

Management and security of the Italian national electricity system:

The Terna and Politecnico di Bari Innovation Hub is born

- **Agreement signed for the public-private laboratory. Other enterprises can also collaborate**
- **Projects include data analysis and advanced infrastructure services, in particular**

Rome, 9 April 2020 - Today, Politecnico di Bari Rector Francesco Cupertino and Terna CEO Luigi Ferraris signed an agreement for research, technological development and innovation of the Italian national electricity system infrastructure. The agreement calls for the opening of an Innovation Hub, or rather a multi-disciplinary laboratory, inside the Polytechnic, where a combined team of university researches and company experts will work side by side on scientific projects of common interest.

The projects, closely tied into the area's economic, social and manufacturing scenario, will be aimed at promoting collaboration between the Polytechnic and business for the development and integration of expertise in multidisciplinary research contexts, aimed at management and security of the national electricity system. Specifically, the projects will focus on the following areas: edge computing/distributed computing for collecting and analysing data in real time; advanced services for electricity infrastructure, information security; digital technology; and additive manufacturing.

"The agreement signed with the Politecnico di Bari university represents a further step forward in our innovation strategy, for which Terna plans total investment of € 900 million in the next five years. This collaboration between leading university research centres, students and Terna's professional expertise represents an important opportunity to create innovative training projects in Puglia, pooling ideas, skills and networks for the benefit of an increasingly modern, efficient, flexible and sustainable electricity grid, capable of supporting the current energy transition" declared Terna CEO, **Luigi Ferraris**.

"Today, a new important partnership for the Politecnico di Bari is born, which will enable us to further develop our consolidated skills in the electricity systems sector and integrate them with new information engineering technologies", commented Rector Cupertino. "This is a chance for us to renew and relaunch our research, as well as our educational work, in the energy sector, a sector we believe to be strategic for Italy's secure and sustainable development."

Furthermore, the Politecnico di Bari and Terna expect to have the option of coordinating innovative training and collaboration approaches with students, including events and seminars, in addition to orientation days during which company managers will outline working and training opportunities and the roles and skills required. Students will also have the opportunity to get in the game using simulations in selection interviews.

The current energy transition requires a new approach to innovation, based on acceleration of a portfolio of research and development initiatives that are both effective and aligned with

company strategies, also in collaboration with universities and communities of young innovators. In this regard, in 2019 three Innovation Hubs were launched in Turin, Naples and Milan, with the goal of developing innovative projects focused on new technological trends significant for the electricity system, via creation of working groups and nurturing of future professionals.