Luciano Maiani New Chairman of the Balzan General Prize Committee
Donatella Della Porta and Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco New Members

Milan, 17 January 2018 - Luciano Maiani is the new Chairman of the Balzan General Prize Committee, following Salvatore Veca, whose mandate ended in 2017.

Luciano Maiani is Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Physics at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome, and of the American Physical Society. In the past, he served as President of INFN and CNR. His nomination was made official on 17 November 2017 on the occasion of the concluding events of the 2017 Balzan Prize awards ceremony in Bern.

Salvatore Veca, to whom the International Balzan Foundation – “Prize” expresses its most sincere thanks for ten years of impassioned, expert guidance of the Committee, will maintain his ties to the Foundation as Director of the annual review, Balzan Papers, publication forthcoming.

Donatella Della Porta and Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco have been nominated as members of the General Prize Committee. Their appointments, made official on 17 November 2017, took effect on 1 January 2018. They will take the places of Salvatore Veca and Gottfried Scholz, respectively.

Donatella Della Porta (Italy) is Professor of Political Science, Dean of the Institute for Humanities and the Social Sciences and Director of the Centre of Social Movement Studies at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence.

Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco (Portugal) is Professor of Ethnomusicology, Director of the Instituto de Etnomusicologia – Centro de Estudos em Música e Dança, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal, and President of the International Council for Traditional Music.

The International Balzan Foundation – “Prize” expresses its most heartfelt gratitude to Professor Scholz for twelve years of invaluable intellectual and cultural contributions to the Committee and to the Balzan Prize.

The General Prize Committee operates within the Balzan Foundation - “Prize” in Milan, and is composed of twenty members from all over Europe, leading exponents in the world of science and culture. Every year, it decides upon the subject areas in which to award the Balzan Prizes, and selects the winners from among nominations entered by the world’s most important international cultural institutions.