# **Popular**

#### BPE FINANCIACIONES, S.A.

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Kingdom of Spain)

and

## BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL, S.A.

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Kingdom of Spain)

## €5,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme

guaranteed as to Notes issued by BPE Financiaciones, S.A. by BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL, S.A.

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Kingdom of Spain)

This document constitutes a base prospectus (the "Base Prospectus") for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive as defined below. Under the Euro Medium Term Note Programme described in this Base Prospectus (the "Programme"), BPE Financiaciones, S.A. ("BPEF") and Banco Popular Español, S.A. ("Banco Popular" or the "Bank" and together with BPEF the "Issuers" and each an "Issuer"), may from time to time issue notes ("Notes"), subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives.

An investment in Notes issued under the Programme involves certain risks. For a discussion of these risks see "Risk Factors".

The payment of all amounts due in respect of Notes issued by BPEF only, will be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by Banco Popular in its capacity as Guarantor (the "Guarantor"). The aggregate principal amount of Notes outstanding and guaranteed will not at any time exceed 65,000,000,000 (or the equivalent in other currencies).

This Base Prospectus has been approved by the Central Bank of Ireland (the "Central Bank"), as competent authority under Directive 2003/71/EC and amendments thereto, including Directive 2010/73/EU (the "Prospectus Directive"). The Central Bank only approves this Base Prospectus as meeting the requirements imposed under Irish and European Union law pursuant to the Prospectus Directive. This Base Prospectus comprises a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the Prospectus (Directive 2003/71/EC) Regulations 2005 and for the purpose of giving information with regard to the issue of Notes under the Programme during the period of twelve months after the date hereof. Application has been made to the Irish Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and trading on its regulated market. The Programme also permits Notes to be issued on the basis that they will be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by such other or further listing authorities, stock exchanges and/or quotation systems as may be agreed with the relevant Issuer.

Such approval relates only to Notes which are to be admitted to trading on the regulated market of the Irish Stock Exchange or other regulated markets for the purposes of Directive 2004/39/EC or which are to be offered to the public in any Member State for the European Economic Area.

Banco Popular has been assigned a rating of "B+ (positive outlook)" by Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited ("S&P"), "BB- (positive outlook)" by Fitch Ratings España, S.A.U. ("Fitch"), "Ba2 (stable outlook)" by Moody's Investors Service España, S.A. ("Moody's") and "BBB (high) (stable outlook)" by DBRS Ratings Limited. ("DBRS"). Each of S&P, Fitch, Moody's and DBRS is established in the European Economic Area ("EEA") and is registered under Regulation EU No 1060/2009, as amended (the "CRA Regulation"). Tranches of Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated. Where a Tranche of Notes is rated, such rating(s) will not necessarily be the same as the ratings described above or the rating(s) assigned to Notes already issued. If a Tranche of Notes is rated, it will be specified in the relevant Final Terms if the relevant credit rating agency is or is not established in the European Union and whether such agency is or is not registered under the Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (as amended) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies.

Arranger
BARCLAYS
Dealers

BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA, S.A. BARCLAYS BofA MERRILL LYNCH COMMERZBANK BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL, S.A. BNP PARIBAS CITIGROUP CRÉDIT AGRICOLE CIB CREDIT SUISSE
GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL
J.P. MORGAN
NATIXIS
SANTANDER GLOBAL BANKING & MARKETS
THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND
UNICREDIT BANK

The date of this Base Prospectus is 10 December 2015

Each of the Issuers and the Guarantor accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus and declares that, having made all reasonable enquiries and having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case, the information contained in this Base Prospectus is, to the best of their knowledge, in accordance with the facts and contains no omission likely to affect its import.

This Base Prospectus should be read and construed together with any amendments or supplements hereto and with any other documents incorporated by reference herein and, in relation to any Tranche (as defined herein) of Notes, should be read and construed together with the relevant Final Terms (as defined herein).

The language of this Base Prospectus is English. Any foreign language text that is included with or within this document has been included for convenience purposes only and does not form part of the Base Prospectus.

The Issuers and the Guarantor have confirmed to the Dealers named under "Plan of Distribution" below that this Base Prospectus contains all information which is (in the context of the Programme, the issue, offering and sale of the Notes and the guarantee of any Notes) material; that such information is true and accurate in all material respects and is not misleading in any material respect; that any opinions, predictions or intentions expressed herein are honestly held or made and are not misleading in any material respect; that this Base Prospectus does not omit to state any material fact necessary to make such information, opinions, predictions or intentions (in the context of the Programme, the issue, offering and sale of the Notes and the guarantee of any Notes) not misleading in any material respect; and that all proper enquiries have been made to verify the foregoing.

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Base Prospectus in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuers, the Guarantor or any of the Dealers (as defined in "Plan of Distribution"). Neither the delivery of this Base Prospectus nor any sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuers or the Guarantor since the date hereof or the date upon which this document has been most recently amended or supplemented or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of the Issuers or the Guarantor since the date hereof or the date upon which this document has been most recently amended or supplemented or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date on which it is supplied or, if different, the date indicated in the document containing the same.

Notice of the aggregate nominal amount of Notes, interest (if any) payable in respect of Notes, the issue price of Notes and any other terms and conditions not contained herein which are applicable to each Tranche (as defined under "Terms and Conditions of the Notes") of Notes will be set out in the final terms (the "Final Terms") which, with respect to Notes to be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange, will be delivered to the Central Bank on or before the date of issue of the Notes of such Tranche.

The distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offering or sale of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Base Prospectus comes are required by the Issuers, the Guarantor and the Dealers to inform themselves about and to observe any such restriction.

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and include Notes in bearer form that are subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, Notes may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to U.S. persons. For a description of certain restrictions on offers and sales of Notes and on distribution of this Base Prospectus, see "Plan of Distribution".

This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer of, or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuers, the Guarantor or the Dealers to subscribe for, or purchase, any Notes.

The Dealers have not separately verified the information contained in this Base Prospectus. None of the Dealers makes any representation, express or implied, or accepts any responsibility, with respect to the accuracy or completeness of any of the information in this Base Prospectus. Neither this Base Prospectus nor any other financial statements are intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation and should not be considered as a recommendation by the Issuers, the Guarantor or the Dealers that any recipient of this Base Prospectus or any other financial statements should purchase the Notes. Each

potential purchaser of Notes should determine for itself the relevance of the information contained in this Base Prospectus and its purchase of Notes should be based upon such investigation as it deems necessary. None of the Dealers undertakes to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuers or the Guarantor during the life of the arrangements contemplated by this Base Prospectus nor to advise any investor or potential investor in the Notes of any information coming to the attention of any of the Dealers.

The maximum aggregate principal amount of Notes outstanding at any one time under the Programme will not exceed  $\epsilon$ 5,000,000,000 (and for this purpose, any Notes denominated in another currency shall be translated into Euro at the date of the agreement to issue such Notes calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Dealer Agreement). The maximum aggregate principal amount of Notes which may be outstanding at any one time under the Programme may be increased from time to time, subject to compliance with the relevant provisions of the Dealer Agreement, as defined under "Plan of Distribution".

In this Base Prospectus, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to a "Member State" are references to a Member State of the European Economic Area, references to "EUR", "Euro" or "euro" are to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union, and as defined in Article 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No 974/98 of 3 May 1998 on the introduction of the euro, as amended, and to "U.S.\$", "U.S. Dollars" and "dollars" are to the lawful currency of the United States of America.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUE OF ANY TRANCHE OF NOTES, THE DEALER OR DEALERS (IF ANY) NAMED AS THE STABILISING MANAGER(S) (OR PERSONS ACTING ON BEHALF OF ANY STABILISING MANAGER(S)) IN THE APPLICABLE FINAL TERMS MAY OVER ALLOT NOTES OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WITH A VIEW TO SUPPORTING THE PRICE OF THE NOTES AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN THAT WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE PREVAIL. THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT THE STABILISING MANAGER(S) (OR PERSONS ACTING ON BEHALF OF A STABILISING MANAGER) WILL UNDERTAKE STABILISATION ACTION. ANY STABILISATION ACTION MAY BEGIN ON OR AT ANY TIME AFTER THE ADEQUATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THE FINAL TERMS OF THE OFFER OF THE RELEVANT TRANCHE OF NOTES IS MADE AND, IF BEGUN, MAY BE ENDED AT ANY TIME, BUT IT MUST END NO LATER THAN THE EARLIER OF 30 DAYS AFTER THE ISSUE DATE OF THE RELEVANT TRANCHE OF NOTES AND 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE ALLOTMENT OF THE RELEVANT TRANCHE OF NOTES. ANY STABILISATION ACTION OR OVER-ALLOTMENT MUST BE CONDUCTED BY THE RELEVANT STABILISING MANAGER(S) (OR PERSON(S) ACTING ON BEHALF OF ANY STABILISING MANAGER(S)) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND RULES.

## **ISSUE OF NOTES**

Notes will be issued on a continuous basis by Banco Popular, or by BPEF and guaranteed by Banco Popular, in series (each a "Series") having one or more issue dates and on terms otherwise identical (or identical other than in respect of the first payment of interest), the Notes of each Series being intended to be interchangeable with all other Notes of that Series. Each Series may be issued in tranches (each a "Tranche") on different issue dates. The specific terms of each Tranche will be set forth in a final terms to this Base Prospectus (a "Final Terms") the form of which is set out in "Pro Forma Final Terms" below

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The documents numbered (1) to (4) below have been filed with the Spanish Securities Market Commission (*Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores*) and English translations of those documents (which are direct and accurate translations of the Spanish originals) together with the documents numbered (5) below, which have been filed previously with the Central Bank, shall be deemed to be incorporated in, and to form part of, the Base Prospectus:

- the audited consolidated annual accounts of Banco Popular as at and for the years ended 31 December 2014 ("Banco Popular 2014 Financial Statements") and 31 December 2013 ("Banco Popular 2013 Financial Statements") prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ("IFRS-EU") together with the auditor's reports thereon;
- the audited condensed interim consolidated financial statements of Banco Popular as at and for the six month period ended 30 June 2015 prepared in accordance with IFRS-EU together with the auditor's report thereon; ("Banco Popular June 2015 Interim Financial Statements");
- (3) the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial information of Banco Popular as at and for the nine month period ended 30 September 2015 prepared in accordance with IFRS-EU; which includes the 30 September 2014 financial information for comparative purposes;
- the audited unconsolidated annual accounts of BPEF for the years ended 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2013 prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Spain ("Spanish GAAP") together with the auditor's reports thereon; and
- the terms and conditions of the Notes contained in the previous base prospectuses dated 22 December 2009, pages 15-36 (inclusive) (the "2009 Conditions"), 20 December 2012, pages 25-49 (inclusive) (the "2012 Conditions"), 23 December 2013, pages 31-61 (inclusive) (the "2013 Conditions") and dated 22 December 2014, pages 32-64 (inclusive) (the "2014 Conditions") prepared by BPEF and Banco Popular in connection with the Programme.

In the Banco Popular 2014 Financial Statements, the financial information as at and for the year ended 31 December 2013 was restated for comparative purposes as a result of the adoption in the last quarter of 2014 of IFRIC 21 "Levies" (see Note 3.a) to the Banco Popular 2014 Financial Statements. Accordingly, some figures for the year ended 2013 included in this Base Prospectus may differ from those reported in the Banco Popular 2013 Financial Statements.

In the Banco Popular June 2015 Interim Financial Statements, the financial information as at and for the six months ended 30 June 2014 was restated for comparative purposes as a result of the adoption in the last quarter of 2014 of IFRIC 21 "Levies" (see Note 2.5 to Banco Popular 2015 June Interim Financial Statements).

Documents (1) above are available on

http://www.grupobancopopular.com/EN/InvestorRelations/FinancialInformation/Documents/2014/IA201 4en.pdf and

http://www.grupobancopopular.com/EN/InvestorRelations/Documents/Annual%20Reports/BPE\_2013\_ENG\_v2.pdf

Document (2) above is available on

 $\underline{http://www.grupobancopopular.com/EN/InvestorRelations/FinancialInformation/Documents/2015/Management \% 20 and \% 20 Financial \% 20 Report \% 20-\% 201\% C2\% BA\% 20 half \% 20 of \% 20 20 15. pdf$ 

Document (3) above is available on

 $\frac{http://www.grupobancopopular.com/ES/AccionistasInversores/InformacionEconomicaFinanciera/Documents/Informes trimestrales/2015/3Q15/IT%20SEP%2015%20EN.pdf}{}$ 

Documents (4) above are available on

http://www.grupobancopopular.com/EN/InvestorRelations/FixedIncomeandRatings/Documents/CCAA% 20BPE%20Financiaciones%2031.12.2014%20ingl%C3%A9s%20versi%C3%B3n.pdf and

http://www.grupobancopopular.com/EN/InvestorRelations/FixedIncomeandRatings/Documents/Annual% 20Accounts%202013%20BPE%20Financiaciones.pdf

Documents (5) above are available on the following:

- 2009 Conditions
   http://www.ise.ie/debt\_documents/1445\_16238\_BP\_22122009\_15872.pdf
- 2012 Conditions
   http://www.ise.ie/debt\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\_6e9e0d49-e2df-4d37-84ab-3135e7ca9c5f.pdf
- 2013 Conditions <a href="http://www.ise.ie/debt\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\_2f11c59c-aeba-496d-ae7c-47c8693a4c8d.pdf?v=14102014">http://www.ise.ie/debt\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\_2f11c59c-aeba-496d-ae7c-47c8693a4c8d.pdf?v=14102014</a>
- 2014 Conditions
   http://www.ise.ie/debt\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\_391fc32e-71cc-4dd5-980e-44fb2529d16d.pdf?v=4102015

Copies of this Base Prospectus (and any document incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus) will be made freely available at the office of the Irish Listing Agent. Any information contained in any of the documents specified above which is not incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus is either not relevant to investors or is covered elsewhere in this Base Prospectus.

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### KEY FEATURES OF THE PROGRAMME

The following must be read as an introduction to the Base Prospectus and any decision to invest in the Notes should be based on consideration of this Base Prospectus as a whole, including the documents incorporated by reference.

Information relating to BPE Financiaciones, S.A. as Issuer

**BPEF:** BPE Financiaciones, S.A.

BPEF was incorporated on 19 February 2004 for an indefinite period of time as a limited liability company (*sociedad anónima*) under the laws of the Kingdom of Spain, with its registered office at calle José Ortega y Gasset 29, 28006 Madrid. BPEF is registered in Volume 19.873, Book O, Folio 164, Section 8 and Sheet M-350196, Registration 1 of the Mercantile Registry (*Registro Mercantil*) of

Madrid.

Business: The principal objects of BPEF are set forth in Clause 2 of its

Memorandum of Association (Estatutos) and are the issuance of bonds (bonos, obligaciones, pagarés, etc.) and other financial

instruments.

**Directors:** The Directors of BPEF are as follows:

Name Principal Occupation

Santiago Armada Martínez de Chairman

Campos

Juan Babío Fernández Vice-Chairman
Daniel de Diego Rozas Vice-Chairman

José Alberto García Piedras Director

Information Relating to Banco Popular Español, S.A. as Issuer and Guarantor

**The Bank and the Group:** Banco Popular Español, S.A. was founded on 14 July 1926 for an

indefinite period of time as a limited liability corporation (sociedad anónima) under the name Banco Popular de los Previsores del

Porvenir, adopting its current name in February 1947.

It is registered in Volume 174, Folio 44, Sheet 5458, Registration 1

of the Mercantile Registry of Madrid.

Its objects are to provide the widest possible services to its clients in

all business services and banking matters.

The Bank's registered office is at C/Velázquez, 34, 28001, Madrid,

Spain.

As at 31 December 2014 the Board of Directors represented approximately 24.56 per cent. of the Bank's share capital, institutional investors represented approximately 44.89 per cent. of the Bank's share capital and individual shareholders represented

approximately 30.55 per cent. of the Bank's share capital.

**Business:** Consolidated profit of the Bank and its consolidated subsidiaries (the

"Group") for the year ended 31 December 2014 was €330 million (compared to €254 million for the year ended 31 December 2013), whereas for the first six months ended 30 June 2015 it was €188

million.

At 31 December 2014, the Group had total assets of €161,456 million, compared with €146,709 million at 31 December 2013. At 30 June 2015 the Group had total assets of €162,647 million, customer funds of €89,994 million and own funds of €12,500 million.

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The Group's business concentrates on domestic retail banking and SME banking, the most important being the business of savings and loans. It also provides through its specialised subsidiaries, factoring, investment management, mutual and pension funds, stock broking, life insurance and mortgage lending.

**Directors and Employees:** 

The members of the Board of Directors of the Bank as of the date of

this Base Prospectus are as follows: Francisco Gómez Martín (CEO) Ángel Carlos Ron Guimil (Chairman)

Francisco Aparicio Valls (Secretary-Director) Roberto Higuera Montejo (Vice Chairman)

Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba (Vice Chairman-Director) José María Arias Mosquera (Vice Chairman-Director)

Alain Fradin (Director)

Ana María Molins López-Rodó (Director) Helena Revoredo Delveccio (Director)

Sindicatura de Accionistas de BPE (represented by Miguel Solís)

(Director)

Vicente Tardío Barutel (Director)

Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A. (represented by Luís Nigorra

Cobián) (Vice Chairman Director) Barrié de la Maza Foundation Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega

Antonio del Valle Ruiz

Description of the Programme

**Description:** Euro Medium Term Note Programme

Arranger: Barclays Bank PLC

Dealers: Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A., Banco Popular Español,

S.A., Banco Santander, S.A., Barclays Bank PLC, BNP Paribas, Citigroup Global Markets Limited, Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft, Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank, Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch, Goldman Sachs International, HSBC Bank plc, J.P. Morgan Securities plc, Merrill Lynch International, Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc, Natixis, Nomura International plc, Société Générale, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, UBS Limited, and

UniCredit Bank AG.

The Issuers may from time to time terminate the appointment of any Dealers under the Programme or appoint additional dealers either in

respect of a single Tranche or in respect of the Programme.

Fiscal Agent: The Bank of New York Mellon, London Branch

**Registrar:** The Bank of New York Mellon (Luxembourg) S.A.

Size: Up to  $\[ \in 5,000,000,000 \]$  (or the equivalent in other currencies at the

date of issue) aggregate principal amount of Notes outstanding at any

one time.

Currencies: Notes may be denominated in Euro or U.S. dollars or in any other

currency or currencies of an OECD country, subject to compliance with all applicable legal and/or regulatory and/or central bank requirements. Payments in respect of Notes may, subject to such compliance, be made in and/or linked to, any currency or currencies

other than the currency in which such Notes are denominated.

**Maturities:** 

Any maturity greater than one year, subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations, central bank requirements and directives. Subordinated Notes will have a maturity of not less than five years or as otherwise permitted by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any applicable laws or regulations.

**Denomination:** 

No Notes may be issued under the Programme which (a) have a minimum denomination of less than €100,000 (or nearly equivalent in another currency) or (b) carry the right to acquire shares (or transferable securities equivalent to shares) issued by the relevant Issuer or by any entity to whose group the relevant Issuer belongs. Subject thereto, Notes will be issued in such denominations as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms, subject to compliance with all applicable legal and/or regulatory and/or central bank requirements.

**Method of Issue:** 

The Notes will be issued on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis. The Notes will be issued in one or more Series (which may be issued on the same date or which may be issued in more than one Tranche on different dates). The Notes may be issued in Tranches on a continuous basis with no minimum issue size, subject to compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and directives. Further Notes may be issued as part of an existing Series.

Form of Notes:

Notes may be issued in registered form, without interest coupons ("Registered Notes"), or in bearer form, with or without interest coupons ("Bearer Notes").

Bearer Notes will, unless otherwise specified, only be sold outside the United States to non-U.S. persons in reliance on Regulation S and will, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms, initially be represented by a Temporary Global Note without interest coupons attached, deposited: (a) in the case of a global note which is not intended to be issued in new global note form (a "Classic Global Note" or "CGN"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, with or on behalf of a Common Depositary located outside the United States for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg; or (b) in the case of a global note which is intended to be issued in new global note form (a "New Global Note" or "NGN"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, with a common safekeeper for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Interests in a Temporary Global Note will be Luxembourg. exchangeable for interests in a permanent global Note in bearer form, without coupons (a "Permanent Global Note"). Bearer Notes will not be exchangeable for Registered Notes. Registered Notes will not be exchangeable for Bearer Notes.

**Issue Price:** 

Notes may be issued at their principal amount or at a discount or premium to their principal amount. The price and amount of Notes to be issued under the Programme will be determined by the relevant Issuer and each relevant Dealer at the time of issue in accordance with prevailing market conditions.

**Fixed Interest Rate Notes:** 

Fixed interest will be payable in arrear on the date or dates in each year, specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Floating Rate Notes:** 

Floating Rate Notes will bear interest set separately for each Series by reference to EURIBOR or LIBOR, as specified in the relevant Final Terms, as adjusted for any applicable margin. Interest periods will be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Periods and Interest Rates:** 

The length of the interest periods for the Notes and the applicable interest rate or its method of calculation may differ from time to time or be constant for any Series. Notes may have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate, or both. All such information will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

**Redemption by Instalments:** 

The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes which are redeemable in two or more instalments will set out the date on which, and the amounts in which, such Notes may be redeemed.

Other Notes:

Terms applicable to high interest Notes, low interest Notes, step-up Notes, step-down Notes and any other type of Note which the relevant Issuer, and any Dealer or Dealers may agree to issue under the Programme will be set out in the relevant Final Terms or in a drawdown prospectus.

**Optional Redemption:** 

The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes will state whether such Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the relevant Issuer (either in whole or in part) and/or the holders, and if so the terms applicable to such redemption. Subordinated Notes may not be redeemed until five years after the Issue Date (or otherwise as permitted by Applicable Banking Regulations) and such redemption is subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors. In no circumstances may Subordinated Notes be redeemed prior to their maturity at the option of the Noteholders.

**Status of the Notes** 

Notes may be either Senior Notes or Subordinated Notes as more fully described in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes — Guarantee and Status".

Senior Notes will constitute unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the relevant Issuer. Upon the insolvency of the relevant Issuer, Senior Notes will rank *pari passu* among themselves and equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer, unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to article 92 of Insolvency Law and subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions.

Subordinated Notes issued under the Programme are intended to qualify as Tier 2 capital of Banco Popular. Subordinated Notes will constitute direct, unconditional and subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer. Upon the insolvency of the relevant Issuer, the Subordinated Notes will (unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law rank (a) senior to (i) any contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any other subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank junior to the relevant Issuer's obligations under the Subordinated Notes; (b) pari passu among themselves and with (i) any other contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer qualifying as Tier 2 instruments and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (ii) any other subordinated obligations which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank pari passu with the relevant Issuer's obligations

under the Subordinated Notes; and (c) **junior** to (i) any unsubordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer under Article 92.1 of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer not qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments or Tier 2 instruments and which are not subordinated obligations under Article 92.3 to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law.

**Status of the guarantee:** 

Senior Notes or Subordinated Notes issued by BPEF only are issued with the benefit of the guarantee as more fully described in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes — Guarantee and Status".

The guarantee in respect of Senior Notes will constitute unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor. Upon the insolvency of the Guarantor, the payment obligations of the Guarantor under the guarantee in respect of Senior Notes will rank pari passu with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor, unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to article 92 of Insolvency Law and subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions.

The guarantee in respect of Subordinated Notes will constitute direct, unconditional and subordinated obligations of the Guarantor. Upon the insolvency of the Guarantor, the payment obligations of the Guarantor under the guarantee in respect of Subordinated Notes will (unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law rank (a) senior to (i) any contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor related to Additional Tier 1 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them); (ii) any subordinated obligations of the Guarantor under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any other subordinated obligations of the Guarantor which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank junior to the Guarantor's obligations under or in respect of the Deed of Guarantee in respect of the Subordinated Notes; (b) pari passu with (i) any other contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor qualifying as Tier 2 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them) and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (ii) any other subordinated obligations of the Guarantor which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank pari passu with the Guarantor's obligations under the Deed of Guarantee in respect of the Subordinated Notes; and (c) junior to (i) any unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the Guarantor under Article 92.1 of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor that are not related to Additional Tier 1 instruments or Tier 2 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them) and which are not subordinated obligations under Article 92.3 to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law.

