



**UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA**  
DIPARTIMENTO DI INGEGNERIA  
CIVILE E INDUSTRIALE

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To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to write in strong support of **Prof. Radoslav Paulen**, Associate Professor at the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, for promotion to **Full Professor**.

I am Full Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Pisa, Senior Editor of the *Journal of Process Control*, and Chair of the IFAC Technical Committee 2.4 “Optimal Control”. I have collaborated with Prof. Paulen for several years, most recently within the Horizon Europe project *FrontSeat*, which has given me a direct and well-grounded view of his academic profile.

Prof. Paulen’s research is of high international standing, evidenced by his contributions to major international projects. I would particularly emphasize his outstanding teaching and mentoring, which in my view are among the strongest elements of his candidature.

He is a highly effective teacher at both undergraduate and graduate level in chemical engineering, process control, and automation. His teaching is characterized by clarity, strong methodological foundations, and a consistent ability to connect advanced theory with practical applications—making his courses rigorous yet accessible to students with diverse backgrounds.

Prof. Paulen is also a committed mentor. He has supervised and co-supervised PhD students, guided numerous Master theses, and supported Bachelor projects. Through our collaboration in *FrontSeat*, I have seen his ability to foster intellectual independence while providing careful and responsible scientific guidance.

Beyond individual teaching and supervision, he contributes actively to the academic life of his institution by promoting high-level scientific seminars and fostering an intellectually stimulating environment for students and young researchers.

He has also demonstrated strong academic leadership and service to the international community, including organizational roles in conferences and sustained editorial and reviewing activity. In my roles as Senior Editor of the *Journal of Process Control* and Chair of IFAC TC 2.4, I have repeatedly appreciated the quality, reliability, and rigor he brings to peer review and scientific evaluation.



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In summary, Prof. Paulen combines teaching excellence, high-quality mentoring, academic leadership, and internationally recognized research in a manner fully consistent with the role and responsibilities of Full Professor. I am confident that his promotion would strongly benefit both students and the institution he serves.

I therefore give him my strongest recommendation without reservation.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Gabriele Pannocchia

Full Professor of Chemical Engineering, University of Pisa  
Senior Editor, Journal of Process Control  
Chair, IFAC Technical Committee 2.4 "Optimal Control"