



## Speech delivered at the presentation of the 2020 Antonio Moreno Espejo Journalism Award

ÁNGEL BENITO, CNMV COMMISSIONER  
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Good afternoon to you all,

Mr Chairman, Madam Vice-Chair, Commissioners, Antonio's family, members of the jury, prize-winners, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen.

It is an honour for me to be here again today, for the third consecutive year, as chairman of the jury for the fourth edition of the Antonio Moreno Espejo Journalism Award for 2020, an event that has a special significance for all of us at the CNMV. I would like to thank the Chairman, Rodrigo Buenaventura, for offering me to preside over this jury, which is more than just an extra task; it is a personal and professional satisfaction.

This year, marked by the pandemic and the health situation that Covid-19 is leaving us with, not all of us who would like to be here can be present. Today's award ceremony is different. This year we are in a small meeting with part of Antonio's family, the members of the jury and, of course, the award winner.

We miss the warmth of Antonio's friends who every year crowd this room to remember him, but they will almost certainly be joining us by watching this event online.

We hope that in the years to come we will be able to meet again on this day as usual and remember all together our friend and colleague Antonio.

The Antonio Moreno Espejo Journalism Award was created on 27 March 2017 by resolution of the Board of the Spanish National Securities Markets Commission (CNMV) in memory of and in tribute to the man who worked loyally and professionally for 27 years at the service of the CNMV.

This award represents the values and virtues that Antonio embodied in this organisation in all the positions he held: the promotion of integrity and transparency in the securities market and the protection of investors' interests. A job in which, of course, he left his mark because we continue to talk about him and remember him as if he were still with us, both his colleagues at the CNMV and the people with whom he worked and interacted outside this agency.

Antonio's wife, Gloria, and his eldest son, Manuel, are here today, and I would like to thank them for their presence and tell them that we are comforted to see that you are moving forward. To you Manuel, and also to

Gloria and Patricia who, although you are not here today, it is a pleasure to see you every year and to be able to transmit to you what a great person, colleague, friend and professional your father was.

By awarding this prize, I believe that we at the CNMV are contributing to improving the quality of the information published in the media. This is something that this body has been committed to since its creation, as we are aware that truthful and objective information on the securities markets is essential to guarantee transparency and ensure equal opportunities among market participants and, ultimately, to improve investor protection.

In this sense we like to say, because it is true, that we have a common interest with informants and the media: we all want to obtain the best possible information so that citizens and, in our case, investors, have the best tools at their disposal to allow them to make the right decisions.

This year, 117 works have competed for the fourth edition of the Antonio Moreno Espejo Journalism Award, of which 32 have been presented by the journalists themselves. The articles have been published in 28 media, 18 print media and 10 native online media. Of these 117 works, 69 were published in print and online and 48 in online-only media. Once again this year, the number of entries has increased and, in the opinion of the jury, the quality of the works that we have analysed has also improved.

The most repeated themes among this year's nominations were the consequences of the situation caused by Covid 19 and its effects on the economy, sustainable finance, corporate governance and the FinTech revolution, among others. In short, a reflection of the current issues that are impacting our markets and our society.

The jury was composed of Lourdes Centeno, former Vice-Chair of the CNMV, Corporate Governance partner at EY, Ana Isabel Fernández, Director of Cunef, Antonio del Campo, Chairman of the Institute of Compliance Officers, Alberto Estévez, Head of the CNMV's Communications Department, acting as secretary, and myself as chairman. To all of them I would like to express my sincere thanks for the work they have done and their willingness to do everything we have asked of them.

This year, as you know, the award has gone to the article by Miguel Ángel García Vega entitled "La economía mutará con el virus" ("The economy will mutate with the virus"), published in El País, in its Business supplement, on 12 April 2020.

The jury based its decision on the quality of the article, the journalist's ability to anticipate trends, which were still incipient in April, and their impact on the economy and financial markets.

It also highlights the in-depth way in which it analyses the potential effects that the pandemic could have on the economy worldwide, and its impact on habits and behaviour, which could help investors to form an opinion on the financial markets affected by this situation.

In addition, during the deliberations, the jury highlighted the wide range of sources consulted and the wisdom in the selection of the subjects dealt with in such an unpredictable and hitherto unknown context.

Miguel Ángel, I would like to send you my warmest congratulations, as well as those of the rest of the members of the jury. You have done an excellent job and certainly deserve this award.

I would like to conclude by thanking all the journalists and media that have participated in this edition of the 2020 Antonio Moreno Espejo Journalism Award. I want all the participants to know that the quality of the works has been absolutely remarkable, and it has not been easy for the jury to decide on a single entry.

The success of an award lies precisely in that, in the quantity and quality of the works presented which will help to keep alive every year the memory of Antonio Moreno.

Finally, I wish to reiterate my thanks to the members of the jury for the work you have done, my affection for Antonio's family and my congratulations to the winner.

Thank you very much.