC in Italy. As of 1 February 2018, SPAXS has been listed on the AIM Italia/Mercato Alternativo del Capitale, organized and operated by Borsa Italiana S.p.A.. On 13 April, it announced the Business Combination with Banca Interprovinciale, which has been operating in the SME segment since 2009 and has approximately Euro 1 billion in total assets and nearly Euro 60 million in equity. The transaction, approved by the SPAXS Shareholders' Meeting on 8 August 2018, was finalised on 20 September 2018 and will be completed with the reverse merger of SPAXS into the Bank at the end of the authorisation process.

illimity

illimity is the new, fully-digital bank specialized in credit for the Italian SMEs and run by Corrado Passera. The bank will take on the name **illimity** once the planned merger between SPAXS and its subsidiary, Banca Interprovinciale, is complete. **illimity** operates in the underserved segments of credit to SMEs with high potential but with a suboptimal financial structure and/or a low rating or unrated, including the segment of non-performing SMEs (known as "Unlikely-To-Pays"); it will purchase and manage Corporate Non-Performing Loans (NPLs), secured and unsecured; from 2019, it will also offer digital direct banking services to retail and corporate customers.

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