



Shape the future  
with confidence

# Arnoldo Mondadori Editore S.p.A.

Independent auditor's report on the limited assurance of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement in accordance with Article 14-bis of Legislative Decree n. 39, dated 27 January 2010



Shape the future  
with confidence

EY S.p.A.  
Via Meravigli, 12  
20123 Milano

Tel: +39 02 722121  
Fax: +39 02 722122037  
ey.com

## Independent auditor's report on the limited assurance of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement in accordance with Article 14- bis of Legislative Decree n. 39, dated 27 January 2010 (*Translation from the original Italian text*)

To the Shareholders of  
Arnoldo Mondadori Editore S.p.A.

### Conclusions

We have been appointed to perform a limited assurance engagement pursuant to Article 8, of Legislative Decree n. 125 dated 6 September 2024 (Decree) on the Consolidated Sustainability Statement of Arnoldo Mondadori Editore S.p.A. and its subsidiaries (the Group or Mondadori Group) for the year ended on December 31, 2025 (Consolidated Sustainability Statement), prepared in accordance with Article 4 of the Decree, included in the specific section of the Report on operations of Mondadori Group.

Based on the procedures performed, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that:

- the Mondadori Group Consolidated Sustainability Statement for the year ended on December 31, 2025, has not been prepared, in all material aspects, in accordance with the reporting principles adopted by the European Commission pursuant to European Directive 2013/34/EU, the *European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)*;
- the information included in the paragraph "*Disclosure pursuant to article 8 of Regulation EU 2020/852 (European Taxonomy Regulation)*" of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement has not been prepared, in all material aspects, in accordance with Article 8 of European Regulation n. 852 dated June 18, 2020 (Taxonomy Regulation).

### Elements underlying the conclusions

We have performed a limited assurance engagement in accordance with the Sustainability Reporting Assurance Standard ("*Principio di Attestazione della Rendicontazione di Sostenibilità*") - SSAE (Italy). The procedures performed in this type of engagement vary in nature and timing compared to those necessary for conducting an engagement aimed at obtaining a reasonable level of assurance and are also less extensive. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the level of assurance that would have been obtained if the engagement aimed to acquire a reasonable level of assurance. Our responsibilities under this Standard are further described in the section "*Auditor's responsibility for the Assurance of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement*" of this report.

We are independent in accordance with the standards and principles regarding ethics and independence applicable to the assurance engagement of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement according to Italian law.

Our audit firm applies the International Standard on Quality Control (ISQM Italy) 1, under which it is required to establish, implement, and operate a quality management system that includes instructions and procedures on compliance with ethical principles, professional principles, and applicable legal and regulatory provisions.



**Shape the future  
with confidence**

We believe we have obtained sufficient and appropriate evidence on which to base our conclusions.

## Responsibility of the Arnaldo Mondadori Editore S.p.A. directors and Board of Statutory Auditors for the Consolidated Sustainability Statement

The directors are responsible for the development and implementation of procedures used to identify the information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement in accordance with the requirements of the ESRS (Materiality assessment process) and for the description of such procedures in the paragraph "*Description of the process and results of the double materiality assessment*" of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement.

The directors are also responsible for the preparation of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement, which contains the information identified through the Materiality assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of Article 4 of the Decree, including:

- compliance with the *ESRS*;
- compliance with article 8 of the EU Taxonomy Regulation regarding the information contained in the paragraph entitled "Disclosure pursuant to Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 (Taxonomy Regulation)".

This responsibility entails the establishment, implementation, and maintenance, as required by law, for that part of internal control that they consider necessary in order to allow the preparation of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement in accordance with the requirements of Article 4 of the Decree, free from material misstatements caused by fraud or not intentional behaviors or events. This responsibility also includes the selection and application of appropriate methods for processing the information as well as the development of assumptions and estimates regarding specific sustainability information that are reasonable under the circumstances.

The Board of Statutory Auditors is responsible, within the terms provided by the law, for overseeing the compliance with the requirements of the Decree.

