## Message from the Consul General

Dear friends,

it is with great enthusiasm that I take up the post of Consul General in Brussels, at the head of a new office created to strengthen the presence of Italy in the capital of Europe.

I will carry out this task with the utmost commitment, as part of the extraordinary effort made by the Italian Embassy to improve relations between Italy and Belgium, and conscious of the responsibility I have towards a community that has contributed with enormous sacrifices to the growth of the two countries.

Since 2016, the number of compatriots registered with AIRE in Brussels has grown from 100,000 to more than 118,000: young people, researchers, professionals and businessmen linked to Europe and the world of European institutions. A community that has a lively relationship with Italy and needs fast and efficient services.

Together with the entire team of the Consulate General, that does its utmost every day to meet a constantly growing demand for services, we will work hard to provide better services and for the Consulate General to feel closer to all of you and to the Italian companies.

Thank you in advance for the support and closeness you will show us.

Francesco Varriale