

First of all, I would like to thank Universitas Indonesia, especially the Faculty of the Humanities, for its willingness to collaborate with the Italian Cultural Institute on the occasion of the 22nd Week of Italian Language in the World. It is an annual event that takes place on October, initiated by the Accademia della Crusca, in collaboration with the General Management of the Promotion and the Cultural Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The aim of this event, launched in 2001, thanks to the idea of the President of the Accademia della Crusca at that time, Francesco Sabatini, is to promote Italian language around the world. Every year there's a different theme selected and for this year edition is "*L'italiano e i giovani. Come scusa? Non ti followo*" (*loosely translated*-The Italian Language and the Youth). As you saw in the video made by the Ministry, the connection between Italian language and the youth is underlined.

This year we have the pleasure to have of the presence of Vera Gheno and Nazarudin. And today's event shows continuous commitment from the Italian Government to promote Italian Language. In fact, in order to promote the Italian language in the world, the Italian Government has launched, since 2000, the contribution for Italian language chairs program. For the academic year 2022-2023 some universities have received the contribution.

Furthermore, the Italian Government also provides scholarships for Indonesian students who want to pursue their study in various fields at the Italian universities. This year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has awarded the scholarships to 10 Indonesian students who have been accepted at the Italian universities to continue their studies in engineering, Italian language and literature, architecture, economics etc.