



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

Dear students,

Never before, as at the opening of this long-awaited and discussed academic year, my welcome address has been so heartfelt and sincere. Your presence is a great moment for our university. Your energy, creativity and talent, together with your desire to come back to Politecnico di Milano, pay back the difficulties we have gone through.

In the last few days, many people asked my opinion on the start of this new academic year and on the measures taken. To all of them I firmly replied that the return of students on campus is necessary. That my concern is for the many boys and girls who, like you, have the right to regain their place in society, not only in classrooms.

Your silent, respectful and composed plea has clearly indicated your desire to be here in person. To resume contacts, to re-establish relationships, to rebuild the foundations of a path made not only of knowledge, but also of exchange and understanding. A presence that is still partial at the moment. That is suffering from inevitable organizational difficulties. That is adjusting to the constantly changing conditions.

However, our hope remains that of a return to a “new normal”. To a condition where we are able to seize new opportunities. That is why we have launched numerous pilot projects. Fostered laboratory activities. Promoted a more international and innovative teaching, towards an effective classroom participation.

To conclude, I would like to compliment you on the sensible behavior adopted, as demonstrated by the broad response to the vaccine. I am sure you will continue to act wisely, with mutual respect and trust.

These are the bases to start anew in a climate of civil coexistence. To meet freshmen and to welcome back those who return to Italy to serenely continue their studies. I wish you all a happy new academic year.

Ferruccio Resta
Rector of Politecnico di Milano