



### **Gradiante SGR Closes Third Private Equity Fund Above €180 million Target**

**16 January 2026** - Elm Capital is pleased to announce the final closing of Gradiante III, the third private equity fund raised by Gradiante SGR, with total commitments in excess of its €180 million target. Gradiante III is 33% larger than its predecessor and was supported by a diverse group of new and existing institutional investors and family offices across Europe and North America, including public pension funds, foundations, funds of funds and banks.

The successful fundraising reflects continued investor support for Gradiante's disciplined investment strategy and track record of acquiring, growing and exiting family-led businesses in the Italian lower mid-market.

Gradiante III continues the strategy of Gradiante II, pursuing buyout investments in high-quality companies across a wide range of industries, including business services, consumer, IT and niche manufacturing, where growth can be the primary source for value creation. Gradiante III has completed five investments and one international add-on to date and has a strong near-term pipeline.

Pietro Busnardo, CEO and Founding Partner of Gradiante SGR, commented:

*"We are delighted with the successful fundraising and grateful for the support received from our investors. We believe this backing from both long-standing limited partners and new investors reflects confidence in our strategy and in the team's ability to source, invest in and develop high-quality companies."*

Elm Capital acted as sole global placement agent to Gradiante SGR for the fundraising.

### **About Gradiante SGR**

Gradiante SGR is a Padova-based private equity firm investing in profitable, family-led businesses in the Italian lower mid-market. Its senior team of four partners has worked together since 2011 and has completed 21 platform investments and more than 30 add-on acquisitions. Gradiante works closely with management teams and pursues selective M&A to support the development of larger, more international businesses positioned for sustainable growth.

### **About Elm Capital**

Elm Capital is an independent global placement agent and private capital advisory firm focused on primary fundraisings, secondary transactions and direct placements. Founded in 2004, the firm has advised on over 30 primary fundraisings and over 180 secondary transactions worldwide.