



Royal audience – CNMV's 30th anniversary

SEBASTIÁN ALBELLA, CHAIRMAN

Madrid, 11 may 2018

Your Majesty,

For us, the Board and the directors of the CNMV, it is a great honour to be granted this audience to commemorate our 30th anniversary and to renew our commitment as civil servants, and thus that of the Institution to the Constitution and, ultimately, to Spain.

Created in 1988 as part of the major reforms to our financial system following Spain's entry into the EEC, the National Securities Market Commission is today a consolidated institution with a strong and particularly valuable presence in Spanish society.

The creation of the CNMV was one of the main pillars of a thorough reform of our securities markets system, which sought,

- on the one hand, to strengthen them, making them more efficient and competitive in a European and international context of increasing competition and integration
- and, on the other hand, to reinforce the transparency and integrity of the conduct of market participants and the level of investor protection.

In order to achieve these goals, a modern, robust and efficient supervisor was required.

The CNMV was also the first institution created on the basis of the agency or independent authority model, which has today achieved widespread consensus.

This is a model justified by functional reasons. If we seek to have an efficient and quality institutional framework in place, also at a social ethics level, it is desirable for certain particularly sensitive and especially technical functions, which encompass arbitration, to be exercised in a stable manner and with a sufficient degree of autonomy.

The CNMV is an institution that performs important, increasingly complex functions.

We supervise markets, such as the equity and fixed-income markets, which entails overseeing their infrastructures, all matters related to derivative financial instruments, securities issues and flotations, takeover bids, financial reporting by listed companies and their corporate governance. We also investigate and prosecute market abuse.

We supervise financial intermediaries, we also supervise banks throughout their investment product distribution activities and those related to the securities market.

Finally, we supervise investment firms, collective investment scheme management companies and other specialised financial institutions, in a comprehensive way.

We promote financial and investor education and, through our research department, we contribute to a better understanding and monitoring of the markets.

Furthermore, we have a relevant European and international facet, in particular,

- through our presence in ESMA, the European Securities and Markets Authority, which is a key element in the promising path towards a true European capital markets union,
- and through IOSCO, the International Organisation of Securities Commissions, whose headquarters, inaugurated by Your Majesty, when still Prince, are located in Madrid.

More than 400 people are part of the CNMV and meet these duties with the utmost enthusiasm and in the spirit of public service.

Thank you very much, Your Majesty, for this audience, which has allowed us to express to you, on the occasion of our 30th anniversary, our loyalty and our renewed commitment to continue striving for a better Spain.