Taxation

Payments in respect of Notes will be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed or levied by or on behalf of the Kingdom of Spain or any political subdivision thereof or any authority or agency therein or thereof having power to tax, unless the withholding or deduction of such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges is required by law. In that event, the relevant Issuer or, as the case may be, the

Guarantor will (subject to certain exceptions described below) pay such additional amounts as will result in the holders of Notes or Coupons receiving such amounts as they would have received in respect of such Notes or Coupons had no such withholding or deduction been required. In addition to certain customary exceptions, no such additional amounts shall be payable:

- (a) to, or to a third party on behalf of, a holder in respect of whom the relevant Issuer, the Guarantor (if applicable) (or the Fiscal Agent on its behalf) has not received such information (which may include a tax residence certificate) concerning such holder's identity and tax residence (or the identity or tax residence of the beneficial owner for whose benefit it holds such Notes) as it may be required in order to comply with Spanish tax reporting requirements; and
- (b) if the Spanish tax authorities make the determination described in Condition 9 (v) and (vi) (see "Terms and Conditions of the Notes Taxation").

**Negative Pledge:** 

Applicable exclusively to Senior Notes. The Senior Notes will contain a negative pledge as more fully set out in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes — Negative Pledge".

**Cross Default:** 

Applicable exclusively to Senior Notes. The Senior Notes will contain a cross default in respect of Relevant Indebtedness of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) as more fully set out in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes — Events of Default".

**Early Redemption:** 

Except as provided in "Optional Redemption" above, Notes will be redeemable at the option of the relevant Issuer prior to maturity only for tax reasons.

Disclosure of Information in Connection with Payments:

Under Spanish Law 10/2014 of 26 June on regulation, supervision and solvency of credit entities ("Law 10/2014"), and Royal Decree 1065/2007 of 27 July ("Royal Decree 1065/2007") as amended, the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) are required to provide to the Spanish tax authorities certain information relating to the Notes.

If the Fiscal Agent fails to provide the relevant Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor with the required information described under "Taxation and Disclosure of Information in Connection with Payments", the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) may be required to withhold tax at the current rate of 19.5 per cent. (19 per cent. as from 1 January 2016).

A summary of those procedures is set out in "Taxation and Disclosure of Information in Connection with Payments — the Kingdom of Spain".

None of the Issuers, the Guarantor, the Arranger, the Dealers, the Registrars and the Clearing Systems assume any responsibility therefore.

**Governing Law:** 

English, save for the issue of the Notes, including their legal nature and status, the capacity of the Issuers and Guarantor, the relevant corporate resolutions and status of the payment obligations under the Deed of Guarantee, which are governed by the laws of Spain.

**Listing:** 

This Base Prospectus has been approved by the Central Bank as competent authority under the Prospectus Directive. The Central Bank only approves this Base Prospectus as meeting the requirements imposed under Irish and European Union law pursuant to the

Prospectus Directive.

Application has been made to the Irish Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and trading on its regulated market, as specified in the relevant Final Terms. As specified in the relevant Final Terms, a Series of Notes may or may not be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange and/or admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any other listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system, within the EU. Unlisted Notes will not be issued under the Programme.

**Selling Restrictions:** 

United States, United Kingdom, Spain, France and Italy. See "Plan of Distribution".

In connection with the offering and sale of a particular Tranche of Notes, additional selling restrictions may be imposed which will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

**Risk Factors:** 

Prospective investors should understand the risks of investing in any type of Note before they make their investment decision. They should make their own independent decision to invest in any type of Note and as to whether an investment in such Note is appropriate or proper for them based upon their own judgment and upon advice from such advisers as they consider necessary.

For a description of certain risks involved in investing in the Notes, see "Risk Factors".

Risk factors are designed both to protect investors from investments from which they are not suitable and to set out the financial risks associated with an investment in a particular type of Note.

Representation of holders of the Notes:

In accordance with Condition 12 (Meetings of Noteholders and Modification), Schedule 7 (Provisions for Meetings of Noteholders) of the Fiscal Agency Agreement contains provisions for convening meetings of holders of Notes to consider any matter affecting their interests.

Rating:

Tranches of Notes may be rated or unrated and if rated, such rating(s) will be specified in the relevant Final Terms and it shall also be specified if the relevant credit rating agency is or is not established in the European Union and whether such agency is or is not registered under the Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (as amended) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies.

A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold Notes and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

#### RISK FACTORS

Any investment in the Notes is subject to a number of risks. Prior to investing in the Notes, prospective investors should carefully consider risk factors associated with any investment in the Notes, the business of the Issuers and the Guarantor and the industry(ies) in which each of them operates together with all other information contained in this Base Prospectus, including, in particular the risk factors described below. Words and expressions defined in the "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" below or elsewhere in this Base Prospectus have the same meanings in this section.

Prospective investors should note that the risks relating to the Issuers and the Guarantor, the industry(ies) in which each of them operates and the Notes summarised in the section of this Base Prospectus headed "Key Features of the Programme" are the risks that the Issuers and the Guarantor believe to be the most relevant to an assessment by a prospective investor of whether to consider an investment in the Notes. However, as the risks which the Issuers and the Guarantor face relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future, prospective investors should consider not only the information on the key risks summarised in the section of this Base Prospectus headed "Key Features of the Programme" but also, among other things, the risks and uncertainties described below.

The following is not an exhaustive list or explanation of all risks which investors may face when making an investment in the Notes and should be used as guidance only. Additional risks and uncertainties relating to the Issuers and the Guarantor that are not currently known to the Issuers and the Guarantor, or that either currently deems immaterial, may individually or cumulatively also have a material adverse effect on the business, prospects, results of operations and/or financial position of the Issuers and the Guarantor and, if any such risk should occur, the price of the Notes may decline and investors could lose all or part of their investment. Investors should consider carefully whether an investment in the Notes is suitable for them in light of the information in this Base Prospectus and their personal circumstances.

Defined terms used in the statements below have the meanings assigned to them elsewhere in this Base Prospectus, including in "Conditions of the Notes".

## Factors that may affect BPEF's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes

Dependence on other Group members

BPEF is a finance vehicle established by Banco Popular for the purpose of issuing the Notes and on lending the proceeds within the Group. BPEF is therefore dependent upon other members of the Group paying interest on and repaying their loans in a timely fashion. Should any Group member fail to pay interest on or repay any loan in a timely fashion this could have a material adverse effect on the ability of BPEF to fulfil its obligations under the Notes and that is the reason why the Notes issued by BPEF are guaranteed. By virtue of its dependence on other Group members, each of the risks described below that affect the Guarantor will also indirectly affect BPEF.

## Risks in Relation to the Banking Activities of the Group

The principal types of risk to which the banking activities of the Group (as defined below) are subject include the following:

<u>Credit Risk:</u> Credit risk can be defined as possible losses which may be generated by a potential default in whole or in part of obligations by a counterparty or debtor (including, but not limited to, an insolvency proceeding of a counterparty or debtor). These obligations arise in both the financial activities of the Group and its dealing and investment activities since they arise by means of loans, fixed interest or equity securities, derivative instruments or other types of products (for example, guarantees).

<u>Market Risk</u>: Market risk refers to the uncertainties to which the Group's financial position and future income are exposed as a result of adverse movements in the prices of financial instruments with which the Group operates in its activities in financial and securities markets.

<u>Cross-border risk</u>: Cross-border risk, also referred to as country risk, is an additional component of credit risk. It originates from the difficulty for borrowers in certain foreign countries to satisfy their debt payment obligations. The default may be attributable to the financial position of the actual debtor (in which case the treatment is as for credit risk) or it may arise because the debtor, despite being able to

repay their loans in the local currency, is unable to transfer funds abroad in view of economic difficulties in their country of residence. Applicable rules require that these risks should be provided for based on the estimated impairment. The principles for managing cross-border risk continued to reflect a policy of maximum prudence, with cross-border risk being assumed very selectively in transactions that were clearly profitable for the Group, and strengthened global relations with its customers. At 31 December 2014, the Group's overall country risk amounted to €43.8 million, 20.2 per cent. lower than at the end of 2013 (€54.9 million). These figures are not significant in relation to the Group's total risks, of which they represented 0.03 per cent. in 2014 and 0.04 per cent. in 2013. The provision made for country risk amounts to €1 million, 22.3 per cent. less than 2013, so the balance of the provision established represents coverage of country risk of 2.32 per cent. compared to 2.38 per cent. in 2013.

<u>Structural Balance Sheet Risk:</u> This risk category covers risks deriving from possible adverse changes in interest rates corresponding to assets and liabilities, in the exchange rates for currencies in which asset and liability groups or on- or off-balance sheet items are denominated, and in the market prices of negotiable financial instruments. Also included in this concept is the business risk as well as the exchange rate risk.

Interest Rate Risk: Overall balance sheet interest risk can be defined as the extent to which an institution may be affected by future movements which occur in market interest rates. The principal reasons for this risk derive from the different speed and intensity with which changes in market interest rates are passed on to assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet positions based on the times when they fall due and repricing. At 31 December 2013, interest-rate sensitive assets totalled €111,870 million, compared with €114,815 million of interest-rate sensitive liabilities, with an aggregate negative gap of €2,945 million. At 31 December 2014, interest-rate sensitive assets totalled €122,693 million, compared with €120,152 million of interest-rate sensitive liabilities, with an aggregate positive gap of €2,541 million.

Where the maturities of sensitive assets exceed those of sensitive liabilities, rising interest rates should have a positive impact on Banco Popular's interest income in the short term. Conversely, a scenario of falling rates would have a negative impact.

Short term effects are shown in the profit and loss account and in the medium term are manifested by movements in the financial value of assets and liabilities which form part of the balance sheet.

<u>Liquidity Risk:</u> Liquidity risk comprises uncertainties in relation to the Group's ability, under adverse conditions, to access funding necessary to cover its obligations to customers, meet the maturity of its liabilities and to satisfy capital requirements. It includes both the risk of unexpected increases in the cost of financing and the risk of not being able to structure the maturity dates of the Group's liabilities reasonably in line with its assets, as well as the risk of not being able to meet its payment obligations on time at a reasonable price due to liquidity pressures.

<u>Exchange Rate Risk</u>: The exchange rate risk consists of the potential losses which may occur as a result of adverse movements in exchange rates in respect of the different currencies in which the Group operates.

## Operational Risk: Operational risk includes:

- (a) the business risk which may result from unforeseeable changes in external factors without sufficient time to make the structural changes necessary to adapt to them, and the risk that unforeseeable events occur which could lead to losses for the Group;
- (b) transactional risks resulting from errors in execution, registration failure, deriving from the complexity of certain products, errors in delivery and/or liquidation and/or human error;
- risks in operational controls which include losses resulting from potential errors in transaction documentation, in obtaining the appropriate authorisations, fraud, lack of personnel training, failure to comply with limits or procedures laid down, failure of internal controls or unavailability of personnel;
- (d) losses resulting from material loss and damage as well as extreme events, for example natural disasters;
- (e) data processing risks, such as programming errors, systems failure and application design errors;

(f) legal risks, including the possibility that transactions may not be legally enforceable in the existing legal and/or regulatory framework, and also that change in law and regulations may negatively affect the situation of the Group.

<u>Reputational Risk:</u> It can be defined as that arising from the negative perception of the Bank by the various stakeholders with which it relates or by public opinion, which could cause an adverse impact on the capital, on the results or the development of the businesses making up its activity. It is a risk which arises from the materialisation of other risks. Legal, economic-financial, operational, ethical, social and environmental factors may influence in reputational risk and could cause a loss of confidence in the institution.

<u>Compliance Risk:</u> It is defined as the risk of legal or administrative sanctions, significant material financial loss or of reputation due to failures to comply with laws, regulations, self-regulation, codes of conduct and internal regulations applicable to its banking activities. Regulatory compliance is a responsibility that falls to the whole organisation of the Bank and its staff; not only to a particular area or department. The Office for Regulatory Compliance, under the Vice-Secretary of the Board and Regulatory Compliance, as a centralised and functional unit of continuous compliance monitoring, is responsible for assessing and managing the risk of non-compliance related to transparency, customer protection and rules of conduct in the areas of: markets, market abuse, customer banking products and services, protection of personal data and the prevention of criminal risks related to business activities of the Bank; promoting appropriate training to staff on these matters. Also, the Office for Compliance proposes corrective actions on the detected issues, reporting periodically to the Bank's Audit and Control Committee.

#### Risk due to treasury share transactions.

As part of its day-to-day operations, Banco Popular actively manages its treasury share portfolio, which entails buying and selling securities in the market. As this activity is subject to market conditions, Banco Popular may generate either gains or losses on these transactions. Such losses may have an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition.

Capital gains (losses) on these transactions for the years ended 31 December 2014 and 2013 are as follows:

	Dec 2014	Dec 2013	
Capital Gains (losses) generated by the sale of treasury shares (thousands of Euro)	(2,599)	(63,565)	

## Macroeconomic risks faced by the Group

Continuing unfavourable global economic conditions, and in particular, continuing unfavourable economic conditions in Spain, including any further deterioration in the European or Spanish financial systems, could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

Although the Group operates primarily in Spain, the evolution of the situation in the European Union is also very important, given its impact on liquidity and conditions of financing.

The continuing crisis in worldwide financial and credit markets has led to a global economic slowdown in recent years, with many economies around the world showing significant signs of weakness or slow growth. In Europe, there has been a significant reduction in risk premiums since late 2012, which have improved during 2013 and 2014, but have not yet returned to normal levels. Nevertheless, uncertainty regarding the budget deficits and solvency of several countries persists, together with the risk of contagion to other more stable countries. To a lesser extent than during the height of the financial crisis, there is also the risk of default on the sovereign debt of certain EU countries and the impact this would have on the Eurozone countries, including the potential risk that one or more countries may leave the Eurozone - either voluntarily or involuntarily - has raised concerns about the ongoing viability of the euro currency and the European Monetary Union ("EMU"). These concerns have been further exacerbated by the rise of Euro-skepticism in certain EU countries, including countries that decided not to enter the EMU

such as the United Kingdom. This growing Euro-skepticism in certain EU countries could pose additional difficulties for the EU's ability to react to the ongoing economic crisis.

The recent significant reductions in risk premiums and improved access to funding have not entirely addressed concerns about Spain in the context of the sovereign debt crisis and health of the Spanish banking sector. The prospect of a renewed contraction of the Spanish economy could lead the Spanish government to consider requesting financial assistance from the European Central Bank (the "ECB") Any such financial assistance could impose austerity measures and other restrictions on the Spanish government, including enhanced requirements directed toward Spanish banking institutions, which could make it difficult for Spain to generate revenues and such events would raise additional concerns regarding its ability to service its sovereign debt. Any such restrictions, including additional capital requirements applicable to Spanish banking institutions, could also materially affect the Group's financial condition. Furthermore, any such austerity measures could adversely affect the Spanish economy and reduce the capacity of the Group's Spanish borrowers to repay loans made to them, increasing the Group's non-performing loans.

Should any of those nations default on their debt, or experience a significant widening of credit spreads, major financial institutions and banking systems throughout Europe could be destabilised, resulting in the further spread of the ongoing economic crisis.

The continued high cost of capital for some European governments was felt in the wholesale markets and there was a consequent increase in the cost of retail funding throughout the crisis, with greater competition in a savings market that was growing slowly by historical standards. This has been at least partly offset by the monetary policy ease implemented by the ECB, but in the absence of a permanent resolution to the Eurozone crisis, conditions may deteriorate. The Group has direct and indirect exposure to financial and economic conditions throughout the Eurozone economies.

A deterioration of the economic and financial environment could have a material adverse impact on the whole financial sector, creating new challenges in sovereign and corporate lending and resulting in significant disruptions in financial activities at both market and retail levels. This could materially and adversely affect the Group's operating results, financial position and prospects.

Additionally, it cannot be ruled out that there may be periods of instability as a result of upcoming events that could alter the progress that has been made in establishing a European banking union and strengthening the monetary union of the Eurozone more generally.

Economic conditions remain uncertain in Spain and the European Union and may deteriorate in the future, which could adversely affect the cost and availability of funding for Spanish and European banks, including the Group and the quality of the Group's loan portfolio, require the Group to take impairments on its exposures to the sovereign debt of one or more countries in the Eurozone or otherwise adversely affect the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

During 2014, the ECB conducted, with the help of national supervisors, external advisors, consultants and other appraisers, a comprehensive assessment of the Group consisting of three elements: (i) a supervisory risk assessment, which assessed the main risks on the balance sheet including liquidity, funding and leverage; (ii) an asset quality review, which focused on credit and market risks; the implementation of the asset quality review exercise resulted in €170 million of provisions, already booked, and (iii) a stress test to examine the need to strengthen capital or take other corrective measures. The Group has successfully passed the stress tests, both in the adverse scenario with a CET1 ratio at 7.56 per cent. and in the base scenario with a CET1 ration at 10.93 per cent., well above the minimum required (5.5 per cent.).

## Spain is a focal point of the continuing European sovereign debt crisis.

The Group's results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the capital markets and the economy generally in the Eurozone, which, although improving recently, continue to show signs of fragility and volatility and in some cases only sporadic access to capital markets. Interest rate differentials across Eurozone countries are affecting government finance and borrowing rates in those economies.

The ECB and European Council took actions in 2012 and 2013 to aim to reduce the risk of contagion throughout and beyond the Eurozone. These included the creation of the Open Market Transaction facility of the ECB and the decision by Eurozone governments to create a banking union. A significant number of

financial institutions throughout Europe have substantial exposures to sovereign debt issued by nations that are under financial pressure. Should any of those nations default on their debt, or experience a significant widening of credit spreads, major financial institutions and banking systems throughout Europe could be destabilised, resulting in the further spread of the on-going economic crisis.

While concerns relating to sovereign defaults or a partial or complete break-up of the European Monetary Union, including potential accompanying redenomination risks and uncertainties, seemed to have abated during 2014, such concerns have resurfaced to some extent with the election of a new government in Greece in January 2015. A deterioration of the economic and financial environment could have a material adverse impact on the whole financial sector, creating new challenges in sovereign and corporate lending and resulting in significant disruptions in financial activities at both the market and retail levels. This could materially and adversely affect the operating results, financial position and prospects of the Group.

#### The Group is exposed to the sovereign risk.

The table below shows the Group's total exposure to sovereign risk at 31 December 2014, by type of financial instrument. As reflected in the table, the Group's exposure to sovereign risk mainly fall on Spain, accounting for 96.4 per cent. of total exposure (91.9 per cent. at 31 December 2013). As such, total exposure to sovereign risk amounts to €26,837 million, up by 148.54 per cent. from 2013 levels (€10,798 million).

#### Sovereign risk exposure by countries at 31 December 2014

	Financial liabilities held from trading	Available for sale portfolio	Held to Maturity Investment	Loan and Receivables	Total	Per cent.
	(millions of euro except percentages)					
Spain EE.UU.	40	19.758	-	6.066	25.864	96.4
	-	370	-	-	370	1.4
Belgium	-	331	-	-	331	1.2
Portugal	-	101	63	-	164	0.6
Others	-	98	-	10	108	0.4
Total Sovereign Risk Exposure	40	20.658	63	6.076	26.837	100

Despite the current figures of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") for Spain and the positive projections laid by international monetary organisations (i.e. the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development), in the medium term, the Spanish economy may not be able to recover from the crisis at the same pace as the other major European countries. This could have a negative impact on Banco Popular's business activity, financial position and operating results. Moreover, other circumstances are generating uncertainties regarding Spain's ability to meet its sovereign debt payments in the future. Any default on the country's sovereign debt could have a material adverse effect on Banco Popular

## Risks in relation to the global macroeconomic environment.

Continued or worsening disruption and volatility in the global financial markets could have a material adverse effect on the Group's ability to access capital and liquidity on financial terms acceptable to the

Group, if at all. If capital markets financing ceases to become available, or becomes excessively expensive, the Group may be forced to raise the rates it pays on deposits to attract more customers. Any such increase in capital markets funding costs or deposit rates would entail a repricing of loans, which would result in a reduction of volume, and may also have an adverse effect on the Group's interest margins. A further economic downturn, especially in Spain and other European countries, could also result in a further reduction in business activity, a consequent loss of income for the Group and further losses on the Group's assets resulting in a further reduction of its capital resources.

In addition, a premature removal of the aforementioned support measures as a result of perceived improvement in the financial markets and concerns over the sustainability of public deficits could result in a prolonged economic downturn and further instability in the financial markets, which could have a material adverse effect on Banco Popular's business, financial condition and results of operation.

## **General Business and Industry Risks**

## The Group's business is substantially dependent on the Spanish economy.

As Banco Popular's activity is mainly concentrated in Spain, its performance is influenced by the cyclical nature of financial activity in that country, which is in turn impacted by both domestic and international economic and political events.

After rapid economic growth until 2007, Spanish GDP contracted by 3.7 per cent. and 0.3 per cent. in 2009 and in 2010 respectively, grew by 0.4 per cent. in 2011, contracted by 1.6 per cent. in 2012 and contracted by 1.2 per cent. in 2013. The International Monetary Fund estimates that GDP in Spain will increase by 3.1 per cent. in 2015 (*Source*: IMF Report, October 2015). GDP forecasts for the Spanish economy could be revised downwards if measures adopted in response to the economic crisis are not as effective as expected or if public deficit figures force the government to implement additional restrictive measures. In addition to the tightening of fiscal policies in order to correct its economic imbalances, Spain has seen confidence erode, because of weaker economic activity and, above all, deterioration in employment in 2012 and 2013, which has showed some weak signs of slow recovery during 2014. The effects of the financial crisis have been particularly pronounced in Spain given Spain's heightened need for foreign financing as reflected by its high public deficit. Real or perceived difficulties in making the payments associated with this deficit can further damage Spain's economic situation and increase the costs of financing its public deficit.

The Spanish economy has been affected by the slowdown in global growth and is particularly sensitive to economic conditions in the rest of the European Economic Area, the primary market for Spanish goods and services exports. The pace of recovery in private domestic demand in the short- and medium-term is expected to continue to be hindered by weak economic fundamentals and the effects of on-going adjustments in the private sector, such as private deleveraging.

There are diverse factors influencing the Spanish economy that could adversely affect Banco Popular's business including, in particular, the structural adjustment taking place in the real estate sector, which is associated with reduced access to credit for property purchases and contracted residential investment; and the restructuring of the financial sector. In addition, increases in interest rates in the Euro could also hinder the recovery of the Spanish economy.

There can be no assurance that any adverse changes that may affect the Spanish economy, including but not limited to, downward movements in employment and the housing market or other factors which may contribute to an increase in Spain's fiscal deficit, will not negatively affect the business and profitability of Banco Popular or the Group.

The Group's loan portfolio in Spain has been adversely affected by the deterioration of the Spanish economy since 2009. Given the concentration of the Group's loan portfolio in Spain, any adverse changes affecting the Spanish economy are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, the weakening in the Group's customer creditworthiness could impact its capital adequacy. The regulatory capital levels the Group is required to maintain are calculated as a percentage of its risk-weighted assets ("RWA"), in accordance with the CRD IV package (including Royal Decree Law 14/2013 that partially implemented the CRD IV in Spain). The RWA consist of the Group's balance sheet,

off-balance sheet and other market and operational risk positions, measured and risk-weighted according to regulatory criteria, and are driven, among other things, by the risk profile of the Group's assets, which include its lending portfolio. If a customer's repayment capacity declines, the Group lowers the customer's rating, which results in an increase in its RWA. In addition, substantial market volatility, a widening of credit spreads, a change in the regulatory treatment of certain positions, changes in foreign exchange rates, decreases in collateral ratios as a consequence of the deterioration of the market value of assets pledged as collateral, or a further deterioration of the economic environment, among other things, could result in an increase in the Group's RWA, which potentially may reduce its capital adequacy ratios. If the Group were to experience a reduction in its capital adequacy ratios, and could not raise further capital, it would have to reduce its lending or investments in other operations. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

## The financial problems faced by the Group's customers could adversely affect the Group.

Market turmoil and economic recession, especially in Spain, could materially and adversely affect the liquidity, businesses and/or financial conditions of the Group's borrowers, which could in turn increase the Group's non-performing loan ratios, impair the Group's loan and other financial assets and result in decreased demand for borrowings in general. In the context of the recovery from the recent market turmoil and economic recession, and with high unemployment coupled with low consumer spending, the value of assets collateralising the Group's secured loans, including homes and other real estate, could still decline significantly, which could result in the impairment of the value of the Group's loan assets. In addition, the Group's customers may further significantly decrease their risk tolerance to non-deposit investments such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds, which would adversely affect the Group's fee and commission income. Any of the conditions described above could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Increased exposure to the real estate market has made Banco Popular more vulnerable to market fluctuations in the price of real estate.

At 31 December 2014, loans for property construction and/or development amounted to €18,151 million which is 16.7 per cent. of Banco Popular's total gross lending to customers. As a material portion of Banco Popular's loan portfolio is linked to the real estate market, it is exposed to market fluctuations in the price of real estate.

