Berlusconi's media empire

From cruise-ship crooner to billionaire media modul to Italy's dominant political figure, Premier Silvio Berlusconi has achieved an improbable rise to power. Now - stripped of immunity and facing corruption and fraud charges - he's staring into the abyss of a spectacular downfall

FININVEST

Private holding company Revenue (2008) □6.1bn

Pre-tax profit □131m

□1.7bn Debts

Cash □700m



Fininvest ordered to pay damages of □750 million to media group CIR owned by Berlusconi's bitter foe Carlo De Benedetti – for bribing a judge to rule in favour of Fininvest in takeover battle for Mondadori

35.1% Fininvest stake



MEDIOLANUM

Market value □3.6bn Pre-tax profit □22.6m

Financial services business which manages money for hundreds of thousands of Italians. Jointly owned with chief executive Ennio Doris who controls 36.2%

Berlusconi bought historic Milan theatre in 1978, saving it from being converted into a supermarket



MEDIASET



□692.9m

Pre-tax profit

Owns Retequattro, Italia 1, Canale 5, plus majority stake in Spain's Telecinco. Slump in advertising and

growing popularity of News Corp's Sky Italia has hit profits - down almost 49% to □180m in first half of 2009

MONDADORI

€6.5bn

Market value □935m Pre-tax profit □151.4m

50.1%

Italv's biggest publisher. Holds world rights on Pope John Paul II's book Alzatevi, andiamo!



AC MILAN

Known to be short of funds having sold star player *Kaka* for □67m and spending only □20m on new recruits

Sources: Forbes, Financial Times

Picture: Associated Press

© GRAPHIC NEWS