

Roberto Battiston is the new ASI President

ASI (Agenzia Spaziale Italiana)

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Roberto Battiston is the new President of the Italian Space Agency. Physicist of the National Institute of Nuclear Physics (INFN), Battiston was appointed by the Minister for Education, University and Research, Stefania Giannini.

He succeeds Professor Aldo Sandulli, Special Commissioner to the ASI following judiciary investigations that led to the resignation of the previous president of the Agency, engineer Enrico Saggese.

Professor of Experimental Physics at the University of Trento, where he was born in 1956 and still lives, Battiston has had a long and distinguished academic and scientific career, full of international awards, which began immediately after graduating with honours in Physics from the Scuola Normale of Pisa in 1979. He is Chairman of Commission II of the INFN (National Institute for Nuclear Physics) for Astroparticle Physics, and a member of TIFPA (Trento Institute for Fundamental Physics and Application) - The new National Center of the INFN.

"I thank the minister for his trust - said Battiston immediately after receiving news of his appointment to the top of the ASI -: satisfaction is related to the awareness of the responsibility that this job entails. My commitment will of course be for the Agency, after the moment of difficulty, to resume its role in the space sector and return to being the important hub for the development of industrial and scientific activities in space".

The appointment, said the minister Giannini, shows that "we do things at the right time, with the necessary practicality and speed, but also with attention to excellence. Battiston was among other an excellent physicist at the University of Perugia. I think this is a starting and recovery point of a sector, aerospace, which has an incalculable strategic value".

"Italy - concluded Battiston - has a great tradition in this area and will maintain it in the future. I would particularly like to thank the Special Commissioner, Professor Aldo Sandulli, for his commitment and ability expended in recent months".

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