From 2002-2007, population increase, economic growth and the strength of the labour market in Spain, together with the decrease in interest rates within the EU, led to an increase in demand for mortgage loans. This contributed to increased real estate prices in Spain, which, in turn, has led to speculation that there could be a significant downturn in the Spanish real estate market. During late 2007, the housing market began to adjust in Spain as a result of excess supply and higher interest rates. Since 2008, as economic growth came to a halt in Spain, housing oversupply has persisted, unemployment has continued to increase, housing demand has continued to decrease and home prices have declined while mortgage delinquencies have increased. Further, recent government measures, such as the increase in the value added tax rate of real estate transactions may lead to further declines in demand for property. These trends, especially higher interest rates and unemployment rates coupled with declining real estate prices, could have a material adverse impact on Banco Popular's mortgage payment delinquency rates, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, the decline in property prices decreases the value of the real estate securing Banco Popular's mortgage loans and adversely affects the credit quality of property developers to whom Banco Popular has lent. A further decrease in real estate prices may occur including to levels below the outstanding principal balance on these loans, which may require Banco Popular to reclassify the relevant loans, establish additional provisions for loan losses and increase reserve requirements. Decreasing real estate prices therefore increase the risk of loss and decrease the value of Banco Popular's real estate loan portfolio, which could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operation and financial condition.

### Property risk, financing for property construction and development business.

Banco Popular has lending exposure to risks in the property development and construction sector.

At 31 December 2014, loans for property construction and/or development amounted to €18,151 million, which is 16.7 per cent. of Banco Popular's total gross lending to customers. Specific coverage (non-performing loans ("NPLs") and sub-standard) for this exposure amounted to €4,400 million at the same date.

The NPL ratio on loans to real-estate developers was 60 per cent. at 31 December 2014. Despite the ratio of NPLs or loans in arrears, the remainder of Banco Popular's property construction and development loan portfolio showed no past due amounts, even after six years of severe crisis in the sector and an increasingly demanding economic environment.

Of the €18,151 million indicated, €12,242 million correspond to loans secured by first ranking mortgages, €27 million correspond to loans secured by pledges and €5,882 million correspond to loans personally guaranteed and/or secured by second ranking mortgages.

Within the secured loans, only €4,079 million (22.5 per cent. of the total) qualify as "other secured transactions" (such as: collateral other than finished buildings, buildings under construction, or land).

The net carrying amount of Banco Popular's portfolio of property in Spain acquired or foreclosed at 31 December 2014 was  $\epsilon$ 8,217 million and was covered by net provisions of  $\epsilon$ 5,283 million. Accumulated impairment specific provisions on exposure to the real estate sector stood at  $\epsilon$ 10,563 million,  $\epsilon$ 11,282 million at year-end 2013 and  $\epsilon$ 8,455 million at 31 December 2012.

In addition to the loans for property construction and/or development mentioned above, there is also a portfolio of investments arising from foreclosures in Spain consisting of rental assets (offices, hotels, shopping centres and commercial premises, industrial premises and housing) with a net carrying amount of  $\epsilon$ 877 million and provisions of  $\epsilon$ 414 million as of 31 December 2014, as well as other equity instruments with a net carrying amount of  $\epsilon$ 202 million and collateral coverage of  $\epsilon$ 467 million. Any defaults by borrowers in the property construction or development sector could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

## <u>Household and corporate indebtedness could endanger Banco Popular's asset quality and future revenues.</u>

The indebtedness of Spanish households and firms has increased in recent years, which represents increased risk for the Spanish banking system. The increase of loans referenced to variable interest rates makes debt service on such loans more vulnerable to changes in interest rates than in the past. Highly indebted households and businesses are less likely to be able to service debt obligations as a result of adverse economic events, which could have an adverse effect on the Group's loan portfolio and, as a result, on its financial condition and results of operations. Moreover, the increase in households' and firms' indebtedness also limits their ability to incur additional debt, decreasing the number of new products Banco Popular may otherwise be able to sell them and limiting the Group's ability to attract new customers in Spain which satisfy its credit standards, which may have an adverse effect on Banco Popular's business, financial position and results of operations, as well as the Group's ability to achieve its growth plans.

## Banco Popular faces increasing competition in its business lines.

The markets in which Banco Popular operates are highly competitive. Financial sector reforms have increased competition among both local and foreign financial institutions, and it believes that this trend will continue. In addition, the trend towards consolidation in the banking industry has created larger and stronger banks with which it must now compete, some of which have recently received public capital.

Some of Banco Popular's competitors, including well-established domestic banks in each of the regional Spanish markets in which it operates, as well as international banks with operations in the regions in which Banco Popular operates, may have better banking relationships with corporate and retail clients that comprise its target customer bases and may have greater resources.

In addition, Banco Popular faces increased pressure to meet rising customer demands to provide new banking products. There is no guarantee that Banco Popular's management and employees will succeed in adopting new work methods and approaches to customer service that will keep up with the pace of change in the current banking environment, which may adversely affect its ability to successfully compete in its primary markets.

Further, the number of banking transactions conducted over the internet in the markets in which Banco Popular operates has grown in recent years and is expected to grow further. Banco Popular may be unable to compete with other banks that offer more extensive online services to their customers than it currently offers to its customers. Banco Popular also faces competition from non-bank financial institutions and other entities, such as leasing companies, mutual funds, pension funds and insurance companies and, to a lesser extent, department stores (for some consumer finance products).

The current economic environment in Spain has generated significant competition on the basis of interest rates among lending institutions in the demand for all types of deposits. Increasing competitive pressures could cause Banco Popular to lose customer deposits to its competitors or force Banco Popular to offer interest rates on deposits that are higher than the rates received on its loan products. As a result, Banco Popular could suffer losses which could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

Banco Popular also faces competition from non-bank competitors, such as leasing and factoring financial providers, mutual funds, pension funds and insurance companies. Banco Popular cannot be certain that competition from these competitors will not adversely affect Banco Popular's competitive position.

## <u>Liquidity constraints could lead to increased financing costs or changes in the lending practices of Banco</u> Popular.

Ready access to funds is essential to any banking business, including that of Banco Popular. Banco Popular's ability to raise funds may be impaired by factors that are not specific to its operations, such as general market conditions, disruption of the financial markets or negative views about the prospects of the industries to which Banco Popular provides a large proportion of loans, which could in turn generate a negative view of Banco Popular's liquidity among creditors and result in a less favourable credit rating, higher borrowing costs and poorer access to funds. Banco Popular may be unable to secure additional funding in the international capital markets if conditions in these markets, or its credit ratings, were to deteriorate.

Further, customer deposits are a significant source of funding for Banco Popular. There can be no assurance that in the event that Banco Popular's depositors withdraw their funds at a rate faster than the rate at which borrowers repay their loans, it will be able to maintain its current levels of funding without incurring higher funding costs or having to liquidate certain of the Group's assets. A shortage of funds from retail deposits could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, as sources of liquidity introduced as extraordinary measures in response to the financial crisis are withdrawn (such as financing from the ECB, the Spanish treasury, the *Instituto Oficial de Crédito* and various Spanish public administrations), expansionary economic policies are removed from the market and the market adjusts accordingly, there can be no assurance that Banco Popular will be able to continue funding its business or maintain its current levels of funding without incurring higher funding costs or having to liquidate certain of its assets.

There can be no assurance that, in the event that depositors withdraw their funds at a rate faster than the rate at which borrowers repay their loans or in the event of a sudden or unexpected shortage of funds in the banking systems or money markets in which Banco Popular operates, Banco Popular will be able to meet its liquidity needs or to do so without incurring higher funding costs or having to liquidate certain of its assets which could reduce its asset management income and have a material adverse effect on its interest margins, as well as a material adverse effect on Banco Popular's business, financial condition and results of operations.

## <u>Risks concerning borrower credit quality and general economic conditions are inherent in the Group's business.</u>

Risks arising from changes in credit quality and the recoverability of loans and amounts due from counterparties are inherent in a wide range of the Group's businesses. Adverse changes in the credit quality of the Group's borrowers and counterparties or a general deterioration in Spanish or global economic conditions, or arising from systemic risks in the financial systems, could reduce the recoverability and value of the Group's assets and require an increase in the Group's level of allowances for credit losses. Deterioration in the economies in which the Group operates could reduce the profit margins for the Group's banking and financial services businesses.

## The Group is exposed to risks faced by other financial institutions.

The Group routinely transacts with counterparties in the financial services industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial banks, investment banks, mutual and hedge funds, and other institutional clients. Defaults by, and even rumours or questions about the solvency of, certain financial institutions and the financial services industry generally have led to market-wide liquidity problems and could lead to losses or defaults by other institutions. These liquidity concerns have had, and may continue to have, a chilling effect on inter-institutional financial transactions in general. Many of the routine transactions the Group enters into expose it to significant credit risk in the event of default by one of the Group's significant counterparties. Despite the risk control measures the Group have in place, a default by a significant financial counterparty, or liquidity problems in the financial services industry in general, could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Portions of the Group's loan portfolio are subject to risks relating to force majeure and any such event could materially adversely affect its operating results.

The Group's financial and operating performance may be adversely affected by force majeure events, such as natural disasters, particularly in locations where a significant portion of its loan portfolio is composed of real estate loans. Natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods may cause widespread damage which could impair the asset quality of its loan portfolio and could have an adverse impact on the economy of the affected region.

## The Group is subject to continuing uncertainties regarding the validity of interest rate floor clauses

In 2013 the Supreme Court of Spain ruled that interest rate floor clauses (which effectively set a minimum interest rate by imposing a limit on how far mortgage interest rates can fall in tandem with a benchmark rate) of certain Spanish banks (but not Banco Popular) were null and void because the clauses were not clearly and transparently explained. A separate case has been brought before the courts of Madrid by the consumer group ADICAE on behalf of a group of holders of interest rate floor mortgages at a number of Spanish banks, including Banco Popular. Furthermore, according to certain press reports appearing on or around 27 October 2015 (including the Financial Times), the European Commission, has issued a report to the European Court of Justice (whose decisions are binding in each Member State of the European Union) in which it recommends that customers whose rate floors were declared invalid should be repaid the cost of the floors for the length of their loans.

Although the Supreme Court of Spain had reasoned that its 2013 ruling could not be retroactive, there can be no assurances that the European Court of Justice will come to the same conclusion. Furthermore, there can be no assurances that the Madrid court will uphold the interest rate floor clauses that are the subject of the proceedings brought against, among others, Banco Popular by ADICAE.

If the Madrid court rules in favour of the mortgage holders represented by ADICAE, Banco Popular could be required to disapply such provisions going forward (which could reduce Banco Popular's net interest income) and to compensate affected mortgage holders. Furthermore, if the European Court of Justice rules that such compensation should be retroactive to the starting date of the relevant mortgages, this could also materially affect the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

The Group may generate lower revenues from brokerage and other commission- and fee-based businesses.

Market downturns have led to declines in the volume of transactions that the Group executes for its customers and to declines in the Group's non-interest revenues. In addition, because the fees that the Group charges for managing its clients' portfolios are in many cases based on the value or performance of those portfolios which have reduced in value and which have been subject to an increased amount of withdrawals, the revenues the Group receives from its asset management and private banking and custody businesses have been reduced.

In addition to the effects of the market downturn, below-market performance by the Group's mutual funds may result in increased withdrawals and reduced inflows, which would reduce the revenue the Group receives from its asset management business.

Market risks associated with fluctuations in bond and equity prices and other market factors are inherent in the Group's business. Protracted market declines can reduce liquidity in the markets, making it harder to sell assets and leading to material losses.

The performance of financial markets may cause changes in the value of the Group's investment and trading portfolios. In some of the Group's business, protracted adverse market movements, particularly asset price decline, can reduce the level of activity in the market or reduce market liquidity. These developments can lead to material losses if the Group cannot close out deteriorating positions in a timely way. This may especially be the case for assets of the Group for which there are less liquid markets. Assets that are not traded on stock exchanges or other public trading markets, such as derivative contracts between banks, may have values that the Group calculates using models other than publicly quoted prices. Monitoring the deterioration of prices of assets like these is difficult and could lead to losses that the Group does not anticipate.

The volatility of world equity markets due to the recent economic uncertainty has had a particularly strong impact on the financial sector. Continued volatility may affect the value of the Group's investments in entities in this sector and, depending on their fair value and future recovery expectations could become a permanent impairment which would be subject to write-offs against the Group's results.

The Group is also exposed to foreign exchange rate risk. The exchange rate risk consists of the potential losses which may occur as a result of adverse movements in exchange rates in respect of the different currencies in which the Group operates.

<u>Despite the Group's risk management policies, procedures and methods, the Group may nonetheless be exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks.</u>

The Group's risk management techniques and strategies may not be fully effective in mitigating the Group's risk exposure in all economic market environments or against all types of risk, including risks that the Group fails to identify or anticipate. Some of the Group's qualitative tools and metrics for managing risk are based upon the Group's use of observed historical market behaviour. The Group applies statistical and other tools to these observations to arrive at quantifications of its risk exposures. These qualitative tools and metrics may fail to predict future risk exposures. These risk exposures could, for example, arise from factors the Group did not anticipate or correctly evaluate in its statistical models. This would limit the Group's ability to manage its risks. The Group's losses thus could be significantly greater than the historical measures indicate. In addition, the Group's quantified modelling does not take all risks into account. The Group's more qualitative approach to managing those risks could prove insufficient, exposing it to material unanticipated losses. If existing or potential customers believe the Group's risk management is inadequate, they could take their business elsewhere. This could harm the Group's reputation as well as its revenues and profits.

<u>Compliance with anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing rules involves significant cost and effort</u>

Group companies are subject to rules and regulations regarding money laundering and the financing of terrorism. Monitoring compliance with anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing rules can put a significant financial burden on banks and other financial institutions and pose significant technical problems. Although the Group believes that its current policies and procedures are sufficient to comply

with applicable rules and regulations, it cannot guarantee that its Group-wide anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing policies and procedures completely prevent situations of money laundering or terrorism financing. Any of such events may have severe consequences, including sanctions, fines and reputational consequences, which could have a material adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

<u>Volatility in interest rates may negatively affect the Group's net interest income and increase the Group's non-performing loan portfolio.</u>

Changes in market interest rates could affect the interest rates charged on interest-earning assets differently than the interest rates paid on interest-bearing liabilities. This difference could result in an increase in interest expense relative to interest income leading to a reduction in the Group's net interest income. Income from treasury operations is particularly vulnerable to interest rate volatility. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors beyond the Group's control, including increased regulation of the financial sector, monetary policies, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors.

Rising interest rates may also lead to an increase in Banco Popular's bad and doubtful debts portfolio if borrowers cannot refinance in a higher interest rate environment, resulting in an increase in defaults on its loans to customers if borrowers are unable to meet their increased interest expense obligations and reduce demand for loans and Banco Popular's ability to generate loans.

Changes in interest rates may therefore have a material adverse effect on the Group's interest margins as well as Banco Popular's business, financial condition and results of operations.

#### Operational risks are inherent in the Group's business.

The Group's businesses depend on the ability to process a large number of transactions efficiently and accurately. Losses can result from inadequate personnel, inadequate or failed internal control processes and systems, or from external events that interrupt normal business operations. The Group also faces the risk that the design of its controls and procedures prove to be inadequate or are circumvented.

In addition, any persons that circumvent the security measures could wrongfully use the Group's confidential information or that of its clients, which could expose it to a risk of loss, regulatory consequences or litigation and could negatively impact its reputation and brand name.

The banking business involves the routine handling of large amounts of money, creating the risk of theft, fraud or deception carried out by clients, third-party agents, employees and managers. The employees of the Group may also commit errors that could subject it to financial claims for negligence and otherwise, as well as regulatory actions. Despite the risk management measures put in place by Banco Popular, there can be no assurance that funds under its control could lead to inappropriate or illegal manners, which could expose Banco Popular to liability to customers, governmental sanctions, negative publicity, loss of customers and other negative consequences.

Substantial losses incurred by Banco Popular's customers as a result of any security breaches, errors, omissions, malfunctions, system failures or disaster could subject it to claims from clients for recovery of such losses. These claims, together with the resulting damage to Banco Popular's reputation, could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operation.

## The Group relies on recruiting, retaining and developing appropriate senior management and skilled personnel.

The Group's continued success depends in part on the continued service of key members of its management team. The ability to continue to attract, train, motivate and retain highly qualified professionals is a key element of the Group's strategy. The successful implementation of the Group's growth strategy depends on the availability of skilled management, both at its head office and at each of its business units. If the Group or one of its business units or other functions fails to staff its operations appropriately or loses one or more of its key senior executives and fails to replace them in a satisfactory and timely manner, the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations, including control and operational risks, may be adversely affected. Likewise, if the Group fails to attract and appropriately train, motivate and retain qualified professionals, its business may also be affected.

Credit, market and liquidity risks may have an adverse effect on Banco Popular's credit ratings and the cost of funds. Any reduction in Banco Popular's credit rating could increase its cost of funding and adversely affect its interest margins.

Credit ratings affect the cost and other terms upon which Banco Popular is able to obtain funding. Rating agencies regularly evaluate Banco Popular and their ratings of its long-term debt are based on a number of factors, including its financial strength as well as conditions affecting the financial services industry generally.

Any downgrade in Banco Popular's ratings could increase its borrowing costs, limit its access to capital markets and adversely affect the ability of Banco Popular's business to sell or market its products, engage in business transactions—particularly longer-term and derivatives transactions—and retain its customers. This, in turn, could reduce Banco Popular's liquidity and have an adverse effect on its financial position and results of operations.

Since Banco Popular is a Spanish company with substantial operations in Spain, its credit ratings may be adversely affected by the assessment by rating agencies of the creditworthiness of the Kingdom of Spain. Any decline in the Kingdom of Spain's sovereign credit ratings could, in turn, result in a decline in Banco Popular's credit ratings.

In addition, the Group holds a substantial amount of securities issued by the Kingdom of Spain, autonomous communities within Spain and other Spanish issuers. Any decline in the Kingdom of Spain's credit ratings could also adversely affect the value of the Kingdom of Spain's and other Spanish issuers' respective securities held by the Group in various portfolios or otherwise materially adversely affect the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations. Furthermore, the counterparties to many of the Group's loan agreements could be similarly affected by any decline in the Kingdom of Spain's credit rating, which could limit their ability to raise additional capital or otherwise adversely affect their ability to repay their outstanding commitments to the Group and, in turn, materially and adversely affect the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, Banco Popular's rating and outlook are as follows:

	Long term senior unsecured	Short term senior unsecured	Individual/ Financial	Outlook
Agency			Strength	
Moody's	*Ba2	NP	b1	Stable
S&P	B+	В	b	Positive
Fitch	BB-	В	bb-	Positive
DBRS	BBB (high)	R1 (low)	BBB (High)	Stable

<sup>\*</sup>Moody's rating for the Long Term Deposits Rating is Ba1

In light of the difficulties in the financial services industry and the financial markets, there can be no assurance that the rating agencies will maintain their current ratings or outlooks. With regard to those rating agencies that have a negative outlook on the Group, there can be no assurances that such agencies will revise such outlooks upward. The Group's failure to maintain favourable ratings and outlooks could increase the cost of its funding and adversely affect the Group's interest margins.

In addition, certain countries in Europe, including Spain, have relatively large sovereign debts or fiscal deficits, or both. Several EU countries have recently experienced significant increases in their cost of funding which, in the case of certain countries has led them to seek financial assistance from the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund. Spain has also recently experienced increases in its cost of funding due to concerns regarding rising sovereign debt levels. Any downgrade in the credit rating of the Kingdom of Spain or increasing concerns about its ability to make payments on its sovereign debt could lead to an increase in Banco Popular's borrowing costs, limit its access to capital markets and adversely affect the sale or marketing of its products, its participation in business transactions and its ability to retain customers, which could adversely affect its liquidity and have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operation.

### Banco Popular's insurance coverage may not adequately cover its losses.

Due to the nature of Banco Popular's operations and the nature of the risks that it faces, there can be no assurance that the insurance coverage it maintains is adequate. If Banco Popular were to suffer a significant loss for which it is not insured, its business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

#### Legal, Regulatory and Compliance Risks

The Bank is subject to substantial regulation, and regulatory and governmental oversight. Adverse regulatory developments or changes in government policy could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

The financial services industry is among the most highly regulated industries in the world. The Bank's operations are subject to on-going regulation and associated regulatory risks, including the effects of changes in laws, regulations, policies and interpretations, in Spain, the European Union, the United States and the other markets where it operates. This is particularly the case in the current market environment, which is witnessing increased levels of government and regulatory intervention in the banking sector which the Bank expects to continue for the foreseeable future. As a result, the Bank may further be subject to an increasing incidence or amount of liability or regulatory sanctions and may be required to make greater expenditures and devote additional resources to address potential liability.

The regulations which most significantly affect the Bank, or which could most significantly affect the Bank in the future, include regulations relating to capital and provisions requirements, which have become increasingly more strict in the past four years, steps taken towards achieving a fiscal and banking union in the European Union, and regulatory reforms in the United States. These risks are discussed in further detail below.

In addition, the Bank is subject to substantial regulation relating to other matters such as liquidity. The Bank considers that future liquidity standards could require maintaining a greater proportion of its assets in highly-liquid but lower-yielding financial instruments, which would negatively affect the Bank's net interest margin.

The Bank is also subject to other regulations, such as those related to anti-money laundering, privacy protection and transparency and fairness in customer relations.

Moreover, the Bank's regulators, as part of their supervisory function, periodically review the Bank's allowance for loan losses. Such regulators may require the Bank to increase its allowance for loan losses or to recognise further losses. Any such additional provisions for loan losses, as required by these regulatory agencies, whose views may differ from those of the Bank's management, could have an adverse effect on the Bank's earnings and financial condition.

Spanish regulatory developments include (i) Royal Decree-Law 2/2012, of 3 February and Law 8/2012 of 30 October, which increased coverage requirements to be met by 31 December 2012 for performing and non-performing real estate assets; (ii) Law 9/2012, of 14 November ("Law 9/2012"), which has been repealed by Law 11/2015 (as defined below), established the former regime on restructuring and resolution of credit institutions and a statutory loss absorbency regime applicable within the framework of restructuring and resolution processes, and which was based on the June 2014 draft of Directive 2014/59/EU, of 15 May, establishing a framework for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms (the "RRD"). The bail-in provisions of Law 9/2012 contained in its Chapter VII will transitorily remain in force until 31 December 2015 and the bail-in tool under Law 11/2015 will not become into force until 1 January 2016; (iii) Royal Decree-Law 14/2013, of 29 November ("RD-L 14/2013"), Law 10/2014, of 26 June, on Organisation, Supervision and Solvency of Credit Entities ("Law 10/2014") and Royal Decree 84/2015, of 13 February ("RD 84/2015"), which largely incorporated the Directive 2013/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 26 June, on access to the activity of credit institutions and the prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms, amending Directive 2002/87/EC and repealing Directives 2006/48/EC ("CRD IV") into Spanish law; and (iv) Law 11/2015, of 18 June, on recovery and resolution of credit entities and investment services companies ("Law 11/2015") and Royal Decree 1012/2015, of 6 November ("RD 1012/2015"), which have partially implemented the RRD in Spain; although certain regulatory developments in this area are still pending as at the date of this Base Prospectus.

Adverse regulatory developments or changes in government policy relating to any of the foregoing or other matters could have a material adverse effect on the Bank's business, results of operations and financial condition. Furthermore, regulatory fragmentation, with some countries implementing new and more stringent standards or regulations, could adversely affect the Bank's ability to compete with financial institutions based in other jurisdictions which do not need to comply with such new standards or regulations.

#### Capital requirements

Increasingly onerous capital requirements constitute one of the Bank's main regulatory challenges. Increasing capital requirements may adversely affect the Bank's profitability and create regulatory risk associated with the possibility of failure to maintain required capital levels.

As a Spanish financial institution, the Bank is subject to Regulation (EU) 575/2013, of 26 June on prudential requirements of credit institutions and investment firms ("CRR") (which is directly applicable in EU member states, without the need to be implemented by national laws) and CRD IV, through which the European Union began implementing the Basel III capital reforms CRD IV will be generally phased in between 1 January 2014 and 1 January 2019. The core regulation in the solvency of credit entities is, therefore, CRR, which is complemented by several binding technical standards, all of which are directly applicable in all EU member states, without the need for national implementation measures. The implementation of the CRD IV into Spanish law has largely taken place through RD-L 14/2013, Law 10/2014, RD 84/2015 and Bank of Spain Circular 2/2014, of 31 January. Notwithstanding this, further regulatory developments in this area remain pending as at the date of this Base Prospectus.

