

ITALY

Region: Southern Europe (Global North)
[Population \(2022\)](#): 58.9 million (24th)
[Life Expectancy at Birth \(Women\)](#): 84.9 years
[Governance System](#): Democratic republic

Capital: Rome
[Land Area \(km²\)](#): 295,717 (71st)
Major Language: Italian

Select Global Rankings

[GDP \(2022\)](#): 10th (2,010,431 US\$ Millions)
[Human Development Index](#): 30th (Very High)
[Fragile States Index - Inverted](#): 34th (Cat. 4)

[Good Country Index](#): 24th
[Human Freedom Index](#): 26th
[World Happiness Ranking](#): 33rd

Select Global Rankings (Gender-Focus)

[Gross National Income Per Capita \(Women\)](#): 27th
[Gender Social Norms Index](#): 18th
[Women's Power Index](#): 43rd
[Social Institutions and Gender Index \(World Cup rank\)](#): 4th

[Gender Inequality Index](#): 13th
[Global Gender Gap Index](#): 79th
[Women Peace & Security Index](#): 28th

Elite Sport System Rankings

[2020 Summer Olympic Women's Medals \(% of Total\)](#): 15.5 (39% of 40)
[2022 Winter Olympic Women's Medals \(% of Total\)](#): 10.5 (62% of 17)
[Global Cup Ranking \(Women\)](#): 9th

Football/World Cup Profile

[FIFA Region](#): UEFA
[FIFA Ranking](#): 16
World Cup Appearance: 4th
Best World Cup Performance(s): 6th (1991 Quarter Finals)

Qualification: 1st UEFA World Cup Group G
[World Cup Group](#): G
Last World Cup Appearance: 2019

ITALY in International (Gender) Affairs

Italy is renowned for its art, architecture, and food scene, “it is also notorious for its precarious political life, and has had several dozen governments since the end of World War [Two](#)”. In the 1990s an operation known as “[mani pulite](#)” exposed corruption throughout Italy’s political and business brokers, leading to several investigations. While many hoped that having light shed on these malfeasants would lead to change they were sadly mistaken. The “new political landscape dominated by the multi-millionaire businessman Silvio Berlusconi, who himself became increasingly mired in scandals and corruption [affairs](#)”.

In 2022, Italy elected its first far-right led government, the ‘Brothers of [Italy](#)’, a party that descends from Benito Mussolini’s fascist party led by Italy’s first female prime minister, Giorgia Meloni. Meloni has been on record criticizing the European Union, as the third largest [economy](#) this has raised concerns for other members of the EU. In July 2023 Meloni made an impassioned speech to

Spain's far-right party saying that their success in the upcoming election would usher in "a change in the politics of [Europe](#)".

Gender Equity

In 2019 Italy was ranked 14th in the EU on the Gender Equality [Index](#). "Gender inequalities are most pronounced in the domains of power, time, and work. [Italy](#) has the lowest score of all EU Member States in the domain of work". The domain of power encapsulates political, economic, and social power, whereas the domain of time evaluates women's time spent on care and social activities. Lastly, the work domain considers employment rate, full-time equivalent employment rate, and the segregation and quality of [work](#). Italy scored the highest in the health domain, 12th overall in the EU. The Health domain considers status, behaviour, and access.

Italy has recently experienced a surge in interest in Women's soccer in part due to regular TV coverage. Throughout the 2022-2023 season one Serie A Femminile game was broadcast on free-to-air television. Many attribute the increased visibility of the game and star players to an increase in the number of registered players and increased corporate interest. This upcoming World Cup will be broadcast live on the national public broadcasting [channel](#).