

**ENRICO ROSSI** has been the president of Tuscany since 2010.

He was born into a working class family in 1958 and in 1982 graduated with a degree in philosophy, with a thesis on the Hungarian philosopher Ágnes Heller. While at university, he was part of the student movement and worked as a journalist.

From 1985 to 1990, he was a member of the City Council of Pontedera (an industrial town with a large Piaggio-Vespa factory), serving as vice mayor and councillor for social policy and urban planning. Later, he became mayor of Pontedera, holding the office for nine years, from 1990 to 1999.

In 2000, Enrico Rossi was elected as a member of the Regional Council of Tuscany and for ten years served as regional minister for health. Under his leadership, the regional public health services reached a high level of quality, with modern facilities and technologies, becoming the first in Italy in terms of the "Essential Levels of Care" (LEA) quality label. The cornerstones of his policies included merit, evaluation and research.

After being one of the founders of the *Partito Democratico* in 2007, Enrico Rossi was elected as president of Tuscany in 2010 with a majority of approximately 60 per cent of voters, leading a centre-left coalition. He ran for the presidency once again in 2015 and was re-elected. Since 2010, he is regularly among the top 3 most popular presidents of Italian regions, according to surveys run by the *Sole 24 ore* economic newspaper.

In Europe, he is a socialist member of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR), following the work of the Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) and, previously, the Commission for Economic Policy (ECON) and Commission for Natural Resources (NAT). He contributed to the work of these commissions with three reports on the "[European Union programme for social change and innovation](#)", the "[Youth Employment Package](#)", and "[A Council Recommendation for the integration of the Long-Term unemployed](#)".

He is also vice-president of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) in charge of cohesion. Since the beginning of the post-2020 negotiations, he has actively contributed to the discussion on the future of cohesion policy, presenting an [Open contribution for the post 2020](#), outlining his views on the future of cohesion.

Firmly convinced of the importance of the [#Cohesionalliance](#) and in view of the EU elections he launched a territorial campaign entitled "[Europe in Tuscany](#)", stressing the importance of ESI Funds, personally visiting 100 projects financed by the ERDF, the EARDF and the ESF in Tuscany. Representatives from DG REGIO, including the former Commissioner for Regional Policy, Corina Crețu, participated in some of these visits. He was also invited to the [7th Cohesion Forum](#), where he presented the [case study of Tuscany](#).

Enrico Rossi is a committed socialist and pro-European politician. In 2018, he was the promoter of the manifesto "[Left: Labour, Europe, Fairness, Tolerance](#)", aimed at reforming European governance, reinforcing the communitarian method and enhancing the socialist identity. In 2019, he published a book entitled "It is not enough to say Europe", with an introduction by the PES *spitzenkandidat* Frans Timmermans and the British singer living in Tuscany, Sting.