The new regulatory regime has, among other things, increased the level of capital required by means of a "combined buffer requirement" that entities must comply with from 2016 onwards. Article 104 of the CRD IV, as implemented by Article 68 of Law 10/2014, and similarly Article 16 of Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013 of 15 October 2013 conferring specific tasks on the European Central Bank (the "ECB") concerning policies relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions (the "SSM Regulation"), also contemplate that in addition to the minimum "Pillar 1" capital requirements, supervisory authorities may impose further "Pillar 2" capital requirements to cover other risks, including those not considered to be fully captured by the minimum "own funds" requirements under CRD IV or to address macro-prudential considerations. This may result in the imposition of additional own funds requirements on the Bank and/or the Group pursuant to this "Pillar 2" framework. Any failure by the Bank and/or the Group to maintain its "Pillar 1" minimum regulatory capital ratios, any "Pillar 2" additional own funds requirements and/or any buffer capital requirements (as discussed below) could result in administrative actions or sanctions, which, in turn, may have a material adverse impact on the Group's results of operations.

The ECB is currently undertaking an assessment of the additional "Pillar 2" capital requirements that may be imposed for each of the European banking institutions now subject to the Single Supervisory Mechanism (the "SSM"). The ECB is required to carry out these assessments under CRD IV at least on an annual basis. There can be no assurance that an additional own funds requirement for the Bank and/or the Group may not be required by the ECB either when it provides its final decision in relation to this initial assessment or at any time in the future. Any additional own funds requirement that may be imposed on the Bank and/or the Group by the ECB pursuant to this initial assessment may require the Bank and/or the Group to hold capital levels similar to, or higher than, those required under the full application of CRD IV. There can also be no assurance that the Group will be able to continue to maintain such capital ratios.

In addition to the above, the European Banking Authority ("**EBA**") published on 19 December 2014 its final guidelines for common procedures and methodologies in respect of its supervisory review and evaluation process (SREP). Included in this were the EBA's proposed guidelines for a common approach to determining the amount and composition of additional own funds requirements to be implemented by 1 January 2016. Under these guidelines, national supervisors must set a composition requirement for the additional own funds requirements to cover certain specified risks of at least 56 per cent. CET1 capital and at least 75 per cent. Tier 1 capital.

The guidelines also contemplate that national supervisors should not set additional own funds requirements in respect of risks which are already covered by capital buffer requirements and/or additional macro-prudential requirements; and, accordingly, the above "combined buffer requirement" is

in addition to the minimum own funds requirement and to the additional own funds requirement. In this regard, according to Law 10/2014, those entities not meeting (a) the "combined buffer requirement" or (b) required to maintain further capital under the "Pillar 2" capital requirements described above or where a restriction upon "discretionary payments" has been imposed, in each case pursuant to Article 68 of Law 10/2014 distributions relating to CET1 capital, variable remuneration or discretionary pension revenues and distributions relating to Additional Tier 1 capital may be subject to restrictions until the Maximum Distributable Amount has been calculated and communicated to the Bank of Spain (and thereafter subject to such Maximum Distributable Amount). The criteria for the calculation of the Maximum Distributable Amount in respect of any such "discretionary payments" are specified in the RD 84/2014, which shall be further developed by Bank of Spain circulars.

Basel III implementation differs across jurisdictions in terms of timing and the applicable rules. The lack of uniformity in implemented rules may lead to an uneven playing field and to competition distortions. Moreover, regulatory fragmentation, with some countries bringing forward the application of Basel III requirements or increasing such requirements, could adversely affect the Bank and could undermine its profitability.

At its meeting on 12 January 2014, the oversight body of the Basel Committee endorsed the definition of the leverage ratio set forth in CRD IV, to promote consistent disclosure, starting on 1 January 2015. There will be a mandatory minimum capital requirement as of 1 January 2018, with an initial minimum leverage ratio of 3 per cent. that can be raised after calibration, if European authorities so decide.

On 10 November 2014 the Financial Stability Board (the "FSB") published a consultative document containing certain policy proposals to enhance the loss absorbing capacity of global systemically important banks ("G-SIBs"). On 9 November 2015 the FSB published (i) the results of its impact assessment studies undertaken as part of the consultation process, (ii) its final Total Loss-Absorbing Capacity ("TLAC") standard to be applied to G-SIBs, which is intended to ensure that failing G-SIBs have sufficient loss-absorbing and recapitalisation capacity available in resolution for authorities to implement an orderly resolution that minimises impacts on financial stability, and (iii) a TLAC term sheet. The documents published by the FSB set out the minimum requirement for the instruments and liabilities that should be readily available for bail-in without resolution at G-SIBs. Although the Bank has not been classified as a G-SIB by the FSB, it cannot be disregarded that this may change in the future or that TLAC requirements are finally extended to non-G-SIBs which could create additional minimum capital requirements for the bank and/or the Group.

The TLAC requirements may apply both on a common minimum "Pillar 1" basis and with provision for home and host resolution authorities to be able to specify additional "Pillar 2" TLAC requirements on an individual institution basis. TLAC requirements may further be imposed in addition to the minimum "own funds" requirements under CRD IV and the minimum requirement for own funds and eligible liabilities ("MREL") pursuant to the RRD and its implementation in Spain through Law 11/2015. Any failure by an institution to meet the applicable minimum "Pillar 1" and "Pillar 2" TLAC requirements may be treated in the same manner as a failure to meet minimum regulatory capital requirements, where resolution authorities must ensure that they intervene and place an institution into resolution sufficiently early if it is deemed to be failing or likely to fail and there is no reasonable prospect of recovery.

The conditions required of TLAC eligible instruments (other than own funds) and those required of eligible liabilities for MREL purposes under the RRD are different and there can be no assurance that it will be possible for the Bank to issue instruments which simultaneously satisfy both requirements. Markets have not yet been established for such instruments (other than own funds instruments) and there can be no assurance that such markets will develop or that, if they do, the Bank will be able to issue sufficient TLAC and MREL eligible liabilities to meet its requirements.

In November 2014, the Basel Committee published a paper with its responses to address excessive variability in risk-weighted asset calculations with the objective of improving consistency and comparability in bank capital ratios, and thereby restoring confidence in risk-weighted capital ratios. The proposed new standard promotes greater consistency in the way banks disclose information about risks, as well as their risk measurement and management. The aim of the revisions is to enable market participants to compare banks' disclosures of their risk-weighted assets and to assess more effectively a bank's overall capital adequacy.

There can be no assurance that the implementation of these new standards or recommendations will not adversely affect the Bank's ability to pay dividends, or require it to issue additional securities that qualify as regulatory capital, to liquidate assets, to curtail business or to take any other actions, any of which may have adverse effects on the Bank's business, financial condition and results of operations. Furthermore, increased capital requirements may negatively affect the Bank's return on equity and other financial performance indicators.

#### Tax treatment of deferred tax assets following the implementation of the CRD IV

In addition to introducing new capital requirements, the CRD IV provides that deferred tax assets ("DTAs") that rely on the future profitability of a financial institution must be deducted from its regulatory capital (specifically its core capital or CET1 capital) for prudential reasons, as there is generally no guarantee that DTAs will retain their value in the event of the institution facing difficulties.

This new deduction introduced by the CRD IV has a significant impact on Spanish banks due to the particularly restrictive nature of certain aspects of Spanish tax law. For example, in some EU countries when a bank reports a loss the tax authorities refund a portion of taxes paid in previous years but in Spain the bank must earn profits in subsequent years in order for this set-off to take place. Additionally, Spanish tax law does not recognise as tax-deductible certain amounts recorded as costs in the accounts of a bank.

Due to these differences and the greater impact of the requirements of the CRD IV with respect to DTAs, the Spanish regulator implemented certain amendments to the Spanish Law on Corporate Income Tax (Royal Decree Law 4/2004 of 5 March, as amended) through RD-L 14/2013, which also provided for a transitional regime for DTAs generated before 1 January 2014. These amendments enabled certain DTAs to be treated as a direct claim against the tax authorities if a Spanish bank is unable to reverse the relevant differences within 18 years or if it is liquidated, becomes insolvent or incurs accounting losses. This allowed a Spanish bank not to deduct such DTAs from its regulatory capital.

The above regulations were maintained when Law 27/2014, of 27 November, on Corporate Income Tax was enacted and replaced Royal Legislative Decree 4/2004. More recently, Law 48/2015, of 30 October, has amended Law 27/2014 and has introduced new requirements so that the DTAs can be converted into a direct claim against the tax authorities or can be exchanged for Spanish treasury bonds at any time after the 18 year period following the accounting registration of the DTAs.

There can be no assurance that the tax amendments implemented by RD-L 14/2013 and Law 48/2015 will not be challenged by the European Commission, that the final interpretation of these amendments will not change and that Spanish banks will ultimately be allowed to maintain certain DTAs as regulatory capital. In addition, there can be no assurance that a proposed regulation of the ECB will not result in the shortening of the transitional regime for DTAs referred to above and an increase in the percentage of applicable DTAs that will have to be deducted in any year. If this regulation is challenged or the proposed ECB regulation has this effect, this may negatively affect the Bank's regulatory capital and therefore its ability to pay dividends or require it to issue additional securities that qualify as regulatory capital, to liquidate assets, to curtail business or to take any other actions, any of which may have a material adverse effect on the Bank's business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Contributions for assisting in the restructuring of the Spanish banking sector

Royal Decree-Law 6/2013 of 22 March, on protection for holders of certain savings and investment products and other financial measures, included a requirement for banks, including therefore Banco Popular, to make an exceptional one-off contribution to the Deposit Guarantee Fund (*Fondo de Garantía de Depósitos*), in addition to the annual contribution to be made by member institutions, equal to €3.00 per each €1,000 of deposits held as of 31 December 2012. The purpose of such contribution was for the Deposit Guarantee Fund to be able to purchase at market prices the unlisted shares of certain Spanish financial institutions involved in restructuring or resolution processes under Law 9/2012.

Law 11/2015 has established a requirement for investment firms and credit institutions, including the Bank, to make contributions, at least annually, to the National Resolution Fund (Fondo de Resolución Nacional) in addition to the annual contribution to be made to the Deposit Guarantee Fund (Fondo de Garantía de Depósitos) by member institutions. The total amount of contributions to be made by all Spanish banking entities must equal one per cent. of the aggregate amount of all deposits guaranteed by the Deposit Guarantee Fund. The FROB is also entitled to require the contributions set out in

Law 11/2015 to fund the measures set out in such law. This ordinary contribution of each entity shall be in proportion to the part that such entity represents over the total aggregated amount of the following concept: total liabilities of the entity, excluding own resources and deposits guaranteed by the Deposit Guarantee Fund. The contribution shall be adjusted to the risk profile of each entity according to future developing regulations. In addition, the FROB is entitled to require extraordinary contributions when the ordinary contributions of the banks are not sufficient to fund the measures set out in Law 11/2015. The obligation of the Bank to make contributions will be borne when the FROB requires the specific ordinary or extraordinary contribution to be satisfied by the Bank. The purpose of this contribution is to fund the FROB so that it can, inter alia, acquire entity instruments of Spanish financial institutions involved in restructuring or resolution processes under Law 11/2015. Furthermore, Law 11/2015 has also established an additional annual fee to fund the activities of the FROB as resolution authority.

There can be no assurance that additional funding requirements will not be imposed by the Spanish authorities for assisting in the restructuring of the Spanish banking sector.

## Steps taken towards achieving an EU fiscal and banking union

The project of achieving a European banking union was launched in the summer of 2012. Its main goal is to resume progress towards the European single market for financial services by restoring confidence in the European banking sector and ensuring the proper functioning of monetary policy in the European.

The Banking union is expected to be achieved through new harmonised banking rules (the single rulebook) and a new institutional framework with stronger systems for both banking supervision and resolution that will be managed at the European level. Its two main pillars are the SSM and the Single Resolution Mechanism ("SRM").

The SSM is expected to assist in making the banking sector more transparent, unified and safer. In accordance with the SSM Regulation, the ECB assumed its new supervisory responsibilities within the SSM, in particular direct supervision of the 120 largest European banks (including the Bank), on 4 November 2014. In preparation for this step, between November 2013 and October 2014, the ECB conducted, together with national supervisors, a comprehensive assessment of 130 banks, which together hold more than 80 per cent. of eurozone banking assets. The exercise consisted of three elements: (i) a supervisory risk assessment, which assessed the main balance sheet risks including liquidity, funding and leverage; (ii) an asset quality review, which focused on credit and market risks; and (iii) a stress test to examine the need to strengthen capital or take other corrective measures. On 26 October 2014, the ECB announced the results of the comprehensive assessment. Banco Popular is also included in the sample of banks subject to the 2016 EU-wide stress-test coordinated by the EBA. The objective of the EU-wide stress test is to provide supervisors, banks and other market participants with a common analytical framework to consistently compare and assess the resilience of EU banks and the EU banking system to shocks and to challenge the capital position of EU banks.

The SSM represents a significant change in the approach to bank supervision at a European and global level. The SSM will result in the direct supervision of more than 120 financial institutions, including the Bank, and indirect supervision of around 3,500 financial institutions. The new supervisor will be one of the largest in the world in terms of assets under supervision. In the coming years, the SSM is expected to work to establish a new supervisory culture importing best practices from the 19 supervisory authorities that will be part of the SSM. Several steps have already been taken in this regard such as the recent publication of the Supervisory Guidelines and the creation of the SSM Framework Regulation. In addition, this new body will represent an extra cost for the financial institutions that will fund it through payment of supervisory fees.

The other main pillar of the EU banking union is the SRM, the main purpose of which is to ensure a prompt and coherent resolution of failing banks in Europe at minimum cost. Regulation (EU) No. 806/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union (the "SRM Regulation"), which was passed on 15 July 2014, and takes legal effect from 1 January 2015, establishes uniform rules and a uniform procedure for the resolution of credit institutions and certain investment firms in the framework of the SRM and a Single Resolution Fund. The new Single Resolution Board started operating from 1 January 2015 but it will not fully assume its resolution powers until 1 January 2016. From that date onwards the Single Resolution Fund will also be in place, funded by contributions from European banks. The Single Resolution Fund is intended to reach a total amount of €55 billion by 2024 and to be

used as a separate backstop only after an 8 per cent. bail-in of a bank's liabilities has been applied to cover capital short falls (in line with the RRD).

By allowing for the consistent application of EU banking rules through the SSM, the banking union is expected to help resume momentum towards economic and monetary union. In order to complete such union, a single deposit guarantee scheme is still needed which may require a change to the existing European treaties. This is the subject of continued negotiation by European leaders to ensure further progress is made in European fiscal, economic and political integration.

Regulations adopted towards achieving a banking and/or fiscal union in the EU and decisions adopted by the ECB in its capacity as the Bank's main supervisory authority may have a material impact on the Bank's business, financial condition and results of operations. In particular, the RRD and Directive 2014/49/EU on deposit guarantee schemes were published in the Official Journal of the EU on 12 June 2014. The RRD was required to be implemented on or before 1 January 2015, although the bail-in tool will not apply until 1 January 2016. A minimum 8 per cent. bail-in of a bank's total liabilities and own funds (including senior debt and uncovered deposits) will be required as a precondition for access to any direct recapitalisation by the European Stability Mechanism, as agreed by the Eurozone members in December 2014.

RRD has been partially implemented in Spain in June 2015 through Law 11/2015 and RD 1012/2015, although certain regulatory developments in this area are still pending as at the date of this Base Prospectus. Law 9/2012 anticipated the rules to be implemented pursuant to the RRD, including the introduction of certain loss absorption measures applicable to subordinated debt in the context of restructuring and resolution processes. Although Law 9/2012 has been repealed by Law 11/2015 its bailin provisions contained in its Chapter VII (which apply to subordinated debt only) will remain in force until 31 December 2015 according to Transitional Provision Two of Law 11/2015.

In addition, on 29 January 2014, the European Commission released its proposal on the structural reforms of the European banking sector that will impose new constraints on the structure of European banks. The proposal aims at ensuring the harmonisation between the divergent national initiatives in Europe. It includes a prohibition on proprietary trading similar to that contained in Section 619 of the Dodd-Frank Act (also known as the Volcker Rule) and a mechanism to potentially require the separation of trading activities (including market making), such as in the Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013, complex securitisations and risky derivatives.

Regulations adopted on structural measures to improve the resilience of EU credit institutions may have a material impact on the Bank's business, financial condition and results of operations. These regulations, if adopted, may also cause the Group to invest significant management attention and resources to make any necessary changes.

### Taxation of the financial sector

On 14 February 2013 the European Commission published its proposal (the "Commission's Proposal") for a Council Directive implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of a financial transaction tax ("FTT") in Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (the "participating Member States").

The Commission's Proposal has a very broad scope and could, if introduced, apply to certain dealings in the Notes (including secondary market transactions) in certain circumstances.

Under the Commission's Proposal, the FTT could apply in certain circumstances to persons both within and outside of the participating Member States. Generally, it would apply to certain dealings in the Notes where at least one party is a financial institution, and at least one party is established in a participating Member Estate. A financial institution may be, or be deemed to be "established" in a participating Member State in a broad range of circumstances, including (a) by transacting with a person established in a participating Member State or (b) where the financial instrument which is subject to the dealings is issued in s participating Member State.

The proposed Directive aims to ensure that the financial sector makes a fair and substantial contribution to covering the costs of the recent crisis and creating a level playing field with other sectors from a taxation point of view. Joint statements issued by participating Member States indicated an intention to

implement the FTT by 1 January 2016. However, the Commission Proposal remains subject to negotiation between participant Member States and the scope of any such tax is uncertain. Additional EU member states may decide to participate.

On 4 July, 2014, Royal Decree-Law 8/2014, of 4 July was introduced in Spain setting forth a tax rate of 0.03 per cent. on bank deposits in Spain. Such tax was established in 2013 (but previously with a 0 per cent. rate) and is payable annually by Spanish banks. There can be no assurance that additional national or transnational bank levies or financial transaction taxes will not be adopted by the authorities of the jurisdictions where the Bank operates. Any such additional levies and taxes could have a material adverse effect on the Bank's business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Prospective holders of the Notes are advised to seek their own professional advice in relation to the FTT.

#### United States significant regulation

In the United States, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "**Dodd-Frank Act**") which was adopted in 2010 will continue to result in significant structural reforms affecting the financial services industry. This legislation provided for, among other things, the establishment of a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau with broad authority to regulate the credit, savings, payment and other consumer financial products and services that the Group offers, the creation of a structure to regulate systemically important financial companies, more comprehensive regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market, prohibitions on engagement in certain proprietary trading activities and restrictions on ownership or sponsorship of, or entering into certain credit-related transactions with related, covered funds, restrictions on the interchange fees earned through debit card transactions, and a requirement that bank regulators phase out the treatment of trust preferred capital instruments as Tier 1 capital for regulatory capital purposes.

With respect to OTC derivatives, the Dodd-Frank Act provides for an extensive framework for the regulation of OTC derivatives, including mandatory clearing, exchange trading and transaction reporting of certain OTC derivatives.

The full impact of the derivative market regulations on the Group remains unclear, and could have a materially adverse effect on the Group's results of operations, financial condition or prospects. Additionally, such regulations could make it more difficult to conduct hedging and trading activities. The Group is continually assessing the impact of legal and regulatory developments, including those described above, which could have an effect on the Group and participates in relevant consultation and calibration processes to be undertaken by the various regulatory and other bodies.

The Group continues to work closely with regulatory authorities to ensure that it is able to identify and respond to proposed regulatory changes and mitigate risks to the Group and stakeholders.

## The Group is exposed to risk of loss from legal and regulatory proceedings.

The Group faces various issues that may give rise to risk of loss from legal and regulatory proceedings. These issues include appropriately dealing with potential conflicts of interest, legal and regulatory requirements, ethical issues, and conduct by companies in which the Group holds strategic investments or joint venture partners, which could increase the number of litigation claims and the amount of damages asserted against the Group or subject the Group to regulatory enforcement actions, fines and penalties.

## Financial Reporting and Control Risks

### Changes in accounting standards could impact reported earnings.

The accounting standard setters and other regulatory bodies periodically change the financial accounting and reporting standards that govern the preparation of the Group's consolidated financial statements. These changes can materially impact how the Group records and reports its financial condition and results of operations. In some cases, the Group could be required to apply a new or revised standard retroactively, resulting in the restatement of prior period financial statements.

The Group's financial statements are based in part on assumptions and estimates which, if inaccurate, could cause material misstatement of the results of the Group's operations and financial position.

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Due to the inherent uncertainty in making estimates, actual results reported in future periods may be based upon amounts which differ from those estimates. Estimates, judgments and assumptions are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected. The accounting policies deemed critical to the Group's results and financial position, based upon materiality and significant judgments and estimates, include impairment of loans and advances, goodwill impairment, valuation of financial instruments, impairment of available-for-sale financial assets, deferred tax assets provision and pension obligation for liabilities.

If the judgment, estimates and assumptions the Group uses in preparing its consolidated financial statements are subsequently found to be incorrect, there could be a material effect on its results of operations and a corresponding effect on its funding requirements and capital ratios.

#### **Technology Risks**

Any failure to effectively improve or upgrade Banco Popular's information technology infrastructure and management information systems in a timely manner could have a material adverse effect on it.

Banco Popular's ability to remain competitive depends in part on its ability to upgrade its information technology on a timely and cost-effective basis. Banco Popular must continually make significant investments and improvements in its information technology infrastructure in order to remain competitive. Banco Popular cannot assure that in the future it will be able to maintain the level of capital expenditures necessary to support the improvement or upgrading of its information technology infrastructure. Any failure to effectively improve or upgrade its information technology infrastructure and management information systems in a timely manner could have a material adverse effect on Banco Popular.

Risks relating to data collection, processing and storage systems are inherent in the Group's business.

The Group's businesses depend on the ability to process a large number of transactions efficiently and accurately, and on its ability to rely on its digital technologies, computer and email services, software and networks, as well as on the secure processing, storage and transmission of confidential and other information in its computer systems and networks. The proper functioning of financial control, accounting or other data collection and processing systems is critical to its businesses and to its ability to compete effectively. Losses can result from inadequate personnel, inadequate or failed internal control processes and systems, or from external events that interrupt normal business operations. The Group also faces the risk that the design of its controls and procedures prove to be inadequate or are circumvented. Although it works with its clients, vendors, service providers, counterparties and other third parties to develop secure transmission capabilities and prevent against cyber-attacks, the Group routinely exchanges personal, confidential and proprietary information by electronic means, and it may be the target of attempted cyber-attacks. If it cannot maintain an effective data collection, management and processing system, it may be materially and adversely affected.

## Failure to protect personal information could adversely affect the Group.

The Group manages and holds confidential personal information of customers in the conduct of its banking operations. Although it has procedures and controls to safeguard personal information in its possession, unauthorised disclosures could subject it to legal actions and administrative sanctions as well as damages that could materially and adversely affect its operating results, financial condition and prospects. In addition, the Group may be required to report events related to information security issues (including any cyber security issues), events where customer information may be compromised, unauthorised access and other security breaches, to the relevant regulatory authorities.

#### Risk in Relation to the Notes

## The Notes are complex instruments that may not be suitable for certain investors

The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors. Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor may wish to consider, either on its own or with the help of its financial and other professional advisers, whether it:

- (a) has sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus or any applicable supplement;
- (b) has access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact the Notes will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- (c) understands thoroughly the terms of the Notes and is familiar with the behaviour of financial markets;
- (d) has sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all the risks of an investment in the Notes, including where Euros (the currency for principal and interest payments) is different from the potential investor's currency; and
- (e) is able to evaluate possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

Legal investment considerations may restrict certain investment. The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investment laws and regulation, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (a) Notes are legal investments for it, (b) Notes can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing and (c) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Notes. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisors or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of Notes under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

## The notes of any series are subject to the provisions of the Spanish Insolvency Law.

Law 22/2003, of 9 July 2003, on Insolvency (the "Spanish Insolvency Law") provides, among other things, that: (i) any claim may become subordinated if it is not reported to the insolvency administrators (administradores concursales) within one month from the last official publication of the court order declaring the insolvency, (ii) provisions in a contract granting one party the right to terminate by reason only of the other's insolvency will not be enforceable, and (iii) interest (other than interest accruing under secured liabilities up to an amount equal to the value of the asset subject to the security) shall cease to accrue as from the date of the declaration of insolvency and any amount of interest accrued up to such date (other than any interest accruing under secured liabilities up to an amount equal to the value of the asset subject to the security) shall become subordinated. Any payments of interest in respect of debt securities will be subject to the subordination provisions of article 92.3 of the Spanish Insolvency Law.

The Spanish Insolvency Law, in certain instances, also has the effect of modifying or impairing creditors' rights even if the creditor, either secured or unsecured, does not consent to the amendment. Secured and unsecured dissenting creditors may be written down not only once the insolvency has been declared by the judge as a result of the approval of a creditors' agreement, but also as a result of an out-of-court restructuring agreement without insolvency proceedings having been previously opened (e.g., refinancing agreements which satisfy certain requirements and are validated by the judge), in both scenarios (i) to the extent that certain qualified majorities are achieved and unless (ii) some exceptions in relation to the kind of claim or creditor apply (which would not be the case for the securities).

