**Staying true to its commitment in promoting books and knowledge**

**THE BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR**

**JOINS THE** **UNITED NATIONS** ***SDG BOOK CLUB*** **PROJECT**

**The initiative will be presented during the Bologna Children's Book Fair**

**a list of the first selected books**

Reading and learning are essential elements for children's development: stories can fuel their imagination and raise their awareness of new possibilities opening up. The Bologna **Children's** **Book Fair** hasalways been committed to the promotion of books, an extraordinary means to encourage citizens to build a better future; also, the fair has been extremely active in creating international networks of dialogue and cultural bridges. It has now decided to join **the** ***Sustainable*** ***Development*** ***Goals*** ***Book Club****,* a multilingual project inspired by the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The initiative will last 17 months, and consists in the monthly publication of a list of titles for children and young adults, each related to one of the 17 sustainable development goals. Events will be held in a series of different countries, engaging young readers from all over the world and encouraging passion for reading books and sharing ideas with friends and family.

*SDG Book Club* participants include major international publishers as well as libraries, bookshops and children's book authors who will be collaborating with the main organizers of the project. Along with the United Nations and the Bologna Children's Book Fair, the International Publishers Association (IPA), the International Federation of Librarian Associations (IFLA), the European & International Booksellers Federation (EIBF), the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) will also be part of the project.

Furthermore, the Bologna Children's Book Fair will host the first appointment event of the initiative: on International Children's Book Day, **April 2nd, at 5.30 pm**, a **first selection of children and young adults' books inspired by the "No** **Poverty"** issue will be presented at the Author's Café (the complete list of Sustainable Development Goals can be found at [https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/](https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=it&prev=_t&sl=it&tl=en&u=https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/) ).

Multilingualism being a pivotal element in order to reach a large global audience, titles will be selected in each of the official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.

In 2018 the exhibition and publication "Cultivating a Young Humanism", inspired by the visit of Pope Francis to Bologna in 2017, was created in order to draw all contemporary issues often faced by the Holy Father nearer to children's universe. With that very same spirit, this year the Bologna Children's Book Fair continues its effort to promote and disseminate culture for children worldwide.

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