

Hon. Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio



Biography

Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio was born in Salerno on March 13, 1959.

Initially lawyer and journalist, he has been Minister of the Agriculture in 2000/2001 and Minister for the Environment, Land and Sea from 2006 to 2008.

He is Chairman of the Foundation UniVerde, which he promoted with the environmentalist Magistrate Gianfranco Amendola and supports the knowledge of the ecological culture since 2008.

He teaches Politics for the Environment and Ecotourism at the Bicocca University of Milan since 2009.

He started his political activities at the Liceo Classico (Classical High School) of Salerno within the nonviolent and Radical movements becoming the Regional President of the Radical Movement in Campania in 1979.

He graduated in Law in 1982 working as a civil lawyer.

He founded the Center for Legal Complaint for Consumer Protection and the Association "Vigilanza Verde" (Green Watch) in 1982.

He has been one of the first municipal councilors of the Greens in the South of Italy (in the city of Salerno), starting in 1985, and has been member of the Municipal Government of Salerno in 1987.

He has been Coordinator of the European Greens and member of the Regional Council of Campania in 1989.

He has been one of the founders of the Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), founded in New York in 1990.

He has been member of the City Council of Naples (1992-2001).

He has been member of the Italian Parliament, always representing the Green Party, from 1992 to 2008.

He has been member of the Judiciary Committee (1992-1996) and President of the Agriculture Committee (1996 – 2000) in the Chamber of Deputies.

He has been Secretary of the Commission for Supervision of the National Television (RAI) from 2001 to 2006.

He has been elected three times President of the Federation of Italian Greens from 2001 to 2008.

As Minister of Agriculture he gave his signature for laws against cruelty to animals, youth entrepreneurship, protection of the origin of olive oil produced in Italy.

He approved the Reforms of Italian agriculture, forestry and fishing in 2001, which introduced the multifunctional agriculture and modernized the forestry field.

He changed, as Minister of the Environment, the name of the Ministry into “Ministry of the Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea” adding the protection of the Sea.

He developed several laws to support renewable energy, sustainable mobility, waste collection, water as "common good", and a more efficient and transparent Environmental Impact Assessment.

He promoted the review of the “Environmental Code”, and approved the Decrees for solar photovoltaic and thermodynamic (the second one by setting up the Commission chaired by the Nobel Prize Carlo Rubbia) and the Decree for Natura 2000 network and the law for the introduction in the Criminal Code of the environmental crimes.

He increased the allocations for the protection of nature and soil, creating new Natural Parks, new Marine Protected Areas and allowing to open more than a thousand work sites for the Prevention of hydrogeological risk.

He re-launched the role of Italy in the Kyoto Protocol and organized the most important National Conference on Climate Change with thousands of participants.

He chaired the conference of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris in 2008.

He is the author of the books “Il Principio di Precauzione” (The Precautionary Principle) and “Le vie dell’acqua” (The Ways of Water)

He is member of the Jury of the European Business Awards since 2010, which are held every year in London.