The majorities legal regime envisaged for these purposes also hinges on (i) the type of the specific restructuring measure which is intended to be imposed (e.g., extensions, debt reductions, debt for equity swaps, etc.) as well as (ii) on the part of claims to be written-down (i.e. secured or unsecured, depending on the value of the collateral as calculated pursuant to the rules established in the Spanish Insolvency Act).

In no case shall subordinated creditors be entitled to vote upon a creditors' agreement during the insolvency proceedings, and accordingly, shall be always subject to the measures contained therein, if passed.

#### An investor in the Subordinated Notes

The relevant Issuers' obligations under the Subordinated Notes of any series will be unsecured and subordinated and will rank junior in priority of payment to all unsubordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer. Although subordinated debt securities may pay a higher rate of interest than comparable debt securities which are not subordinated, there is a risk that holders of the Subordinated Notes of any series will lose all or some of their investment should the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) become insolvent. The payment of principal and interest in respect of the Subordinated Notes issued by BPEF only, will be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by the Bank pursuant to the subordinated guarantee. The Bank's obligations under the subordinated guarantee (if applicable) will be unsecured and subordinated and will rank junior in priority of payment to all unsubordinated obligations of the Bank.

In the event of insolvency, after payment in full of unsubordinated claims, but before distributions to shareholders, under article 92 of the Insolvency Law (as defined below), the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) will meet subordinated claims in the following order and pro-rata within each class: (i) late or incorrect claims; (ii) contractually subordinated debts (including the Subordinated Notes and claims under the related guarantee in respect of them); (iii) interest (including accrued and unpaid interest due on the Subordinated Notes and under the related guarantee in respect of them); (iv) fines; (v) claims of creditors which are specially related to the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) as provided for under the Insolvency Law; (vi) detrimental claims against the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) where a Spanish Court has determined that the relevant creditor has acted in bad faith (*rescisión concursal*); and (vii) claims arising from contracts with reciprocal obligations as referred to in articles 61, 62, 68 and 69 of the Insolvency Law, wherever the court rules, prior to the administrators' report of insolvency (*administración concursal*) that the creditor repeatedly impedes the fulfilment of the contract against the interest of the insolvency.

Law 11/2015 established a change in the ranking of claims under Article 92.2 of the Spanish Insolvency Law for Spanish banking insolvency proceedings. According to such change, principal of subordinated debt securities qualifying as Tier 2 instruments will rank (i) *pari passu* among themselves and with the principal of any other contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant debtor qualifying as Tier 2 instruments, (ii) senior to any principal of contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant debtor qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments and (iii) junior to any principal of contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant debtor not qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments or Tier 2 instruments.

# The Issuers are not prohibited from issuing further debt, which may rank pari passu with or senior to the Notes

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes place no restriction on the amount of debt that each Issuer may issue that ranks senior to the Notes (including Senior Subordinated Notes), or on the amount of securities it may issue that rank *pari passu* with the Notes. The issue of any such debt or securities may reduce the amount recoverable by Noteholders upon liquidation of the relevant Issuer.

# There is no active trading market for the Notes.

Notes issued under the Programme will be new securities which may not be widely distributed and for which there is currently no active trading market (unless in the case of any particular Tranche, such Tranche is to be consolidated with and form a single series with a Tranche of Notes which is already issued). If the Notes are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount to their initial offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, general economic conditions and the financial condition of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable). Although application has been made for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List of the Irish Stock Exchange plc and to trading on the Main Securities Market of the Irish Stock Exchange plc, there is no assurance that such application will be accepted, that any particular Tranche of Notes will be so admitted or that an active trading market will develop.

Accordingly, there is no assurance as to the development or liquidity of any trading market for any particular Tranche of Notes.

The Notes may be redeemed prior to maturity. Additionally, the Subordinated Notes may be redeemed at the relevant Issuer's option for tax reasons or upon the occurrence of a Capital Event.

If the Final Terms specify that the Notes are redeemable at the relevant Issuer's option in certain other circumstances such Issuer may choose to redeem the Notes at times when prevailing interest rates may be relatively low. In such circumstances an investor may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as that of the relevant Notes.

Unless in the case of any particular Tranche of Notes the relevant Final Terms specify otherwise, in the event that the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) would be obliged to increase the amounts payable in respect of any Notes due to any withholding or deduction for or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by or on behalf of Spain or any political subdivision thereof or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax, the relevant Issuer may redeem all outstanding Notes in accordance with the Conditions. In respect of Subordinated Notes only, redemption for such taxation reasons, at their Early Redemption Amount (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption), may occur at any time only if so permitted by the Applicable Banking Regulations then in force, and subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors, as further described in Condition 7(b) (*Redemption for taxation reasons*).

Additionally, all and not some only, of the Subordinated Notes may be redeemed at the option of the relevant Issuer at their Early Redemption Amount (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption), at any time, subject to such redemption being permitted by the applicable Spanish law then in force and the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors, if a Capital Event occurs as a result of a change in Spanish law, Applicable Banking Regulations or any change in the official application or interpretation thereof becoming effective on or after the Issue Date (including as a result of the implementation or applicability in Spain on or after the Issue Date of CRD IV), as further described in Condition 7(e) (Redemption at the option of the Issuer (Capital Event)).

It is not possible to predict whether or not any further change in the laws or regulations of Spain, Applicable Banking Regulations or the application thereof, or any of the other events referred to above, will occur and so lead to circumstances in which the relevant Issuer is able to elect to redeem the Notes, and if so whether or not the relevant Issuer will elect to exercise such option to redeem the Notes. The exercise by the relevant Issuer of the redemption feature of the Notes may have a materially adverse effect on the market value of the Notes. During any period when the relevant Issuer has the right to elect to redeem the Notes, the market value of the Notes is unlikely to rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This may also be true prior to such period.

## Global Notes held in a clearing system.

Because the Global Notes will be held by or on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, investors will have to rely on their procedures for transfer, payment and communications with the relevant Issuer and/or the Guarantor (if applicable).

Notes issued under the Programme may be represented by one or more global Notes. Such global Notes will be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. Except in the circumstances described in the relevant global Note, investors will not be entitled to receive definitive Notes.

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg will maintain records of the beneficial interests in the global Notes. While the Notes are represented by one or more global Notes, investors will be able to trade their beneficial interests only through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

While the Notes are represented by one or more global Notes, the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) will discharge their payment obligations under the Notes by making payments to the common depositary or common safekeeper for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg for distribution to their account holders. A holder of a beneficial interest in a global Note must rely on the procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg to receive payments under the relevant Notes. The relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) have no responsibility or liability for the records relating to, or payments made in respect of, beneficial interests in the global Notes.

Holders of beneficial interests in the global Notes will not have a direct right to vote in respect of the relevant Notes. Instead, such holders will be permitted to act only to the extent that they are enabled by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg to appoint appropriate proxies. Similarly, holders of beneficial interests in the global Notes will not have a direct right under the global Notes to take enforcement action against the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) in the event of a default under the relevant Notes but will have to rely upon their rights under the Deed of Covenant.

<u>The interest rate on Fixed Reset Notes will reset on each Reset Date, which can be expected to affect interest payments on an investment in Fixed Reset Notes and could affect the market value of Fixed Reset Notes.</u>

Fixed Reset Notes will initially bear interest at the Initial Interest Rate until (but excluding) the First Reset Date. On the First Reset Date, the Second Reset Date (if applicable) and each Subsequent Reset Date (if any) thereafter, the interest rate will be reset to the sum of the applicable Mid-Swap Rate and the Reset Margin as determined by the Fiscal Agent on the relevant Reset Determination Date (each such interest rate, a "Subsequent Reset Rate"). The Subsequent Reset Rate for any Reset Period could be less than the Initial Interest Rate or the Subsequent Reset Rate for prior Reset Periods and could affect the market value of an investment in the Fixed Reset Notes.

#### *Uncertainty as to value of Notes and interest to be paid.*

Investment in fixed rates Notes involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the fixed rate Notes (as applicable). Investment in floating rate Notes involves the risk that interest rates may vary from time to time, resulting in variable interest payments to Noteholders.

The taking of any action under Law 11/2015, which partially implements RRD, could materially affect the value of any Notes

The RRD and its partial implementation in Spain through Law 11/2015 and RD 1012/2015 are designed to provide authorities with a credible set of tools to intervene sufficiently early and quickly in an unsound or failing institution so as to ensure the continuity of the institution's critical financial and economic functions, while minimising the impact of an institution's failure on the economy and financial system.

As provided in the RRD, Law 11/2015 contains four resolution tools and powers which may be used alone or in combination where the relevant resolution authority considers that (a) an institution is failing or likely to fail, (b) there is no reasonable prospect that any alternative private sector measures would prevent the failure of such institution within a reasonable timeframe, and (c) a resolution action is in the public interest. The four resolution tools are: (i) sale of business - which enables resolution authorities to direct the sale of the firm or the whole or part of its business on commercial terms; (ii) bridge institution - which enables resolution authorities to transfer all or part of the business of the firm to a "bridge institution" (an entity created for this purpose that is wholly or partially in public control); (iii) asset separation - which enables resolution authorities to transfer impaired or problem assets to one or more publicly owned asset management vehicles to allow them to be managed with a view to maximising their value through eventual sale or orderly wind-down (this can be used together with another resolution tool only); and (iv) bail-in - which gives resolution authorities the power to write down certain claims of unsecured creditors of a failing institution and to convert certain unsecured debt claims including Senior Notes and Subordinated Notes to equity (the "general bail-in tool"), which equity could also be subject to any application of the relevant resolution tools.

An institution will be considered as failing or likely to fail when: (i) it is, or is likely in the near future to be, in breach of its requirements for continuing authorisation; (ii) its assets are, or are likely in the near future to be, less than its liabilities; (iii) it is, or is likely in the near future to be, unable to pay its debts as they fall due; or (iv) it requires extraordinary public financial support (except in limited circumstances). The determination that an institution is failing or likely to fail may depend on a number of factors which may be outside of that institution's control.

In addition to the general bail-in tool, the RRD and Law 11/2015 provide for resolution authorities to have the further power to permanently write-down or convert into equity capital instruments such as Subordinated Notes at the point of non-viability and before any other resolution action is taken (the "non-

**viability loss absorption**"). Any shares issued to holders of Subordinated Notes upon any such conversion into equity may also be subject to any future application of the relevant resolution tool.

For the purposes of the application of any non-viability loss absorption measure, the point of non-viability is the point at which the relevant authority determines that the institution meets the conditions for resolution (but no resolution action has yet been taken) or that the institution will no longer be viable unless the relevant capital instruments (such as Subordinated Notes) are written-down or converted or extraordinary public support is to be provided and without such support the appropriate authority determines that the institution would no longer be viable. The determination that an institution has reached it's point of non viability depends on a number of factors which may be outside of that institutions control.

As described in "The Bank is subject to substantial regulation, and regulatory and governmental oversight. Adverse regulatory developments or changes in government policy could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition" above, the general bail-in tool under Law 11/2015 will not come into force until 1 January 2016. Until such date the loss absorption measures contained in its Chapter VII of Law 9/2012 (which apply to subordinated debt only) will remain in force. The application of these loss absorption measures under Law 9/2012 may be adopted in those situations where an institution in considered as failing or likely to fail under Law 11/2015. These loss absorption measures include, among others: (i) the deferment, suspension, elimination or amendment of certain rights, obligations, terms and conditions of any Subordinated Notes, (ii) the repurchase of any Subordinated Notes at a price set by the FROB, (iii) the exchange of any Subordinated Notes for capital instruments, (iv) the write down of any interest and/or principal amount of the Subordinated Notes, and (v) the redemption of any Subordinated Notes at a value different from their nominal value.

The powers set out in the RRD, as implemented in Spain through Law 11/2015 and RD 1012/2015 will impact how credit institutions and investment firms are managed as well as, in certain circumstances, the rights of creditors. Holders of Notes may be subject to write-down or conversion into equity on any application of the general bail-in tool from 1 January 2016 and, in the case of Subordinated Notes, non-viability loss absorption and, until 31 December 2015, the loss absorption measures contained in Law 9/2012, which may result in such holders losing some or all of their investment. The exercise of any power under the RRD or any suggestion of such exercise could, therefore, materially adversely affect the rights of Noteholders, the price or value of their investment in any Notes and/or the ability of the Issuers and Guarantor to satisfy its obligations under any Notes or the Guarantee.

Noteholders may not be able to exercise their rights on an event of default in the event of the adoption of any early intervention or resolution measure under Law 11/2015

The relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) may be subject to a procedure of early intervention or resolution pursuant to the RRD as implemented through Law 11/2015 (and RD 1012/2015) if Banco Popular or its group of consolidated credit entities is in breach (or due, among other things, to a rapidly deteriorating financial condition, it is likely in the near future to be in breach) of applicable regulatory requirements relating to solvency, liquidity, internal structure or internal controls or the conditions for resolution referred to above are met (see "The taking of any action under Law 11/2015, which partially implements RRD, could materially affect the value of any Instruments").

Pursuant to Law 11/2015 the adoption of any early intervention or resolution procedure shall not itself constitute an event of default or entitle any counterparty of the relevant Issuer or Guarantor to exercise any rights it may otherwise have in respect thereof and any provision providing for such rights shall further be deemed not to apply. However, this does not limit the ability of a counterparty to declare any event of default and exercise its rights accordingly where an event of default arises either before or after the exercise of any such early intervention or resolution procedure and does not necessarily relate to the exercise of any relevant measure or power which has been applied pursuant to Law 11/2015.

Any enforcement by a Noteholder of its rights under the Notes upon the occurrence of an Event of Default following the adoption of any resolution procedure will, therefore, be subject to the relevant provisions of the RRD and Law 11/2015 in relation to the exercise of the relevant measures and powers pursuant to such procedure, including the resolution tools and powers referred to above (see "The taking of any action under Law 11/2015, which partially implements RRD, could materially affect the value of any Instruments"). Any claims on the occurrence of an Event of Default will consequently be limited by the application of any measures pursuant to the provisions of Law 11/2015. There can be no assurance

that the taking of any such action would not adversely affect the rights of Noteholders, the price or value of their investment in the Notes and/or the ability of the relevant Issuer and/or the Guarantor (if applicable) to satisfy its obligations under the Notes or the Guarantee (if applicable) and the enforcement by a holder of any rights it may otherwise have on the occurrence of any Event of Default may be limited in these circumstances.

<u>Subordinated Notes may not be redeemed prior to maturity at the option of Noteholders, including in the event of non-payment of principal or interest.</u>

The terms and conditions of the Subordinated Notes do not include provisions allowing for early redemption of Subordinated Notes at the option of holders.

Subordinated Notes are intended to qualify as Tier 2 capital of Banco Popular. The CRR provides that the provisions governing Subordinated Notes that qualify as Tier 2 should not give the holders the right to accelerate the future scheduled payment of interest or principal, other than in the insolvency or liquidation of the relevant Issuer. As a result, holders of Subordinated Notes will not have any rights under the terms and conditions of the Subordinated Notes to request the early redemption of such Subordinated Notes in the event of any failure by the relevant Issuer to pay principal or interest in respect of such Subordinated Notes or in the case of default by the relevant Issuer or any company within its group under any other indebtedness.

#### General considerations.

Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform services for, the Issuers and/or the Guarantor (if applicable) and their affiliates in the ordinary course of business. In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the Dealers and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Issuers, the Guarantor or their affiliates. Certain of the Dealers or their affiliates that have a lending relationship with the Issuers and/or the Guarantor routinely hedge their credit exposure to the Issuers or the Guarantor consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such Dealers and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in securities, including potentially the Notes issued under the Programme. Any such short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of Notes issued under the Programme. The Dealers and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

## Risks relating to the Spanish withholding tax regime

Article 44 of Royal Decree 1065/2007 sets out the reporting obligations applicable to preference shares and debt instruments issued under Law 10/2014 (the "**Simplified Information Procedures**"). The procedures apply to interest deriving from preferred securities (*participaciones preferentes*) and debt instruments to which Law 10/2014 refers, including debt instruments issued at a discount for a period equal to or less than twelve months.

According to the literal wording of Article 44.5 of Royal Decree 1065/2007, income derived from securities originally registered with the entities that manage clearing systems located outside Spain, and are recognised by Spanish law or by the law of another OECD country (such as Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg), will be paid free of Spanish withholding tax provided that the Paying Agent appointed by the Issuers submits a statement to the relevant Issuer, the form of which is included in the Agency Agreement, with the following information:

- (a) identification of the securities;
- (b) income payment date (or refund if the Notes are issued at a discount or segregated);

- (c) total amount of income (or total amount to be refunded if the Notes are issued at a discount or segregated); and
- (d) total amount of the income corresponding to each clearing system located outside Spain.

These obligations refer to the total amount paid to investors through each foreign clearing house. For these purposes, "income" means interest and the difference, if any, between the aggregate amount payable on the redemption of the Notes and the issue price of the Notes.

In accordance with Article 44 of Royal Decree 1065/2007, the Fiscal Agent should provide the relevant Issuer with the statement on the business day immediately prior to each interest payment date. The statement must reflect the situation at the close of business of that same day. In the event that on such date, the entity(ies) obliged to provide the declaration fail to do so, the relevant Issuer or the Fiscal Agent on its behalf will make a withholding at the current rate of 21 per cent. (20 per cent. as from 1 January 2015 and 19 per cent. as from 1 January 2016, according to the tax reform) on the total amount of the return on the relevant Notes otherwise payable to such entity.

Each Issuer considers that, according to Royal Decree 1065/2007, any payments under the Notes will be made by such Issuer free of Spanish withholding tax, provided that the Simplified Information Procedures described above (which do not require identification of the Noteholders) are complied with by the relevant Issuer and the Fiscal Agent. However, the interpretation of Royal Decree 1065/2007 and in particular the absence of a withholding tax obligation for the relevant Issuer in respect of Spanish resident individuals, and to disclose certain tax information to the Spanish Tax Authorities about those Noteholders who are Spanish Individual Income Tax or Corporate Income Tax taxpayers, or non-Spanish residents operating in Spain through a permanent establishment is currently subject to debate. The Spanish Tax Authorities may eventually issue a tax ruling to clarify the interpretation of the currently applicable procedures and it cannot be completely discarded that such ruling determines that the relevant Issuer should apply a withholding on payments to individuals with tax residence in Spain and to obtain and disclose certain information to the tax authorities. If this is the case, identification of Noteholders may be required and the procedures, if any, for the collection of relevant information will be applied by the relevant Issuer (to the extent required) so that it can comply with its obligations under the applicable legislation as clarified by the Spanish Tax Authorities.

If, following clarification by the Spanish Tax Authorities, procedures for the collection of the Noteholders information are to apply, the Noteholders will be informed of such new procedures and their implications.

Similarly if following clarification by the Spanish Tax Authorities, Noteholders who are Spanish Individual Income Tax Payers become subject to withholding tax, the relevant Issuer will apply the relevant withholding on payments to individuals with tax residence in Spain. The Issuers will not pay any additional amounts in respect of any such withholding tax.

Noteholders must seek their own advice to ensure that they comply with all procedures to ensure the correct tax treatment of their Notes. None of the Issuers, the Dealers, the Fiscal Agent or any clearing system (including Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg) assume any responsibility therefore.

# EU Savings Directive.

Under Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the "**Directive**"), Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of other Member States details of certain payments of interest or similar income paid or secured by a person established in a Member State to or for the benefit of an individual resident in another Member State or certain limited types of entities established in another Member State; however, for a transitional period, Austria may instead apply a withholding system in relation to such payments, deducting tax at rates rising over time to 35 per cent. The transitional period is to terminate at the end of the first full fiscal year following agreement by certain non-EU countries to the exchange of information relating to such payments.

On 10 November 2015, the Council of the European Union adopted a Council Directive repealing the Directive from 1 January 2016 in relation to all Member States other than Austria (and from 1 January 2017, or after 1 October 2016 for certain payments, in relation to Austria), subject to on-going requirements to fulfil administrative obligations such as the reporting and exchange of information relation to, and accounting for withholding taxes on, payments made before those dates.

If a payment were to be made or collected through a Member State which has opted for a transitional withholding system as referred to below on page 103 under the heading "EU Savings Directive" and an amount of, or in respect of tax were to be withheld from that payment, neither the relevant Issuer nor any paying agent nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. If a withholding tax is imposed on payment made by a paying agent, the relevant Issuer will be required to maintain a paying agent in a Member State that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the Directive.

### Payments on the Notes may be subject to U.S. withholding under FATCA.

Sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 ("FATCA") impose a 30 per cent. withholding tax with respect to "foreign passthru payments" made by non-U.S. financial institutions (such as the Bank) to investors that do not provide sufficient identification information and to non-U.S. financial institutions that do not comply with the FATCA regime. Whilst the Instruments are in global form and held within the clearing systems, in all but the most remote circumstances it is not expected that FATCA will affect the amount of any payment received by the clearing systems. However, FATCA may affect payments made to custodians or intermediaries in the subsequent payment chain leading to the ultimate investor if any such custodian or intermediary generally is unable to receive payments free of FATCA withholding. It also may affect payment to any ultimate investor that is a financial institution that is not entitled to receive payments free of withholding under FATCA, or any ultimate investor that fails to provide its broker (or other custodian or intermediary from which it receives payment) with any information, forms, other documentation or consents that may be necessary for the payments to be made free of FATCA withholding. Investors should choose their custodians or intermediaries with care (to ensure each is compliant with FATCA or other laws or agreements related to FATCA) and provide each custodian or intermediary with any information, forms, other documentation or consents that may be necessary for such custodian or intermediary to make a payment free of FATCA withholding. The Bank's' obligations under the Instruments are discharged once they have paid the clearing systems, and the Bank has no responsibility for any amount thereafter transmitted to participants in the clearing systems and other subsequent custodians or intermediaries. Furthermore, if an amount in respect of U.S. withholding tax were to be deducted or withheld from any payment on the Instruments to participants in the clearing systems or any other subsequent custodians or intermediaries, the Bank would not, pursuant to the conditions of the Instruments, be required to pay additional amounts as a result of the deduction or withholding of such tax. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the potential impact of FATCA.

# The terms of the Notes contain very limited covenants

There is no negative pledge in respect of the Notes. In addition, the Notes do not require the Bank to comply with financial ratios or otherwise limit its ability or that of its subsidiaries to incur additional debt, nor do they limit the Bank's ability to use cash to make investments or acquisitions, or the ability of the Bank or its subsidiaries to pay dividends, repurchase shares or otherwise distribute cash to shareholders. Such actions could potentially affect the Bank's ability to service its debt obligations, including those of the Notes.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

The following is the text of the terms and conditions which, subject to completion with the provisions of the relevant Final Terms, will be applicable to the Notes in definitive form (if any) issued in exchange for the Global Note(s) representing each Series and, subject further to simplification by deletion of non-applicable provisions, will be endorsed on such Bearer Notes or on the Certificates relating to such Registered Notes, details of the relevant Series being shown on the relevant Notes or Certificates and in the relevant Final Terms. References in the Conditions to "Notes" are to the Notes of one Series only, not to all Notes, which may be issued under the Programme.

The Notes of each Tranche will, if so required by Spanish law, be issued by virtue of a public deed of issuance (the "Public Deed of Issuance") to be executed before a Spanish notary public on or prior to the issue date, and which shall contain, among other information, the terms and conditions of the Notes. The Notes are issued pursuant to an amended and restated fiscal agency agreement dated 10 December 2015 (the "Fiscal Agency Agreement") between BPE Financiaciones, S.A. as issuer ("BPEF"), Banco Popular Español, S.A. in its capacity as issuer ("Banco Popular" together with BPEF the "Issuers" and each an "Issuer"), and in its capacity as guarantor in respect of Notes issued by BPEF only (the "Guarantor"), The Bank of New York Mellon, London Branch as fiscal agent (the "Fiscal Agent"), paying agent (together with the Fiscal Agent and any additional or other paying agents in respect of the Notes from time to time appointed, the "Paying Agents"), transfer agent (together with any additional or other transfer agents in respect of the Notes from time to time appointed, the "Transfer Agents") and The Bank of New York Mellon (Luxembourg) S.A. as registrar and transfer agent (the "Registrar"). The Noteholders are entitled to the benefit of the deed of covenant dated 10 December 2015 and executed by each of the Issuers (the "Deed of Covenant"). The Guarantor has, for the benefit of the holders of the Notes issued by BPEF from time to time, executed and delivered a deed of guarantee dated 10 December 2015 (the "Deed of Guarantee") under which it has guaranteed the due and punctual payment of all sums from time to time payable by BPEF under the relevant Notes and the Deed of Covenant as and when the same shall become due and payable. The initial Calculation Agent(s) (if any) is specified on the Notes. The holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders"), the holders of the interest coupons (the "Coupons") appertaining to interest bearing Notes in bearer form and, where applicable in the case of such Notes, talons for further Coupons (the "Talons") (the "Couponholders") and the holders of the instalment receipts (the "Receipts") appertaining to the payment of principal by instalments are deemed to have notice of all of the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement applicable to them.

