

## Press release

Directa presents the fifth edition of the **University Trading Challenge**. Directa organizes for the fifth year the **University Trading Challenge**: an international competition devoted to trading and education, sponsored by major international financial markets and, for the first time, under the patronage of the Ministry of the Economic Development. An opportunity for the students to invest real money on the markets, 24 hours a day, coming into close contact with the financial world.

**Milan, October 23, 2014**

The competition will take place starting from October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and will end on May the 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015: each faculty can participate with one team consisting of a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 5 students born after December 31, 1986, enrolled in a university faculty. The subscriptions are open until 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2014.

Each team will be provided with Directa's platforms, including all its add-ons, the 'Visual Trader' a technical analysis platform, and a loan of € 5,000, which, considered the leverage effect, will allow you to invest in shares up to a value of € 50,000. The gains will remain to contestants, whereas the minus will be borne by Directa.

Directa will recognize to the winning team's reference professor a contribution of € 20,000, usable for Educational and /or research purposes.

The yields ranking will be drafted and published on weekly basis. The team that on May the 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the end of the Championship, will have achieved the best performance will be proclaimed the winner of the **University Trading Challenge**. The award ceremony will be held in May, in the occasion of the Italian Trading Forum in Rimini.

The last edition has seen the German team of Supermartingales stand out, from the Technical University of Bayern Munich, the team has won the competition against 111 competing teams. The winning team's Faculty received the sum of 20,000 €. This contribution was used to provide a scholarship to the top ten students interested in taking the exam as Eurex market's negotiators, and to finance the organization of trading seminars, and to fund graduate students' participation in the conference of the "Global Derivatives 2014", which will be held in Chicago from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of November, 2014.

The **University Trading Challenge** is also on Facebook Twitter.

**Directa Sim**, founded in 1995 and operational since March 1996, is the **pioneer of online trading in Italy**, and one of the first online trading brokers to become operational in the world. Directa was born to allow the individual investors to operate directly from their Pcs' on the financial markets, with instantly executed orders and reduced costs. Its main customer base has always been those **very active investors** who, with Directa, can operate via the Internet on the **Milan Stock Exchange** (shares, derivatives and fixed income securities), on **NYSE, NASDAQ, AMEX, CME, OTC**, on **Eurex, Liffe**, on the Frankfurt Xetra, **BATS Chi-X Europe** and on the Forex market, through **LMAX Exchange**.

