



MOVIMENTO DIFESA DEL CITTADINO (*CITIZEN DEFENSE MOVEMENT*)

Citizens Defense Movement (CDM) is an Association of Consumers in charge of defending the rights of citizens. It was founded in Rome in 1987, it is independent of parties and trade unions and aims at promoting the protection of consumers, informing them and providing them with legal means of self-defense, as well as assistance and protection through experts.

It is a member, along with other nineteen Consumer Associations, of the National Council of Consumers and Users (CNCU) constituted at the Ministry of the Economic Development and Consumers' Forum. It is an Association of Social Promotion recognized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and is registered in the register of associations performing activities against discrimination at the National Bureau against Racial Discrimination (UNAR).

It is also recognized by the Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection (DG SANCO) of the European Commission; it is part of the Council of Associations of Consumers and Producers on food safety at the Ministry of Health.

Movimento difesa del cittadino collaborates with Legambiente and the main consumer groups; It works with various institutions, committees, commissions, arbitral bodies, observers and forums.

Movimento difesa del cittadino has 100 branches and offices in 20 Italian Regions.

It carries out campaigns and offers, advice and assistance to protect consumers by promoting conciliation as an instrument so as to avoid court disputes between users and businesses. CDM employs experts who look after the activities of the association and deal with specific issues connected to consumer protection.