Copies of the Fiscal Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant and the Deed of Guarantee are available for inspection at the specified offices of each of the Paying Agents.

Notes issued under the Programme are issued in series (each a "Series") and each Series may comprise one or more tranches (each a "Tranche") of Notes. Each Tranche is the subject of a Final Terms (the "Final Terms") which completes these terms and conditions (the "Conditions"). The terms and conditions applicable to any particular Tranche of Notes are these Conditions as completed by the relevant Final Terms. In the event of any inconsistency between these Conditions and the relevant Final Terms, the relevant Final Terms shall prevail.

## 1. **Definitions**

In these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, the following defined terms shall have the meanings set out below:

"Business Day Convention", in relation to any particular date, has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms and, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, may have different meanings in relation to different dates and, in this context, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

- (i) "Following Business Day Convention" means that the relevant date shall be postponed to the first following day that is a Relevant Business Day;
- (ii) "Modified Following Business Day Convention" or "Modified Business Day Convention" means that the relevant date shall be postponed to the first following day

that is a Relevant Business Day unless that day falls in the next calendar month in which case that date will be the first preceding day that is a Relevant Business Day;

- (iii) "**Preceding Business Day Convention**" means that the relevant date shall be brought forward to the first preceding day that is a Relevant Business Day;
- (iv) "FRN Convention", "Floating Rate Convention" or "Eurodollar Convention" means that each relevant date shall be the date which numerically corresponds to the preceding such date in the calendar month which is the number of months specified in the relevant Final Terms as the Specified Period after the calendar month in which the preceding such date occurred provided, however, that:
  - (A) if there is no such numerically corresponding day in the calendar month in which any such date should occur, then such date will be the last day which is a Relevant Business Day in that calendar month;
  - (B) if any such date would otherwise fall on a day which is not a Relevant Business Day, then such date will be the first following day which is a Relevant Business Day unless that day falls in the next calendar month, in which case it will be the first preceding day which is a Relevant Business Day; and if the preceding such date occurred on the last day in a calendar month which was a Relevant Business Day, then all subsequent such dates will be the last day which is a Relevant Business Day in the calendar month which is the specified number of months after the calendar month in which the preceding such date occurred; and
- (v) "No Adjustment" means that the relevant date shall not be adjusted in accordance with any Business Day Convention;

"Calculation Agent" means the Fiscal Agent or such other Person specified in the relevant Final Terms as the party responsible for calculating the Rate(s) of Interest and Interest Amount(s) and/or such other amount(s) as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms;

"Calculation Amount" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Consolidated Supervisors" means the European Central Bank and the Bank of Spain, as applicable, or such other successor authority having primary bank supervisory authority with respect to prudential oversight and supervision of Banco Popular and/or the Group;

"Day Count Fraction" means, in respect of the calculation of an amount for any period of time (the "Calculation Period"), such day count fraction as may be specified in these Conditions or the relevant Final Terms and:

- (i) if "Actual/Actual (ICMA)" is so specified, means:
  - (a) where the Calculation Period is equal to or shorter than the Regular Period during which it falls, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year; and
  - (b) where the Calculation Period is longer than one Regular Period, the sum of:
    - (A) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the Regular Period in which it begins divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year; and
    - (B) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the next Regular Period divided by the product of (a) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year;

- (ii) if "Actual/Actual (ISDA)" is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365 (or, if any portion of the Calculation Period falls in a leap year, the sum of (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);
- (iii) if "Actual/365 (Fixed)" is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365;
- (iv) if "Actual/360" is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360;
- (v) if "30/360" is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{\left[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)\right] + \left[30x(M_2 - M_1)\right] + (D_2 - D_2)}{360}$$

where:

" $Y_1$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $Y_2$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

 ${}^{\text{"}}M_{1}{}^{\text{"}}$  is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $\mathbf{M_2}$ " is the calendar month, expressed as number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

"D<sub>1</sub>" is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

" $\mathbf{D}_2$ " is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31 and D1 is greater than 29, in which case D2 will be 30";

(vi) if "**30E/360**" or "**Eurobond Basis**" is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

[Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{\left[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)\right] + \left[30x(M_2 - M_1)\right] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

" $\mathbf{Y}_1$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $Y_2$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

 ${}^{\text{"}}\mathbf{M}_{1}{}^{\text{"}}$  is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $M_2$ " is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

 $^{"}\mathbf{D_{1}}^{"}$  is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

" $\mathbf{D_2}$ " is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30; and

(vii) if "30E/360 (ISDA)" is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{\left[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)\right] + \left[30x(M_2 - M_1)\right] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

" $Y_1$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $Y_2$ " is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

 ${}^{\text{"}}M_{1}{}^{\text{"}}$  is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

" $M_2$ " is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

" $\mathbf{D_1}$ " is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

"D<sub>2</sub>" is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February but not the Maturity Date or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30,

**provided**, **however**, **that** in each such case the number of days in the Calculation Period is calculated from and including the first day of the Calculation Period to but excluding the last day of the Calculation Period;

"Early Redemption Amount" means, in respect of any Note, its principal amount or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms;

"Early Termination Amount" means, in respect of any Note, its principal amount or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, these Conditions or the relevant Final Terms;

"Effective Date" means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined on an Interest Determination Date, the date specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified the first day of the Interest Accrual Period to which such Interest Determination Date relates;

"Euro-zone" means the member states of the European Union that are participating in the third stage of European Monetary Union;

"Extraordinary Resolution" has the meaning given in the Fiscal Agency Agreement;

"Final Redemption Amount" means, in respect of any Note, its principal amount or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms;

"Fixed Coupon Amount" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Fixed Reset Note" means Notes to which the Fixed Reset Note Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable;

"Indebtedness" means any obligation (whether present or future, actual or contingent) for the payment or repayment of money which has been borrowed or raised (including money raised by acceptances and leasing);

"Insolvency Law" means Spanish Law 22/2003 of 9 July on Insolvency;

"Interest Amount" means, in relation to a Note and an Interest Period, the amount of interest payable in respect of that Note for that Interest Period;

"Interest Commencement Date" means the date of issue of the Notes (the "Issue Date") or such other date as may be specified as the Interest Commencement Date in the relevant Final Terms;

"Interest Determination Date" means, with respect to an Interest Rate and Interest Period, the date specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, (i) the first day of such Interest Period if the Relevant Currency is sterling (ii) or the day falling two Relevant Business Days in London prior to the first day of such Interest Period if the Relevant Currency is not sterling, or (iii) the day falling two TARGET2 Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Period if the Relevant Currency is Euro;

"Interest Payment Date" means the date or dates specified as such in, or determined in accordance with the provisions of, the relevant Final Terms and, if a Business Day Convention is specified in the relevant Final Terms:

- (i) as the same may be adjusted in accordance with the relevant Business Day Convention; or
- (ii) if the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention and an interval of a number of calendar months is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being the Specified Period, each of such dates as may occur in accordance with the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention at such Specified Period of calendar months following the Interest Commencement Date (in the case of the first Interest Payment Date) or the previous Interest Payment Date (in any other case);

"Interest Period" means the period beginning on (and including) the Interest Commencement Date and ending on (but excluding) the first Interest Payment Date and each successive period beginning on (and including) an Interest Payment Date and ending on (but excluding) the next succeeding Interest Payment Date;

"Interest Period Date" means each Interest Payment Date unless otherwise specified hereon;

"Interest Rate" means the rate of interest payable from time to time in respect of this Note and which is either specified, or calculated in accordance with the provisions, hereon;

"ISDA Definitions" means unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the 2006 ISDA Definitions (as amended and updated as at the date of issue of the first Tranche of the Notes of the relevant Series (as specified in the relevant Final Terms) as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc;

"Issue Date" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Margin" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Maturity Date" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Maximum Redemption Amount" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Minimum Redemption Amount" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Optional Redemption Amount (Call)" means, in respect of any Note, its principal amount or such other amount as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms;

"Optional Redemption Amount (Put)" means, in respect of any Note, its principal amount or such other amount as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms;

"Optional Redemption Date (Call)" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Optional Redemption Date (Put)" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Participating Member State" means a Member State of the European Union which adopts the euro as its lawful currency in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Communities, as amended;

"Payment Business Day" means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks are open for general business in the relevant place of presentation for payment of debt securities and for dealings in foreign currencies, in such jurisdictions as shall be specified as "Business Day Jurisdictions" hereon and:

- (i) (in the case of a payment in a currency other than Euro) where payment is to be made by transfer to an account maintained with a bank in the relevant currency, a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in the relevant currency in the principal financial centre of the country of such currency; or
- (ii) (in the case of a payment in Euro) where payment is to be made by transfer to an account, a day on which the TARGET2 System is operating.

"Person" means any individual, company, corporation, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, organisation, state or agency of a state or other entity, whether or not having a separate legal personality;

"Principal Financial Centre" means, in relation to any currency, the principal financial centre for that currency provided, however, that:

- (i) in relation to Euro, it means the principal financial centre of such Member State of the European Communities as is selected (in the case of a payment) by the payee or (in the case of a calculation) by the Calculation Agent; and
- (ii) in relation to Australian dollars, it means either Sydney or Melbourne and, in relation to New Zealand dollars, it means either Wellington or Auckland; in each case as is selected (in the case of a payment) by the payee or (in the case of a calculation) by the Calculation Agent;

"Redemption Amount" means, as appropriate, the Final Redemption Amount, the Early Redemption Amount, the Optional Redemption Amount (Call), the Optional Redemption Amount (Put), the Early Termination Amount or such other amount in the nature of a redemption amount as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms;

"Reference Banks" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms or, if none, four (or if the principal Financial Centre is Helsinki, five) major banks selected by the Calculation Agent in the market that is most closely connected with the Reference Rate;

"Reference Rate" means one of LIBOR or EURIBOR, as specified in the applicable Final Terms;

# "Regular Period" means:

- (i) in the case of Notes where interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including the Interest Commencement Date to but excluding the first Interest Payment Date and each successive period from and including one Interest Payment Date to but excluding the next Interest Payment Date;
- (ii) in the case of Notes where, apart from the first Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "Regular Date" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any Interest Payment Date falls; and

(iii) in the case of Notes where, apart from one Interest Period other than the first Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "Regular Date" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any Interest Payment Date falls other than the Interest Payment Date falling at the end of the irregular Interest Period;

#### "Relevant Business Day" means:

- (i) in the case of a specified currency other than Euro and/or one or more specified financial centres, a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in the principal financial centre for that currency and/or each of the financial centres so specified; and/or
- (ii) in the case of Euro a day on which the TARGET2 System is operating; and/or
- (iii) in the case of a specified currency and for one or more specified financial centres, a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) in which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in the specified currency or, if none is specified, generally in each of the financial centres so specified;

"Relevant Currency" means the currency specified as such hereon or, if none is specified, the currency in which the Notes are denominated;

"Relevant Date" means, in relation to any payment, whichever is the later of (a) the date on which the payment in question first becomes due and (b) if the full amount payable has not been received by the Fiscal Agent on or prior to such due date, the date on which (the full amount having been so received) notice to that effect has been given to the Noteholders;

"Relevant Financial Centre" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Relevant Screen Page" means the page, section or other part of a particular information service (including, without limitation, Reuters) specified as the Relevant Screen Page in the relevant Final Terms, or such other page, section or other part as may replace it on that information service or such other information service, in each case, as may be nominated by the Person providing or sponsoring the information appearing there for the purpose of displaying rates or prices comparable to the Reference Rate;

"Relevant Time" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Reserved Matter" means any proposal to change any date fixed for payment of principal or interest in respect of the Notes, to reduce the amount of principal or interest payable on any date in respect of the Notes, to alter the method of calculating the amount of any payment in respect of the Notes or the date for any such payment, to change the currency of any payment under the Notes or to change the quorum requirements relating to meetings or the majority required to pass an Extraordinary Resolution;

"RRD" means any relevant laws and regulations applicable to Banco Popular at the relevant time pursuant to, or which implement, or are enacted within the context of Directive 2014/59/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 establishing a framework for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms and amending Council Directive 82/891/EEC, and Directives 2001/24/EC, 2002/47/EC, 2004/25/EC, 2005/56/EC, 2007/36/EC, 2011/35/EU, 2012/30/EU and 2013/36/EU, and Regulations (EU) No 1093/2010 and (EU) No 648/2012, of the European Parliament and of the Council for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms or such other resolution or recovery rules which may from time to time be applicable to Banco Popular;

"**Specified Denomination(s)**" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Specified Currency" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Specified Duration" means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined on an Interest Determination Date, the duration specified hereon or, if none is specified, a period of time equal to the relative Interest Accrual Period, ignoring any adjustment pursuant to a Business Day Convention:

"Specified Period" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Subsidiary" means, at any particular time, any company which is then directly or indirectly controlled, or more than 50 per cent. of whose issued equity share capital (or equivalent) is then beneficially owned, by the first person and/or one or more of its subsidiaries. For a company to be "controlled" by another means that the other (whether directly or indirectly and whether by the ownership of share capital, the possession of voting power, contract or otherwise) has the power to appoint and/or remove all or the majority of the members of the board of directors or other governing body of that company or otherwise controls or has the power to control the affairs and policies of that company;

"TARGET Business Day" means a day on which the TARGET2 System is operating; and

"TARGET2 System" means the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET2) System which utilises a single shared platform and was launched on 19 November 2007.

#### 2. Form, Denomination and Title

The Notes are issued in bearer form ("**Bearer Notes**") or in registered form ("**Registered Notes**"), in each case in the Denomination(s) shown thereon.

## All Registered Notes shall have the same Denomination.

Bearer Notes are issued with Coupons (and, where appropriate, a Talon) attached, save in the case of Notes which do not bear interest in which case references to interest (other than in relation to interest due after the Maturity Date), Coupon and Talons in these Conditions are not applicable. Any Bearer Note the principal amount of which is redeemable in instalments is issued with one or more Receipts attached.

Registered Notes are represented by registered certificates ("Certificates"), each Certificate representing a holding of one or more Registered Notes by the same holder.

Title to the Bearer Notes and the Receipts, Coupons and Talons shall pass by delivery. Title to the Registered Notes shall pass by registration in the register which the relevant Issuer shall procure to be kept by the Registrar in accordance with the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement. Except as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or as required by law, the holder of any Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon shall be deemed to be and may be treated as the absolute owner of such Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon, as the case may be, for the purpose of receiving payment thereof or on account thereof and for all other purposes, whether or not such Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon shall be overdue and notwithstanding any notice of ownership, theft or loss thereof or any writing thereon made by anyone.

In these Conditions, "holder" (in relation to a Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon) means the bearer of any Bearer Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon or the person in whose name a Registered Note is registered (as the case may be) and capitalised terms have the meanings given to them herein, the absence of any such meaning indicating that such term is not applicable to the Notes.

All capitalised terms which are not defined in these conditions will have the meanings given to them in the relevant Final Terms. Those definitions will be endorsed on the Definitive Notes.

# 3. Transfers of Registered Notes

#### (a) Transfer of Registered Notes

One or more Registered Notes may be transferred upon the surrender of the Certificate representing such Registered Notes to be transferred, together with the form of transfer endorsed on such Certificate duly completed and executed, at the specified office of the Registrar or any Transfer Agent. In the case of a transfer of part only of a holding of Registered Notes represented

by one Certificate, a new Certificate in respect of the balance not transferred will be issued to the transferor. In the case of a transfer of Registered Notes to a person who is already a holder of Registered Notes, a new Certificate representing the enlarged holding shall only be issued against surrender of the Certificate representing the existing holding.

## (b) Exercise of Options or Partial Redemption in Respect of Registered Notes

In the case of an exercise of an option by an Issuer or a holder of Notes in respect of, or a partial redemption of, a holding of Registered Notes represented by a single Certificate, a new Certificate shall be issued to the holder to reflect the exercise of such option or in respect of the balance of the holding not redeemed. In the case of a partial exercise of an option resulting in Registered Notes of the same holding having different terms, separate Certificates shall be issued in respect of those Notes of that holding that have the same terms. New Certificates shall only be issued against surrender of the existing Certificates to the Registrar or any Transfer Agent. In the case of a transfer of Registered Notes to a person who is already a holder of Registered Notes, a new Certificate representing the enlarged holding shall only be issued against surrender of the Certificate representing the existing holding.

#### (c) **Delivery of new Certificates**

Each new Certificate to be issued pursuant to Conditions 3(a), (b) or (c) will, within three business days (being a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, on which banks are open for business in the place of the specified office of the Transfer Agent or the Registrar to whom such request for exchange or form of transfer shall have been delivered) of receipt of such request for exchange or form of transfer, be available for delivery at the specified office of the Transfer Agent or of the Registrar (as the case may be) to whom such delivery shall have been made or, at the option of the holder making such delivery as aforesaid and as specified in the relevant request for exchange or form of transfer, be mailed at the risk of the holder entitled to the new Certificate to such address as may be specified in such request for exchange or form of transfer.

## (d) Exchange free of charge

Exchange and transfer of Notes on registration, transfer, partial redemption or exercise of an option will be effected without charge by or on behalf of the relevant Issuer, the Registrar or the Transfer Agents, but upon payment (or the giving of such indemnity as the Registrar or the relevant Transfer Agent may require in respect thereof) of any tax or other governmental charges which may be imposed in relation to it.

## (e) Closed periods

No holder of a Note may require the transfer of a Registered Note to be registered (i) during the period of 15 days ending on the due date for redemption of that Note, (ii) during the period of 15 days prior to any date on which Notes may be redeemed by the relevant Issuer at its option pursuant to Condition 7(e) or (iii) after any such Note has been drawn for redemption in whole or in part.

# 4. Guarantee and Status

#### (a) Status of Senior Notes

If this Condition 4(a) is specified in the Final Terms as being applicable, the Notes shall be "Senior Notes". The Senior Notes constitute direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and (without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 5) unsecured obligations of the relevant Issuer. Upon the insolvency of the relevant Issuer, Senior Notes will rank *pari passu* among themselves and equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to article 92 of Insolvency Law, and subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions.

In the event of insolvency (*concurso*) of the relevant Issuer, under the Insolvency Law claims relating to Senior Notes (unless they qualify as subordinated credits under Article 92 of the Insolvency Law, and subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions) will be ordinary credits (*créditos ordinarios*) as defined in the Insolvency Law. Ordinary credits rank below

credits against the insolvency state (*créditos contra la masa*) and credits with a privilege (*créditos privilegiados*). Ordinary credits rank above subordinated credits and the rights of shareholders. Pursuant to Article 59 of the Insolvency Law, accrual of interest shall be suspended from the date of declaration of insolvency of the relevant Issuer. Accrued and unpaid interests due in respect of the Senior Notes at the commencement of an insolvency proceeding (*concurso*) of the relevant Issuer will qualify as subordinated credits.

#### (b) Senior Guarantee

This Condition 4(b) is applicable to Senior Notes issued by BPEF only. The Guarantor has unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the due payment of all sums expressed to be payable by BPEF under the Senior Notes on an unsubordinated basis. The obligations of the Guarantor in respect of the Senior Notes constitute direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and (without prejudice to Condition 5) unsecured obligations of the Guarantor. Upon the insolvency of the Guarantor, the obligations of the Guarantor under the guarantee in respect of Senior Notes will rank *pari passu* among themselves and equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor, unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to article 92 of Insolvency Law, subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions.

In the event of insolvency (concurso) of the Guarantor, under the Insolvency Law, claims relating to the guarantee of the Senior Notes (unless they qualify by law as subordinated credits under Article 92 of Law 22/2003, subject to any applicable legal and statutory exceptions) will be ordinary credits (créditos ordinarios) as defined in Law 22/2003. Ordinary credits rank below credits against the insolvency state (créditos contra la masa) and credits with a privilege (créditos privilegiados). Ordinary credits rank above subordinated credits and the rights of shareholders and creditors of the Guarantor which are characterised as holders of equity (otros acreedores a titulo asimilable al de aportación de capital).

# (c) Status of Subordinated Notes

If this Condition 4(c) is specified in the Final Terms as being applicable, the Notes shall be "**Subordinated Notes**". The payment obligations of the relevant Issuer under the Subordinated Notes whether on account of principal, interest or otherwise, constitute direct, unconditional and subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer. Upon the insolvency of the relevant Issuer, the Subordinated Notes will (unless they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law) rank:

- (i) **senior** to (i) any contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any other subordinated obligations which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank junior to the relevant Issuer's obligations under the Subordinated Notes;
- (ii) *pari passu* among themselves and with (i) any other contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer qualifying as Tier 2 instruments and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (ii) any other subordinated obligations which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank *pari passu* with the relevant Issuer's obligations under the Subordinated Notes; and
- (iii) **junior** to (i) any unsubordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer under Article 92.1 of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any contractually subordinated obligations of the relevant Issuer not qualifying as Additional Tier 1 instruments or Tier 2 instruments and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law.

#### (d) Subordinated Guarantee

This Condition 4(d) is applicable to Subordinated Notes issued by BPEF only. The obligations of the Guarantor in respect of Subordinated Notes constitute direct, unconditional, subordinated and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor which, upon the insolvency of the Guarantor (and unless

they qualify as subordinated claims pursuant to Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law) rank:

- (i) **senior** to (i) any contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor related to Additional Tier 1 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them); (ii) any subordinated obligations of the Guarantor under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any other subordinated obligations of the Guarantor which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank junior to the Guarantor's obligations under the Deed of Guarantee in respect of the Subordinated Notes;
- (ii) *pari passu* with (i) any other contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor qualifying as Tier 2 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them) and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law and (ii) any other subordinated obligations of the Guarantor which by law and/or their terms, and to the extent permitted by Spanish law, rank *pari passu* with the Guarantor's obligations under the Deed of Guarantee in respect of the Subordinated Notes; and
- (iii) **junior** to (i) any unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor; (ii) any subordinated obligations of the Guarantor under Article 92.1 of the Insolvency Law and (iii) any contractually subordinated obligations of the Guarantor that are not related to Additional Tier 1 instruments or Tier 2 instruments (including any contractually subordinated guarantee granted in relation to them) and which are not subordinated obligations under Articles 92.3° to 92.7° of the Insolvency Law.

## (e) Noteholder Acknowledgement of Ranking

By purchasing Senior Notes, Holders of Senior Notes acknowledge that all Senior Notes issued or to be issued by BPE Financiaciones, S.A. shall rank *pari passu* among themselves, and by purchasing Subordinated Notes, Holders of Subordinated Notes acknowledge that all Subordinated Notes issued or to be issued by BPE Financiaciones, S.A. under the Programme shall rank *pari passu* among themselves, in each case regardless of their respective issue date.

#### 5. **Negative Pledge**

- (a) So long as any of the Senior Notes, Receipts or Coupons remain outstanding (as defined in the Fiscal Agency Agreement):
  - (i) neither the relevant Issuer of Senior Notes nor the Guarantor (if applicable) will create or permit to subsist any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien or other form of encumbrance or security interest ("Security") upon the whole or any part of its undertaking, assets or revenues present or future to secure any Relevant Indebtedness, or guarantee of the Relevant Indebtedness of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable);
  - (ii) if applicable the Guarantor will procure that no Relevant Subsidiary of the Guarantor creates or permits to subsist any Security upon the whole or part of the undertaking, assets or revenues present or future, to secure any Relevant Indebtedness or guarantee of the Guarantor, such Relevant Subsidiary or any other Person,

without, at the same time or prior thereto, securing the relevant Issuer's obligations under the Senior Notes, Receipts and Coupons or as the case may be the Guarantor's obligations under the Guarantee in respect of Senior Notes are secured equally and rateably therewith or providing such other security for the Senior Notes as may be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution of holders of the Senior Notes.

- (b) Nothing in this Condition shall prevent either of the Issuers or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any Relevant Subsidiary from creating or having outstanding any Security upon the whole of, any part of its undertaking, assets or revenues present or future which:
  - (i) arises by operation of law and in the ordinary course of business;

- (ii) is created over assets purchased by Banco Popular or any of its Subsidiaries which (a) is created or arises or, in the case of real estate, exists at the time of the purchase of such assets and (b) secures solely all or part of the unpaid balance of the purchase price of such assets:
- (iii) created pursuant to any securitisation, asset-backed financing of like arrangement, including, but not limited to issues of *cédulas hipotecarias*, *bonos hipotecarios*, participaciones hipotecarias, certificados de transmisión de hipoteca, cédulas territoriales, cédulas de internacionalización and bonos de internacionalización in accordance with normal practice in Spain and whereby the Relevant Indebtedness (or any guarantee or other obligation in any Relevant Indebtedness) secured by such Security or having the benefit of such secured guarantee or other obligations is limited to the value of such undertaking, assets or revenues.

