

SIMONE STRENGTHENS ITS LEGAL CONTENT PORTFOLIO THROUGH THE ACQUISITION OF “IL FORO ITALIANO”

The transaction reinforces the Group’s strategy of enhancing proprietary content, a key asset for the development of digital databases and Legal AI applications

The strategic value of “Il Foro Italiano”

- A unique legal knowledge heritage in Italy: founded more than 150 years ago, *Il Foro Italiano* represents one of the most authoritative tools for study and in-depth analysis for judges, lawyers, legal professionals and the academic community.
- An editorial history closely linked to the evolution of Italian law: each issue has accompanied the development of national legal culture for over a century and a half, becoming a reference point for the legal community.
- An editorial asset built on the scientific quality of its content: a community of authors, scholars and professionals contributes to the production of content characterised by scientific rigour, editorial independence and interpretative expertise.

Naples, 20 July 2026

Simone (SMN:IM) announces the **acceptance of the irrevocable offer to acquire the business of Società Editrice del Periodico Il Foro Italiano S.r.l. (the “Foro Italiano”)**, which is currently undergoing a Negotiated Settlement Procedure for Business Crisis Resolution (*Composizione Negoziata della Crisi d’Impresa*, “CNCI”).

Within the framework of the CNCI procedure, a competitive process was carried out and concluded on 30 June 2026. Subsequently, on 16 July 2026, having acknowledged the outcome of the procedure, the shareholders’ meeting of Foro Italiano authorised the Company’s Board of Directors to accept the irrevocable offer submitted by the Simone Group and to file an application pursuant to Article 22, paragraph 1, letter d) of the Italian Business Crisis and Insolvency Code (*Codice della Crisi d’Impresa e dell’Insolvenza*, “CCEI”) with the Court of Rome, requesting authorisation for the transfer.

The transaction will be completed through Simone’s subsidiary Libri e Professioni S.r.l. (“Libri e Professioni”) or through another entity designated by it, in any case controlled by Simone. The transaction value amounts to €1.86 million, which will be entirely financed by Simone. In support of the transaction, Simone has already obtained the disbursement of a bank loan from Banca Intesa.

The transaction consideration will be paid according to the following terms: (i) €100,000 as a non-interest-bearing security deposit, to be credited against the purchase price and paid by 23 July 2026; (ii) set-off of Foro Italiano’s outstanding debt exposure towards Libri & Professioni S.r.l., accrued under the business lease agreement and existing as at the closing date; (iii) payment of the remaining balance, net of the amount relating to the assumption of the employee severance indemnity (TFR), to be made simultaneously with the execution of the notarial deed of transfer.

It should be noted that, since May 2025, Simone has already been the distributor of Foro Italiano’s paper and digital products under a distribution agreement and, since July 2025, through Libri & Professioni, has been operating the business currently subject to the acquisition proposal under a lease agreement. Therefore, the acquisition takes place in a context in which the acquired business may already be considered integrated within the Simone Group.

Strategic rationale of the transaction

The transaction is part of Simone's strategic development plan, focused on enhancing highly specialised content. With the acquisition of Foro Italiano, Simone becomes the legal publisher with the broadest offering in Italy, specialising in the various target segments: the Edizioni Simone brand is aimed at students and candidates preparing for public examinations; the Dike Giuridica brand specialises in advanced legal training and targets professionals; the Foro Italiano brand addresses the professional and academic communities.

The completeness of the publishing offering, combined with the strong digital development of the Simone Group, will enable organic growth in the professional legal segment through three main areas:

- sale of digital databases directly to end users;
- upstream supply of specialised digital content to companies developing AI software;
- provision of data for machine learning.

The Group's approach in these markets will be supported by the longstanding history and authoritative reputation of the Foro Italiano brand.

Founded in Rome more than 150 years ago, *Il Foro Italiano* is the most prestigious study and professional working tool for legal practitioners. Throughout its history, every single issue has marked the evolution of Italian law and society, providing reliability and credibility to the daily practice of jurists, judges and lawyers.

The journal's first editorial board included, among its three members, Enrico Scialoja. Since then, a member of the Scialoja family has always been at the helm of the publication, a tradition mirrored by its loyal subscribers: generation after generation, the "yellow issues" of *Il Foro Italiano* have remained a constant presence in the most prestigious law firms, university classrooms and courts throughout Italy.

A plurality of voices, made up of a highly committed editorial team and a host of leading legal scholars, has made and continues to make a decisive contribution to creating a modern imprint capable of combining rigour and timeliness, independence and transparency. A collective work that maintains a constant dialogue with the academic world and the professional community.

Prof. Roberto Pardolesi, Co-Editor of Il Foro Italiano: *"I express my satisfaction with a long-awaited achievement that enables Foro Italiano to be reborn free from financial constraints and to pursue ambitious objectives. We have just concluded the celebration of our first, glorious 150 years; we are now preparing to project ourselves, with renewed commitment, into the next 150 years."*

About Simone

The Simone Group, founded in 1968, is the custodian of a unique legal heritage. Predominantly proprietary, updated on a daily basis and complete with current legislation, case law and authored content, it is progressively being transformed into a structured legal dataset through the proprietary Simone LexCore platform: this infrastructure enables content distribution through B2C digital database subscriptions, integration into third-party software and platforms via APIs, and the supply of data for Legal AI and machine learning applications.

This heritage supports the Advanced Legal Training business delivered through Dike Formazione, accredited by the Scuola Nazionale dell'Amministrazione (SNA), with content, methodologies and training programmes aimed both at key Public Administration professionals and at companies and professionals operating in public procurement markets, positioning itself in a segment characterised by the presence of few truly structured private operators. At the same time, it constitutes the foundation of the Group's historical business in competitive examination publishing, a sector from which the Group derives its experience and established reputation.

Simone is also active in children's publishing, with European initiatives aimed at building a platform of high-quality content and supporting international growth in the sector, and in educational publishing, with a selective and organic approach aimed at enhancing market opportunities in a targeted way.

Press release available at www.emarketstorage.it and www.investors.simone.it

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