## Intrinsic limitations in the preparation of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement

As indicated in paragraph "*Methodology and general criteria for the preparation of the report*", for the purpose of reporting prospective information in accordance with the ESRS, the directors are required to prepare such information based on assumptions, described in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement, regarding events that may occur in the future and possible future actions by the Group. Due to the uncertainty associated with the realization of any future events, both concerning the occurrence itself and regarding the extent and timing of its occurrence, the variations between actual values and prospective information could be significant.

As indicated in the paragraph "*Business Model and Value Chains*", the information related to Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions is subject to greater intrinsic limitations compared to Scope 1 and 2, due to the limited availability and accuracy of the information used to define such information, both quantitative and qualitative, relating to the value chain.

## Auditor's responsibility for the Assurance of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement

Our objectives are to plan and perform procedures to obtain a limited level of assurance that the Consolidated Sustainability Statement is free from material misstatements, due to fraud or not intentional behaviors or events, and to issue a report containing our conclusions. Errors may arise from fraud or not intentional behavior or events and are considered significant if it can be reasonably expected that they, individually or in the aggregate, could influence the decisions made by users based on the Consolidated Sustainability Statement.



**Shape the future  
with confidence**

In the context of the engagement aimed at obtaining a limited level of assurance in accordance with the Sustainability Reporting Assurance Standard ("*Principio di Attestazione della Rendicontazione di Sostenibilità*") - SSAE (Italy), we exercised professional judgment and maintained professional skepticism throughout the duration of the engagement.

Our responsibilities include:

- considering the risks to identify the information in which a significant error is likely to occur, whether due to fraud or not intentional behaviors or events;
- defining and performing procedures to verify the information in which a significant error is likely to occur. The risk of not detecting a significant error due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting a significant error arising from not intentional behaviors or events, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misleading representations, or manipulation of internal controls;
- directing, supervising, and conducting the limited assurance of the Consolidated Sustainability Statement and assuming full responsibility for the conclusions regarding the Consolidated Sustainability Statement.

## Summary of the work performed

An engagement aimed at obtaining a limited level of assurance involves performing procedures to obtain evidence as a basis for formulating our conclusions.

The procedures performed on the Consolidated Sustainability Statement were based on our professional judgment and included interviews, primarily with the Group personnel responsible for preparing the information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement, as well as documents analysis, recalculations and other procedures aimed to obtain evidence considered appropriate.

In particular, we performed the following procedures, partly in a preliminary phase before the end of the year and subsequently in a final phase up to the date of issuance of this report:

- understanding the business model, the Group's strategies, and the context in which it operates concerning sustainability issues;
- understanding the processes underlying the generation, detection, and management of the qualitative and quantitative information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement, including the analysis of the reporting perimeter;
- understanding the process implemented by the Group for identifying and assessing relevant impacts, risks, and opportunities based on the principle of Double Materiality concerning sustainability issues and verifying the related information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement;
- identifying the information for which there is a likelihood of a significant error risk; defining and performing analytical and substantive procedures, based on our professional judgment, to address the identified significant error risks, including:
  - for the information collected at the Group level:
    - carrying out inquiries and document analysis regarding qualitative information, particularly policies, actions, and targets on sustainability issues, to verify consistency with the evidence collected;
    - performing analytical procedures and limited assurance procedures on a sample basis regarding quantitative information;



**Shape the future  
with confidence**

- for Arnoldo Mondadori Editore S.p.A. and Mondadori Libri S.p.A, that we have selected based on the nature of their activities and their contribution to the metrics included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement, we have carried out interviews with the Group's personnel and obtained documentary evidence relating to the determination of the metrics;
- regarding the requirements of Article 8 of the EU Taxonomy Regulation, understanding the process implemented by the Group to identify eligible economic activities and determine their aligned nature based on the provisions of the EU Taxonomy Regulation, and verifying the related information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement;
- cross-checking the information reported in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement with the information contained in the consolidated financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework or with the accounting data used for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements or with the management data of an accounting nature;
- verifying the structure and presentation of the information included in the Consolidated Sustainability Statement in accordance with the ESRS;
- obtaining the representation letter.

Milan, March 30, 2026

EY S.p.A.  
Signed by: Luca Pellizzoni, Auditor

*This report has been translated into the English language solely for the convenience of international readers.*