# (c) For the purposes of this Condition:

"Group" means Banco Popular and its consolidated subsidiaries;

"Relevant Indebtedness" means any Indebtedness in the form of, or represented by, bonds, notes, debentures or other securities which are for the time being, or are capable of being, quoted, listed or ordinarily dealt in on any stock exchange, over-the-counter or other securities market (for which purpose any such bonds, notes, debentures or other securities shall be deemed not to be capable of being so quoted, listed or ordinarily dealt if the terms of the issue thereof expressly so provide), having an original maturity of more than the one year from its date of issue;

"Relevant Subsidiary" means, at any time, a Subsidiary of Banco Popular (a) whose net assets represent not less than 10 per cent. of the net consolidated assets of the Group as calculated by reference to the then latest audited accounts (or, as the case may be, consolidated accounts) of such Subsidiary and the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Group or (b) whose gross revenues represent not less than 10 per cent. of the net consolidated gross revenues of the Group as calculated by reference to the then latest audited accounts (or, as the case may be, consolidated accounts) of such Subsidiary and the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Group.

#### 6. **Interest Provisions**

## (a) Fixed Rate Note Provisions

- (i) Application: This Condition 6(a) (Fixed Rate Note Provisions) is applicable to the Notes only if the Fixed Rate Note Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.
- (ii) Accrual of interest: The Notes bear interest from the Interest Commencement Date at the Rate of Interest payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date, subject as provided in Condition 8 (Payments and Talons). Each Note will cease to bear interest from the due date for final redemption unless, upon due presentation, payment of the Redemption Amount is improperly withheld or refused, in which case it will continue to bear interest in accordance with this Condition 6(a) (as well after as before judgment) until whichever is the earlier of (A) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the relevant Noteholder and (B) the day which is seven days after the Fiscal Agent or Registrar (as the case may be) has notified the Noteholders that it has received all sums due in respect of the Notes up to such seventh day (except to the extent that there is any subsequent default in payment).
- (iii) Fixed Coupon Amount: The amount of interest payable in respect of each Note for any Interest Period shall be the relevant Fixed Coupon Amount and, if the Notes are in more than one Specified Denomination, shall be the relevant Fixed Coupon Amount in respect of the relevant Specified Denomination.
- (iv) Calculation of interest amount: The amount of interest payable in respect of each Note for any period for which a Fixed Coupon Amount is not specified shall be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest to the Calculation Amount, multiplying the product by the

relevant Day Count Fraction, rounding the resulting figure to the nearest sub-unit of the Specified Currency (half a sub-unit being rounded upwards) and multiplying such rounded figure by a fraction equal to the Specified Denomination of such Note divided by the Calculation Amount. For this purpose a "sub-unit" means, in the case of any currency other than Euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, in the case of Euro, means one cent.

#### (b) Fixed Reset Note Provisions

- (i) Application: This Condition 6(b) (*Fixed Reset Note Provisions*) is applicable to the Notes only if the Fixed Reset Note Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.
- (ii) Accrual of interest: Each Fixed Reset Note bears interest
  - (A) from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date to (but excluding) the First Reset Date at the rate per annum equal to the Initial Interest Rate;
  - (B) from (and including) the First Reset Date to (but excluding) the Second Reset Date or, if none, the Maturity Date (the "First Reset Period") at the rate per annum equal to the First Reset Rate; and
  - (C) if applicable, from (and including) the Second Reset Date to (but excluding) the first Subsequent Reset Date (if any), and each successive period from (and including) any Subsequent Reset Date to (but excluding) the next succeeding Subsequent Reset Date (if any) (each a "Subsequent Reset Period") at the rate per annum equal to the relevant Subsequent Reset Rate,

(in each case rounded if necessary to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards) (each a "**Rate of Interest**") payable, in each case, in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) in each year up to and including the Maturity Date.

The provisions of this Condition 6(b) shall apply, as applicable, in respect of any determination by the Fiscal Agent of the Rate of Interest for a Reset Period in accordance with this Condition 6(b) as if the Fixed Reset Notes were Floating Rate Notes. The Rate of Interest for each Reset Period shall otherwise be determined by the Fiscal Agent on the relevant Reset Determination Date in accordance with the provisions of this Condition 6(b). Once the Rate of Interest is determined for a Reset Period, the provisions of Condition 6(a) shall apply to Fixed Reset Notes, as applicable, as if the Fixed Reset Notes were Fixed Rate Notes.

# In these Conditions:

"First Reset Rate" means the sum of the Reset Margin and the Mid-Swap Rate for the First Reset Period;

"Fixed Reset Rate Relevant Screen Page" means the display page on the relevant service (including, without limitation, Reuters) as specified in the applicable Final Terms or such other page as may replace it on that information service, or on such other equivalent information service as determined by the Fiscal Agent, for the purpose of displaying the relevant swap rates for swap transactions in the Specified Currency with an equivalent maturity to the Reset Period;

"Mid-Swap Rate" means, in relation to a Reset Date and the Reset Period commencing on that Reset Date, the rate for the Reset Date of, in the case of semi-annual or annual Interest Payment Dates, the semi-annual or annual swap rate, respectively (with such semi-annual swap rate to be converted to a quarterly rate in accordance with market convention, in the case of quarterly Interest Payment Dates) for swap transactions in the Specified Currency maturing on the last day of such Reset Period, expressed as a percentage, which appears on the Fixed Reset Rate Relevant Screen Page as of approximately 11.00 a.m. in the principal financial centre of the Specified Currency on such Reset Determination Date. If such rate does not appear on the Fixed Reset Rate Relevant Screen Page, the Mid-Swap Rate for the Reset Date will be the Reset Reference Bank Rate for the Reset Period:

"Reference Banks" means five leading swap dealers in the interbank market for swap transactions in the Specified Currency with an equivalent maturity to the Reset Period as selected by the relevant Issuer;

"Representative Amount" means an amount that is representative for a single transaction in the relevant market at the relevant time;

"Reset Date" means the First Reset Date, the Second Reset Date and each Subsequent Reset Date, as applicable;

"Reset Determination Date" means the second Business Day immediately preceding the relevant Reset Date:

"Reset Margin" has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

"Reset Period" means the First Reset Period or any Subsequent Reset Period, as the case may be;

"Reset Period Mid-Swap Rate Quotations" means the arithmetic mean of the bid and offered rates for the annual fixed leg (calculated on the day count basis customary for fixed rate payments in the Specified Currency), of a fixed-for-floating interest rate swap transaction in the Specified Currency with a term equal to the Reset Period commencing on the Reset Date and in a Representative Amount with an acknowledged dealer of good credit in the swap market, where the floating leg (in each case calculated on the day count basis customary for floating rate payments in the Specified Currency), is equivalent to the Rate of Interest that would apply in respect of the Notes if (a) Screen Rate Determination was specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, (b) the Reference Rate was the Floating Leg Reference Rate and (c) the Fixed Reset Rate Relevant Screen Page was the Floating Leg Screen Page;

"Reset Reference Bank Rate" means, in relation to a Reset Date and the Reset Period commencing on that Reset Date, the percentage determined on the basis of the Reset Period Mid-Swap Rate quotations provided by the Reference Banks at approximately 11.00 a.m. in the principal financial centre of the Specified Currency on the Reset Determination Date. The Fiscal Agent will request the principal office of each of the Reference Banks to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least three quotations are provided, the rate for the Reset Date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations, eliminating the highest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the highest) and the lowest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest). If only two quotations are provided, it will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations provided. If only one quotation is provided, it will be the quotation provided. If no quotations are provided, the Mid-Swap Rate will be the Mid-Swap Rate for the immediately preceding Reset Period or, if none, the Initial Mid-Swap Rate; and

"Subsequent Reset Rate" means the sum of the applicable Mid-Swap Rate and the Reset Margin on the relevant Reset Determination Date.

- (iii) Notification of First Reset Rate of Interest, Subsequent Reset Rate of Interest and Interest Amount: The Fiscal Agent will cause the First Reset Rate of Interest, any Subsequent Reset Rate of Interest and, in respect of a Reset Period, the Interest Amount payable on each Interest Payment Date falling in such Reset Period to be notified to the relevant Issuer, the other Paying Agents and any stock exchange or other relevant authority on which the relevant Fixed Reset Notes are for the time being listed or by which they have been admitted to listing and notice thereof to be published in accordance with Condition 15 (Notices) as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than the fourth London Business Day (where a "London Business Day" means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in London) thereafter.
- (iv) Certificates to be final: All certificates, communications, opinions, determinations, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 6(b) by the Fiscal Agent shall (in the absence of negligence, wilful default, bad faith or manifest error) be binding on the

relevant Issuer, the Fiscal Agent, the other Paying Agents and all Noteholders and Couponholders and (in the absence wilful default or bad faith) no liability to the relevant Issuer, the Noteholders or the Couponholders shall attach the Fiscal Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions pursuant to such provisions.

#### (c) Floating Rate Note Provisions

- (i) Application: This Condition 6(c) (Floating Rate Note Provisions) is applicable to the Notes only if the Floating Rate Note Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.
- (ii) Accrual of interest: The Notes bear interest from the Interest Commencement Date at the Rate of Interest payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date, subject as provided in Condition 8 (Payments and Talons). Each Note will cease to bear interest from the due date for final redemption unless, upon due presentation, payment of the Redemption Amount is improperly withheld or refused, in which case it will continue to bear interest in accordance with this Condition (as well after as before judgment) until whichever is the earlier of (A) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the relevant Noteholder and (B) the day which is seven days after the Fiscal Agent or Registrar (as the case may be) has notified the Noteholders that it has received all sums due in respect of the Notes up to such seventh day (except to the extent that there is any subsequent default in payment).
- (iii) Screen Rate Determination: If Screen Rate Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes for each Interest Period will be determined by the Calculation Agent on the following basis:
  - (A) if the Reference Rate is a composite quotation or customarily supplied by one entity, the Calculation Agent will determine the Reference Rate which appears on the Relevant Screen Page as of the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date;
  - (B) if Linear Interpolation is specified as applicable in respect of an Interest Period in the applicable Final Terms, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be calculated by the Calculation Agent by straight-line linear interpolation by reference to two rates which appear on the Relevant Screen Page as of the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date, where:
    - one rate shall be determined as if the relevant Interest Period were the period of time for which rates are available next shorter than the length of the relevant Interest Period; and
    - (2) the other rate shall be determined as if the relevant Interest Period were the period of time for which rates are available next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Period,

*provided, however, that* if no rate is available for a period of time next shorter or, as the case may be, next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Period, then the Calculation Agent shall determine such rate at such time and by reference to such sources as it determines appropriate;

(C) in any other case, the Calculation Agent will determine the arithmetic mean of the Reference Rates which appear on the Relevant Screen Page as of the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date;

- (D) if, in the case of (A) above, such rate does not appear on that page or, in the case of (C) above, fewer than two such rates appear on that page or if, in either case, the Relevant Screen Page is unavailable, the Calculation Agent will:
  - (1) request the principal Relevant Financial Centre office of each the Reference Banks to provide a quotation of the Reference Rate at approximately the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date to prime banks in the Relevant Financial Centre interbank market in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in that market at that time; and
  - (2) determine the arithmetic mean of such quotations; and
- (E) if fewer than two such quotations are provided as requested, the Calculation Agent will determine the arithmetic mean of the rates (being the nearest to the Reference Rate, as determined by the Calculation Agent) quoted by major banks in the Principal Financial Centre of the Specified Currency, selected by the Calculation Agent, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (local time in the Principal Financial Centre of the Specified Currency) on the first day of the relevant Interest Period for loans in the Specified Currency to leading European banks for a period equal to the relevant Interest Period and in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in that market at that time,

and the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be the sum of the Margin and the rate or (as the case may be) the arithmetic mean so determined; **provided**, **however**, **that** if the Calculation Agent is unable to determine a rate or (as the case may be) an arithmetic mean in accordance with the above provisions in relation to any Interest Period, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes during such Interest Period will be the sum of the Margin and the rate or (as the case may be) the arithmetic mean last determined in relation to the Notes in respect of a preceding Interest Period.

- (iv) ISDA Determination: If ISDA Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes for each Interest Period will be the sum of the Margin and the relevant ISDA Rate where "ISDA Rate" in relation to any Interest Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) that would be determined by the Calculation Agent under an interest rate swap transaction if the Calculation Agent were acting as Calculation Agent for that interest rate swap transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the ISDA Definitions and under which:
  - (A) the Floating Rate Option (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is as specified in the relevant Final Terms:
  - (B) the Designated Maturity (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is a period specified in the relevant Final Terms;
  - (C) the relevant Reset Date (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is either (X) if the relevant Floating Rate Option is based on the London inter-bank offered rate (LIBOR) for a currency, the first day of that Interest Period or (Y) in any other case, as specified in the relevant Final Terms; and
  - (D) if Linear Interpolation is specified as applicable in respect of an Interest Period in the applicable Final Terms, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be calculated by the Calculation Agent by straight-line linear interpolation by reference to two rates based on the relevant Floating Rate Option, where:
    - (1) one rate shall be determined as if the Designated Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next shorter than the length of the relevant Interest Period; and

(2) the other rate shall be determined as if the Designated Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Period,

*provided, however, that* if there is no rate available for a period of time next shorter than the length of the relevant Interest Period or, as the case may be, next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Period, then the Calculation Agent shall determine such rate at such time and by reference to such sources as it determines appropriate.

- (v) Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest: If any Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest is specified in the relevant Final Terms, then the Rate of Interest shall in no event be greater than the maximum or be less than the minimum so specified.
- (vi) Calculation of Interest Amount: The Calculation Agent will, as soon as practicable after the time at which the Rate of Interest is to be determined in relation to each Interest Period, calculate the Interest Amount payable in respect of each Note for such Interest Period. The Interest Amount will be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period to the Calculation Amount, multiplying the product by the relevant Day Count Fraction, rounding the resulting figure to the nearest sub-unit of the Specified Currency (half a sub-unit being rounded upwards) and multiplying such rounded figure by a fraction equal to the Specified Denomination of the relevant Note divided by the Calculation Amount. For this purpose a "sub-unit" means, in the case of any currency other than Euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, in the case of Euro, means one cent.
- (vii) Calculation of other amounts: If the relevant Final Terms specifies that any other amount is to be calculated by the Calculation Agent, the Calculation Agent will, as soon as practicable after the time or times at which any such amount is to be determined, calculate the relevant amount. The relevant amount will be calculated by the Calculation Agent in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (viii) Publication: The Calculation Agent will cause each Rate of Interest and Interest Amount determined by it, together with the relevant Interest Payment Date, and any other amount(s) required to be determined by it together with any relevant payment date(s) to be notified to the Paying Agents and each listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system (if any) by which the Notes have then been admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation as soon as practicable after such determination but (in the case of each Rate of Interest, Interest Amount and Interest Payment Date) in any event not later than the first day of the relevant Interest Period. Notice thereof shall also promptly be given to the Noteholders. The Calculation Agent will be entitled to recalculate any Interest Amount (on the basis of the foregoing provisions) without notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the relevant Interest Period.
- (ix) Notifications etc: All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of this Condition by the Calculation Agent will (in the absence of manifest error) be binding on the relevant Issuer, the Guarantor (if applicable), the Paying Agents, the Noteholders and the Couponholders and (subject as aforesaid) no liability to any such Person will attach to the Calculation Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions for such purposes.

#### 7. Redemption, Purchase and Options

#### (a) Final Redemption

Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided below, each Note will be redeemed at its Redemption Amount (which, unless otherwise provided, is its principal amount) on the Maturity Date.

Subordinated Notes will have a maturity of not less than five years from their date of issuance or such other minimum or maximum maturity as may be permitted or required from time to time by any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Issuer or requirements of any applicable regulatory authority.

#### (b) Redemption for taxation reasons

The Notes may be (subject in the case of Subordinated Notes which shall only be redeemed at any time if so permitted by the Applicable Banking Regulations then in force, and subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors) redeemed at the option of the relevant Issuer in whole, but not in part, on any Interest Payment Date or, if so specified hereon, at any time, on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the holders of Notes (which notice shall be irrevocable), at their Early Redemption Amount, (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption), if (i) the relevant Issuer (or, if the Senior Guarantee or the Subordinated Guarantee were called, the Guarantor) has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 9 as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of Ireland or the Kingdom of Spain or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax, or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the Issue Date, and (ii) such obligations cannot be avoided by the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) taking reasonable measures available to it, provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) would be obliged to pay such additional amounts if a payment in respect of the Notes (or either guarantee, as the case may be) were then due. Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, the relevant Issuer shall deliver to the Fiscal Agent a certificate signed by a director of the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) stating that the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to the right of the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) so to redeem have occurred, and an opinion of independent legal advisers of recognised standing to the effect that the relevant Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) has or will become obliged to pay such additional amounts as a result of such change or amendment and, in the case of Subordinated Notes, a copy of the Consolidated Supervisors' permission for redemption.

In the case of Subordinated Notes qualifying as regulatory capital (*recursos propios*), redemption for taxation reasons is subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors and may only take place in accordance with Applicable Banking Regulations in force at the relevant time.

The current Applicable Banking Regulations (Article 78(4) of CRR) provides that the Consolidated Supervisors may only permit the redemption of Subordinated Notes before the fifth anniversary of the Issue Date for taxation reasons if, in addition to meeting one of the conditions referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) of Article 78(1) of CRR (as described below), there is a change in the applicable tax treatment of the instruments and the institution demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Consolidated Supervisors that such change is material and was not reasonably foreseeable at the Issue Date.

#### (c) Purchases

Each of the Issuers, the Guarantor and any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries may at any time purchase Senior Notes and/or Subordinated Notes (**provided that** all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and unexchanged Talons appertaining thereto are attached or surrendered therewith) in the open market or otherwise at any price. Any purchases of Subordinated Notes will be made in compliance with the Applicable Banking Regulations in force at the time of such a purchase and subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors, if required.

In the case of Subordinated Notes which qualify as regulatory capital (*recursos propios*), the purchase of the Notes by the relevant Issuer or any of its subsidiaries shall take place in accordance with Applicable Banking Regulations in force at the relevant time.

Under the current Applicable Banking Regulations an institution requires the prior permission of the Consolidated Supervisors (Article 77(b) and 78 of CRR) to effect the repurchase of

Subordinated Notes, and these may not be repurchased before five years after the date of issuance (Article 63(j) of CRR).

#### (d) Redemption at the Option of the Issuer and Exercise of Issuer's Options

- (i) If Issuer Call is specified in the applicable Final Terms, subject to paragraph (v) below, the relevant Issuer may on giving irrevocable notice to the holders of Notes of not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days, redeem, or exercise any Issuer's option in relation to, all or, if so provided, some of the Notes in the principal amount or integral multiples thereof and on the date or dates so provided. Any such redemption of Notes shall be at their Optional Redemption Amount (Call) together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption.
- (ii) All Notes in respect of which any such notice is given shall be redeemed, or the Issuer's option shall be exercised, on the date specified in such notice in accordance with this Condition.
- (iii) In the case of a partial redemption or a partial exercise of an Issuer's option the notice to holders of Notes shall also contain the serial numbers of the Notes to be redeemed, which shall have been drawn in such place as the Fiscal Agent may approve and in such manner as it deems appropriate, subject to compliance with any applicable laws and listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system requirements.
- (iv) Notes to be redeemed, which shall have been drawn in such place as the Fiscal Agent may approve and in such manner as it deems appropriate, subject to compliance with any applicable laws and listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system requirements.
- (v) In the case of Subordinated Notes redemption at the option of the relevant Issuer is subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors and compliance with the Applicable Banking Regulations then in force. Redemption of Subordinated Notes may not take place within a period of five years from their date of issue or such other minimum or maximum length as may be permitted or required from time to time by any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Issuer or requirements of any applicable regulatory authority.

In the case of Subordinated Notes qualifying as regulatory capital (*recursos propios*), redemption at the option of the relevant Issuer is subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors and may only take place in accordance with Applicable Banking Regulations in force at the relevant time.

The current Applicable Banking Regulations (Article 78(1) of CRR) provides that the Consolidated Supervisors shall grant permission to redemption of Subordinated Notes in such circumstances provided that either of the following conditions is met:

- (a) on or before such redemption of the Subordinated Notes, the institution replaces the Subordinated Notes with own funds instruments of equal or higher quality at terms that are sustainable for the income capacity of the institution; or
- (b) the institution has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Consolidated Supervisors that its own funds would, following such redemption, exceed the requirements laid down in Article 92(1) of CRR and the combined buffer requirement as defined in point (6) of Article 128 of CRD IV Directive by a margin that the Consolidated Supervisors may consider necessary on the basis of Article 104(3) of CRD IV Directive.

## (e) Redemption at the option of the Issuer (Capital Event)

If a Capital Event occurs as a result of a change in Spanish law, Applicable Banking Regulations or any change in the official application or interpretation thereof becoming effective on or after the Issue Date (including as a result of the implementation or applicability in Spain on or after the Issue Date of the CRD IV), the Subordinated Notes may be redeemed at the option of the relevant Issuer in whole, but not in part, subject to such redemption being permitted by the

applicable Spanish law then in force and subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors, if required, at any time, on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Fiscal Agent and, in accordance with Condition 15 (*Notices*), the holders (which notice shall be irrevocable and shall specify the date fixed for redemption), at their Early Redemption Amount, (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption).

Redemption for regulatory reasons is subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors and may only take place in accordance with Applicable Banking Regulations in force at the relevant time.

The current Applicable Banking Regulations (Article 78(4) of CRR) provides that the Consolidated Supervisors may only permit the redemption of Subordinated Notes before the fifth anniversary of the Issue Date for regulatory reasons if, in addition to meeting one of the conditions referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) of Article 78(1) of CRR (as described above), there is a change in the regulatory classification of the instruments that would be likely to result in their exclusion from own funds or reclassification as a lower quality form of own funds, the Consolidated Supervisors consider such change to be sufficiently certain, and the institution demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Consolidated Supervisors that the regulatory classification was not reasonably foreseeable at the Issue Date.

In these Conditions.

"Applicable Banking Regulations" means at any time the laws, regulations, requirements, guidelines and policies relating to capital adequacy applicable to each of the Issuers and the Guarantor including, without limitation to the generality of the foregoing, those regulations, requirements, guidelines and policies of the Consolidated Supervisors relating to capital adequacy then in effect (whether or not such requirements, guidelines or policies have the force of law and whether or not they are applied generally or specifically to each of the Issuers, the Guarantor or the Group);

"Capital Event" means, at any time, on or after the Issue Date, a change in the regulatory classification of the Subordinated Notes that results or would be likely to result in (i) the exclusion of the Subordinated Notes in whole or, to the extent not prohibited by the Applicable Banking Regulations, in part, from the Tier 2 instruments of Banco Popular and/or the Group; or (ii) their reclassification, in whole or, to the extent not prohibited by the Applicable Banking Regulations, in part, as a lower quality form of regulatory capital of Banco Popular and/or Group;

"CRD IV" means any or any combination of the CRD IV Directive, the CRR, and any CRD IV Implementing Measures;

"CRD IV Directive" means Directive 2013/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013;

"CRD IV Implementing Measures" means any regulatory capital rules implementing the CRD IV Directive or the CRR which may from time to time be introduced, including, but not limited to, delegated or implementing acts (regulatory technical standards) adopted by the European Commission, national laws and regulations, and regulations and guidelines issued by the Consolidated Supervisors, the European Banking Authority or any other relevant authority, which are applicable to the relevant Issuer (on a stand alone basis) or the Group (on a consolidated basis) and which prescribe the requirements to be fulfilled by financial instruments for inclusion in the regulatory capital of the relevant Issuer (on a stand alone or consolidated basis); and

"CRR" means Regulation (EU) No 575/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013.

Subordinated Notes redeemed pursuant to this Condition 7(e) will be redeemed at their Optional Redemption Amount (Put) referred to in Condition 7(f) below together (if appropriate) with interest accrued to (but excluding) the date of redemption.

