



EUROPEAN RESOURCE BANK 2022 MEETING, COMPETERE: NUTRISCORE HARMS LOCAL ECONOMIES AND THREATENS CONSUMERS' FREEDOM

Rome, June 7, 2022 - **Competere** has joined the **European Resource Bank 2022 meeting**, taking place on June 6th-8th in **Stockholm**, organizing the international roundtable **“Empowering Consumers – Public Health Policies, Food labels, and the war against fat, salt, and sugar”** hosting **Per Frank**, Nordic Nutrition and Public Affairs Manager Nestlé, and **Ralf Scheider**, European Journalist, along with **Pietro Paganini**, President and Founder of Competere. The European Resource Bank, which is the largest annual conference of think tanks in Europe, gathers representatives from dozens of European Liberal think tanks, scholars, policy experts, elected officials, and other parties interested in the debate over strategies and problems posed to the European economies and the future of individual liberty in Europe.

“Competere has always highlighted the shortcomings of labels like Nutriscore, an arbitrary and misleading labeling system that limits the freedom of consumers, harms local economies and free trade. By not promoting an educational approach, it steers consumers’ choices according to incomprehensible and non-transparent parameters, with an extremely simplistic, ideological, and anti-scientific approach that proves to be totally inadequate to grasp the importance of nutrition for our health and to be the unique labeling system in Europe.

At the same time, Nutriscore black-lists foods that are part of local traditions and scientifically considered as healthy - such as those contained in the Mediterranean Diet - posing a real threat to local communities and sectors that rely on food production.

*Facing this dangerous attack to individual freedom of choice, to economic development, and to the method of science, we reaffirm the need to respect the scientific method, the opinion of the European scientific community, and the interests of consumers, addressing our efforts to provide them with serious, reliable, and scientifically proven information to choose their diet in a sustainable way” - concluded **Pietro Paganini**.*