#### (f) Redemption at the Option of Noteholders and holders' Exercise of Noteholders Options

- (i) If Investor Put is specified in the applicable Final Terms, subject to paragraph (ii) below, the relevant Issuer shall, at the option of the holder of any such Note, redeem such Note on the date or dates so provided at its Optional Redemption Amount (Put) together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption. No such redemption option will be applicable to any Subordinated Notes, unless as permitted under Applicable Banking Regulations
- (ii) To exercise such option or any other option of a holder of Notes which may be set out hereon the holder must deposit such Note with any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the Certificate representing such Note(s) with the Registrar or any Transfer Agent (in the case of Registered Notes) at its specified office, together with a duly completed option exercise notice ("Exercise Notice") in the form obtainable from any Paying Agent, the Registrar or any Transfer Agent (as applicable) within the Option Period of a holder of Notes (as specified in the relevant Final Terms). Such Exercise Notice must be deposited in accordance with the Notice period specified in the relevant Final Terms. Such Notice period shall not be less than 15 business days. No Note or Certificate so deposited and option exercised may be withdrawn (except as provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) without the prior consent of the relevant Issuer.

## (g) Redemption by Instalments

Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided in this Condition 7, each Note which provides for Instalment Dates and Instalment Amounts will be partially redeemed on each Instalment Date at the Instalment Amount specified on it, whereupon the outstanding principal amount of such Note shall be reduced by the Instalment Amount for all purposes.

#### (h) Cancellation

All Notes purchased by or on behalf of either of the Issuers, the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries must (if required by applicable law or the Consolidated Supervisors) or may be surrendered for cancellation, in the case of Bearer Notes, by surrendering each such Note together with all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and all unexchanged Talons to the Fiscal Agent and, in the case of Registered Notes, by surrendering the Certificate representing such Notes to the Registrar and, in each case, if so surrendered, will, together with all Notes redeemed by the relevant Issuer, be cancelled forthwith (together with all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and unexchanged Talons attached thereto or surrendered therewith). Any Notes so surrendered for cancellation may not be reissued or resold and the obligations of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) in respect of any such Notes shall be discharged.

## 8. Payments and Talons

# (a) **Bearer Notes**

Payments of principal and interest in respect of Bearer Notes will, subject as mentioned below, be made against presentation and surrender of the relevant Receipts (in the case of payments of Instalment Amounts other than on the due date for redemption and **provided that** the Receipts are presented for payment together with its relative Note), Notes (in the case of all other payments of principal and, in the case of interest, as specified in Condition 8 (f)(vi)) or Coupons (in the case of interest, save as specified in Condition 8(f)(ii)), as the case may be, at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States by a cheque payable in the currency in which such payment is due drawn on, or, at the option of the holder, by transfer to an account denominated in that currency with, a bank in the principal financial centre of that currency; and in the case of Euro, by cheque drawn on, or by transfer to, a Euro account to which Euro may be credited or transferred as specified by the payee.

## (b) Registered Notes

(i) Payments of principal (which for the purposes of this Condition 8(b) shall include final Instalment Amounts but not other Instalment Amounts) in respect of Registered Notes will be made against presentation and surrender of the relevant Certificates at the

specified office of any of the Transfer Agents or of the Registrar and in the manner provided in paragraph (ii) below.

Interest (which for the purpose of this Condition 8(b) shall include all Instalment (ii) Amounts other than final Instalment Amounts) on Registered Notes will be paid to the person shown on the Register at the close of business on the fifteenth day before the due date for payment thereof (the "Record Date"). Payments of interest on each Registered Note will be made in the currency in which such payments are due by cheque drawn on a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of the currency concerned or, if the currency is Euro, in such financial centre or centres in the Euro-zone as designated by the Registrar and mailed to the holder (or to the first named of joint holders) of such Note at its address appearing in the Register maintained by the Registrar. Upon application by the holder to the specified office of the Registrar or any Transfer Agent before the Record Date and subject as provided in paragraph (a) above, such payment of interest may be made by transfer to an account in the relevant currency designated by the holder with a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of that currency or, if the currency is Euro, in such financial centre in the Euro-zone notified to the Registrar by such holder.

## (c) Payments in the United States

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any Bearer Notes are denominated in U.S. dollars, payments in respect thereof may be made at the specified office of any Paying Agent in New York City in the same manner as aforesaid if (i) the relevant Issuer shall have appointed Paying Agents with specified offices outside the United States with the reasonable expectation that such Paying Agents would be able to make payment of the amounts on the Notes in the manner provided above when due, (ii) payment in full of such amounts at all such offices is illegal or effectively precluded by exchange controls or other similar restrictions on payment or receipt of such amounts and (iii) such payment is then permitted by United States law, without involving, in the opinion of the relevant Issuer, any adverse tax consequence to such Issuer.

## (d) Payments Subject to Law, etc.

All payments are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws, regulations and directives, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 9. No commission or expenses shall be charged to the holders of Notes or Couponholders in respect of such payments.

## (e) Appointment of Agents

The Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents, the Registrar, Transfer Agents and the Calculation Agent initially appointed by each of the Issuers and their respective specified offices are listed below. The Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents, the Registrar, Transfer Agents and the Calculation Agent act solely as agents of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) and do not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holder. The Issuers and the Guarantor reserve the right at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of the Fiscal Agent, any other Paying Agent, the Calculation Agent, the Registrar or any Transfer Agent and to appoint additional or other agents provided that the Issuers will at all times maintain (i) a Fiscal Agent, (ii) a Registrar in relation to Registered Notes, (iii) a Transfer Agent in relation to Registered Notes, (iv) a Calculation Agent where the Conditions so require one, (v) Paying Agents having a specified office in at least two major European cities, (vi) a Paying Agent in an EU Member State that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000 or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced to confirm to, such Directive and (vii) if and for so long as the Notes are admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system, such other agents as are required by such listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system.

In addition, the relevant Issuer shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent in New York in respect of any Notes denominated in U.S. dollars in the circumstances described in paragraph (c) above.

Notice of any such change or any change of any specified office will promptly be given to the holders of Notes in accordance with Condition 15.

#### (f) Unmatured Coupons and Receipts and unexchanged Talons

- (i) Unless the Notes provide that the relative Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes, Bearer Notes should be surrendered for payment together with all unmatured Coupons (if any) appertaining thereto, failing which an amount equal to the face value of each missing unmatured Coupon (or, in the case of payment not being made in full, that proportion of the amount of such missing unmatured Coupon which the sum of principal so paid bears to the total principal due) will be deducted from the Redemption Amount due for payment. Any amount so deducted will be paid in the manner mentioned above against surrender of such missing Coupon within a period of 10 years from the Relevant Date for the payment of such principal (whether or not such Coupon has become void pursuant to Condition 10).
- (ii) If the relevant Notes so provide, upon the due date for redemption of any Bearer Note, unmatured Coupons relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect of them.
- (iii) Upon the due date for redemption of any Bearer Note, any unexchanged Talon relating to such Note
- (iv) (whether or not attached) shall become void and no Coupon shall be delivered in respect of such Talon.
- (v) Upon the due date for redemption of any Bearer Note which is redeemable in instalments, all Receipts relating to such Note having an Instalment Date failing on or after such due date (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect of them.
- (vi) Where any Bearer Note which provides that the relative Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes is presented for redemption without all unmatured Coupons and any unexchanged Talon relating to it, and where any Bearer Note is presented for redemption without any unexchanged Talon relating to it, redemption shall be made only against the provisions of such indemnity as the relevant Issuer may require.
- (vii) If the due date for redemption of any Note is not a due date for payment of interest, interest accrued from the preceding due date for payment of interest or the Interest Commencement Date, as the case may be, shall only be payable against presentation (and surrender if appropriate) of the relevant Bearer Note or Certificate representing it, as the case may be. Interest accrued on a Note which only bears interest after its Maturity Date shall be payable on redemption of such Note against presentation of the relevant Note or Certificate representing it, as the case may be.

# (g) Talons

On or after the Interest Payment Date for the final Coupon forming part of a Coupon sheet issued in respect of any Bearer Note, the Talon forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet (and if necessary another Talon for a further Coupon sheet) (but excluding any Coupons which may have become void pursuant to Condition 10).

# (h) Non-Business Days

If any date for payment in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon is not a Payment Business Day, the holder shall not be entitled to payment until the next following business day nor to any interest or other sum in respect of such postponed payment.

## 9. **Taxation**

All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes, the Receipts and the Coupons by either of the Issuers or (as the case may be) the Guarantor under the Deed of Guarantee will be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed or levied by or on behalf of the Kingdom of Spain or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax unless the withholding or deduction of such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges is required by law. In that event, the relevant Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor will pay such additional amounts as may be necessary in order that the net amounts received by the holders and the Couponholders after such withholding or deduction shall equal the respective amounts of principal and interest which would have been received in respect of the Notes, Receipts or (as the case may be) Coupons, in the absence of such withholding or deduction; except that no additional amounts shall be payable with respect to any payment in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon or (as the case may be) under the Deed of Guarantee:

- (i) to, or to a third party on behalf of, a holder in respect of whom the relevant Issuer, the Guarantor (if applicable) (or the Fiscal Agent on its behalf) has not received such information (which may include a tax residence certificate) concerning such holder's identity and tax residence (or the identity or tax residence of the beneficial owner for whose benefit it holds such Notes) as it may be required in order to comply with Spanish tax reporting requirements; or
- presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date except to the extent that the holder thereof would have been entitled to such additional amount on presenting the same for payment on the thirtieth such day;
- (iii) where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000 on the taxation of savings income or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive;
- (iv) by or on behalf of a holder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note or Coupon to another Paying Agent in a Member State of the European Union;
- (v) to, or to a third party on behalf of, individuals resident for tax purposes in Spain if the Spanish tax authorities determine payments made to such individuals are not exempt from withholding tax and require a withholding to be made; or
- (vi) to, or to a third party on behalf of, a Spanish-resident corporate entity if the Spanish tax authorities determine that the Notes do not comply with exemption requirements including those specified in the Reply to Consultation of the General Directorate for Taxation (*Dirección General de Tributos*) dated 27 July 2004 and require a withholding to be made.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Condition, neither of the Issuers, any paying agent or any other person shall be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to any withholding or deduction imposed on or in respect of any Note pursuant to Section 1471 to 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("FATCA"), any treaty, law, regulation or other official guidance implementing FATCA, or any agreement between the relevant Issuer, a paying agent or any other person and the United States, any other jurisdiction, or any authority of any of the foregoing implementing FATCA.

As used in these Conditions, "Relevant Date" in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon means the date on which payment in respect thereof first becomes due or (if any amount of the money payable is improperly withheld or refused) the date on which payment in full of the amount outstanding is made or (if earlier) the date on which notice is duly given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 that, upon further presentation of the Note, Receipt or Coupon being made in accordance with the Conditions, such payment will be made, provided that payment is in fact made upon such presentation. References in these Conditions to (i) "principal" shall be deemed to include any premium payable in respect of the Notes, all

Instalment Amounts, Redemption Amounts and all other amounts in the nature of principal payable pursuant to Condition 7, (ii) "interest" shall be deemed to include all Interest Amounts and all other amounts payable pursuant to Condition 6 and (iii) "principal" and/or "interest" shall be deemed to include any additional amounts which may be payable under this Condition. See "Taxation — Disclosure of Noteholder Information in connection with Interest Payments" for a fuller description of certain tax considerations (particularly in relation to Noteholders which are resident in Spain) relating to the Notes.

## 10. **Prescription**

Claims against the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) for payment in respect of the Notes, Receipts and Coupons (which, for this purpose shall not include Talons) shall be prescribed and become void unless made within ten years (in the case of principal) or five years (in the case of interest) from the appropriate Relevant Date in respect thereof.

#### 11. Events of Default

# (a) Events of Default relating to Senior Notes

This Condition 11(a) only applies to Senior Notes and references to "Notes" shall be construed accordingly.

If any of the following events (each an "Event of Default") occurs and is continuing, then any Note may, by written notice addressed by the Holder thereof to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) and delivered to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) or to the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent, be declared immediately due and payable, whereupon the Redemption Amount of such Notes together with accrued interest to the date of payment shall become immediately due and payable without further action or formality:

- (i) **Non-Payment:** default is made for more than 14 days (in the case of interest) or 7 days (in the case of principal) in the payment on the due date of interest or principal in respect of any of the Notes; or
- (ii) **Breach of Other Obligations**: the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) does not perform or comply with any one or more of its other obligations under or in respect of the Notes, the Fiscal Agency Agreement or the Deed of Guarantee which default is incapable of remedy or is not remedied within 30 days after notice of such default shall have been given to the Fiscal Agent at its specified office by any Noteholder; or
- (iii) Cross-Default: (i) any Indebtedness of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries becomes (or becomes capable of being declared) due and payable prior to its stated maturity otherwise than at the option of the relevant Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor (if applicable), or (ii) any Indebtedness is not paid when due or, as the case may be, within any applicable grace period, or (iii) the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries fails to pay when due any amount payable by it under any present or future guarantee for, or indemnity in respect of, any Indebtedness provided that the aggregate amount of the Indebtedness, guarantees and indemnities in respect of which one or more of the events mentioned above in this paragraph (a) have occurred equals or exceeds Euro 30,000,000 or its equivalent in other currencies; or
- (iv) *Enforcement Proceedings*: a distress, attachment, execution or other legal process which is material in the context of the issue and offering of the Notes is levied, enforced or sued out on or against any part of the property, assets or revenues of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries and is not discharged or stayed within 90 days; or
- (v) **Security Enforced**: any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien or other encumbrance, present or future, created or assumed by the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries which is material in the context of the issue and offering of the Notes becomes enforceable and any step is taken to enforce it (including the

- taking of possession or the appointment of a receiver, administrative receiver, manager or other similar person); or
- (vi) Insolvency etc.: (a) the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries becomes insolvent or is unable to pay its debts as they fall due or (b) an administrator, liquidator or a similar officer under applicable (insolvency) law of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries or the whole or any part of the undertaking, assets and revenues of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries is appointed (or application for any such appointment is made); or
- (vii) **Readjustment**: the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries takes any action for a readjustment or deferment of any of its obligations or makes a general assignment or an arrangement or composition with or for the benefit of its creditors or declares a moratorium in respect of any of its indebtedness or any guarantee given by it; or
- (viii) Cessation of Business: the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries ceases or threatens to cease to carry on all or any substantial part of its business; or
- (ix) *Application of Priorities*: any other proceeding is commenced which requires the application of priorities provided by applicable Spanish law; or
- (x) Winding-up: an order is made or an effective resolution passed for the winding-up or dissolution or administration of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries, or the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or any of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries shall cease or through an official action of its board of directors threaten to cease to carry on all or a substantial part of its business or operations, except for the purpose of and followed by a reconstruction, amalgamation, reorganisation, merger or consolidation on terms approved by an Extraordinary Resolution at a meeting of Noteholders or (ii) in the case of a Subsidiary, whereby the undertaking and assets of the Subsidiary are transferred to or otherwise vested in the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) or another of Banco Popular's Subsidiaries; or
- (xi) *Ownership*: in relation to Notes issued by BPEF only, BPEF ceases to be wholly-owned and controlled by the Guarantor; or
- (xii) Authorisation and Consents: any action, condition or thing (including the obtaining or effecting of any necessary consent, approval, authorisation, exemption, filing, licence, order, recording or registration) at any time required to be taken, fulfilled or done in order (i) to enable the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) lawfully to enter into, exercise their respective rights and perform and comply with their respective obligations under the Notes and the Deed of Guarantee (if applicable), (ii) to ensure that those obligations are legally binding and enforceable and (iii) to make the Notes and the Deed of Guarantee (if applicable) admissible in evidence in the courts of the Kingdom of Spain is not taken, fulfilled or done and such failure remains unremedied 15 days after written notice to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable); or
- (xiii) *Illegality*: it is or will become unlawful for the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) to perform or comply with any one or more of its obligations under any of the Notes or the Deed of Guarantee (if applicable); or
- (xiv) Analogous Events: any event occurs which under the laws of any relevant jurisdiction has an analogous effect to any of the events referred to in any of the foregoing paragraphs including, but not limited to, concurso as defined in the Insolvency Law; or
- (xv) *Guarantee*: in relation to Notes issued by BPEF only, the guarantee of the Notes is not (or is claimed by the Guarantor not to be) in full force and effect; or

(xvi) *Nationalisation*: any step is taken by any person with a view to the seizure, compulsory acquisition, expropriation or nationalisation of all or a material part of Banco Popular or any of its Subsidiaries.

## (b) Events of Default relating to Subordinated Notes

This Condition 11(b) only applies to Subordinated Notes and references to "Notes" shall be construed accordingly.

If an order is made by any competent court commencing insolvency proceedings against the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or if any order is made by any competent court or resolution passed for the winding up or dissolution of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) (an "Event of Default") then unless there has been an Extraordinary Resolution to the contrary at a meeting of Noteholders, any Noteholder in respect of the Notes held by such Noteholder, may be declared immediately due and payable whereupon the relevant Notes shall, when permitted by applicable Spanish law, become immediately due and payable at their principal amount, together with accrued interest, without further formality.

If an Event of Default occurs under this Condition 11(b), claims of Noteholders in respect of the Notes shall rank as set out under Condition 4(c) (*Status of Subordinated Notes*).

# 12. Meeting of Noteholders and Modification

### (a) Meeting of Noteholders

The Fiscal Agency Agreement contains provisions for convening meetings of Noteholders to consider matters relating to the Notes, including the modification of any provision of these Conditions. Any such modification may be made if sanctioned by an Extraordinary Resolution. Such a meeting may be convened by the relevant Issuer and if applicable, the Guarantor (acting together) and shall be convened by them upon the request in writing of Noteholders holding not less than one-tenth of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes. The quorum at any meeting convened to vote on an Extraordinary Resolution will be two or more Persons holding or representing one more than half of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes or, at any adjourned meeting, two or more Persons being or representing Noteholders whatever the principal amount of the Notes held or represented; provided, however, that Reserved Matters may only be sanctioned by an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Noteholders at which two or more Persons holding or representing not less than three-quarters or, at any adjourned meeting, one quarter of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes form a quorum. Any Extraordinary Resolution duly passed at any such meeting shall be binding on all the Noteholders and Couponholders, whether present or not.

In addition, a resolution in writing signed by or on behalf of all Noteholders who for the time being are entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Noteholders will take effect as if it were an Extraordinary Resolution. Such a resolution in writing may be contained in one document or several documents in the same form, each signed by or on behalf of one or more Noteholders.

# (b) **Modification**

The Notes, these Conditions, the Deed of Guarantee and the Deed of Covenant may be amended without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders to correct a manifest error. In addition, the parties to the Fiscal Agency Agreement may agree to modify any provision thereof, but the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) shall not agree, without the consent of the Noteholders, to any such modification unless it is of a formal, minor or technical nature, it is made to correct a manifest error or it is, in the opinion of the relevant Issuer and/or the Guarantor (if applicable), not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders.

## 13. Replacement of Notes, Certificates, Receipts, Coupons and Talons

If a Note, Certificate, Receipt, Coupon or Talon is lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced, subject to applicable laws and listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system requirements, at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent (in the case of the Bearer Notes, Receipts, Coupons or Talons) and the Registrar (in the case of Certificates) or such

other Paying Agent or Transfer Agent, as the case may be, as may from time to time be designated by the relevant Issuer for the purpose and notice of whose designation is given to holders in accordance with Condition 15, in each case on payment by the claimant of the fees and costs incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence, security and indemnity (which may provide, *inter alia*, that if the allegedly lost, stolen or destroyed Note, Certificate, Receipt, Coupon or Talon is subsequently presented for payment or, as the case may be, for exchange for further Coupons, there will be paid to the relevant Issuer on demand the amount payable by the relevant Issuer in respect of such Notes, Certificates, Receipts, Coupons or further Coupons) and otherwise as the relevant Issuer may require. Mutilated or defaced Notes, Certificates, Receipts, Coupons or Talons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

#### 14. Further Issues

The relevant Issuer may from time to time without the consent of the holders of Notes or Couponholders create and issue further notes having the same terms and conditions as the Notes and so that the same shall be consolidated and form a single series with such Notes, and references in these Conditions to "**Notes**" shall be construed accordingly.

#### 15. Notices

Notices to the holders of Registered Notes will be mailed to them at their respective addresses in the Register and deemed to have been given on the fourth weekday (being a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday) after the date of mailing. With respect to Registered Notes listed on the Irish Stock Exchange, any notices to holders must also be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in Dublin (which is expected to be the *Financial Times*) and, in addition to the foregoing, will be deemed validly given only after the date of such publication.

Notices to the holders of Bearer Notes will be valid if published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in London (which is expected to be the *Financial Times*) and in the case of any Notes which are listed on the Irish Stock Exchange, (so long as such Notes are listed on the Irish Stock Exchange and the rules of that exchange so require), in a leading newspaper having general circulation in Dublin (which is expected to be the *Financial Times*). If any such publication is not practicable, notice will be validly given if published in another leading daily English language newspaper of general circulation in Europe. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the date of such publication or, if published more than once or on different dates, on the date of the first publication as provided above.

Couponholders shall be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice to the holders of Bearer Notes in accordance with this Condition.

#### 16. Substitution of BPEF

- (a) This Condition 16 is applicable to Notes issued by BPEF only. BPEF and the Guarantor may at any time, without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders (but, in the case of Subordinated Notes, subject to the permission of the Consolidated Supervisors), substitute for BPEF any company (the "Substitute") upon notice to the holders by BPEF, the Guarantor and the Substitute to be given in accordance with Condition 15, provided that:
  - (i) no payment in respect of the Notes, the Receipts or the Coupons or the Deed of Guarantee (as the case may be) is at the relevant time overdue;
  - the Substitute shall, by means of a deed poll in the form scheduled to the Fiscal Agency Agreement as Schedule 3 (the "Deed Poll"), agree to indemnify each holder and Couponholder against any tax, duty, assessment or governmental charge which is imposed on it by (or by any authority in or of) the jurisdiction of the country of the Substitute's residence for tax purposes and, if different, of its incorporation with respect to any Note, Receipt, Coupon, Talon or the Deed of Covenant and which would not have been so imposed had the substitution not been made, as well as against any tax, duty, assessment or governmental charge, and any cost or expense, relating to the substitution;

- (iii) where the Substitute is not the Guarantor, the obligations of the Substitute under the Deed Poll, the Notes, Receipts, Coupons, Talons and Deed of Covenant shall be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by the Guarantor by means of the Deed Poll;
- (iv) all action, conditions and things required to be taken, fulfilled and done (including the obtaining of any necessary consents) to ensure that the Deed Poll, the Notes, Receipts, Coupons, Talons and Deed of Covenant represent valid, legally binding and enforceable obligations of the Substitute and in the case of the Deed Poll of the Guarantor have been taken, fulfilled and done and are in full force and effect;
- (v) the Substitute shall have become party to the Fiscal Agency Agreement, with any appropriate consequential amendments, as if it had been an original party to it;
- (vi) legal opinions shall have been delivered to the Fiscal Agent from lawyers of recognised standing in each jurisdiction referred to in (ii) above, in Spain and in England as to the fulfilment of the requirements of this Condition 16 and the other matters specified in the Deed Poll and that the Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons are legal, valid and binding obligations of the Substitute;
- (vii) each listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system by which the Notes are admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation shall have confirmed that, following the proposed substitution of the Substitute, the Notes will continue to be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by such listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system;
- (viii) Standard & Poor's and/or Moody's as the case may be, shall have confirmed that following the proposed substitution of the Substitute, the credit rating of the Notes will not be adversely affected; and
- (ix) if applicable, the Substitute has appointed a process agent as its agent in England to receive service of process on its behalf in relation to any legal proceedings arising out of or in connection with the Notes.
- (b) Upon the execution of the Deed Poll and the delivery of the legal opinions, the Substitute shall succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise every right and power, of BPEF under the Notes and the Fiscal Agency Agreement with the same effect as if the Substitute had been named as BPEF herein, and BPEF shall be released from its obligations under the Notes and under the Fiscal Agency Agreement.
- (c) After a substitution pursuant to Condition 16(a), the Substitute may, without the consent of any holder, effect a further substitution. All the provisions specified in Condition 16(a) and 16(b) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, and references in these Conditions to the relevant Issuer shall, where the context so requires, be deemed to be or include references to any such further Substitute.
- (d) After a substitution pursuant to Condition 16(a) or 16(c) any Substitute may, without the consent of any holder, reverse the substitution, mutatis mutandis.
- (e) The Deed Poll and all documents relating to the substitution shall be delivered to, and kept by, the Fiscal Agent. Copies of such documents will be available free of charge at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents.

# 17. **Currency Indemnity**

Any amount received or recovered in a currency other than the currency in which payment under the relevant Note, Coupon or Receipt is due (whether as a result of, or of the enforcement of, a judgment or order of a court of any jurisdiction, in the winding-up or dissolution of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) or otherwise) by any holder of Notes or Couponholder in respect of any sum expressed to be due to it from the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable) shall only constitute a discharge to the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable), as the case may be, to the extent of the amount in the currency of payment under the relevant Note, Coupon or Receipt which the recipient is able to purchase with the amount so received or

recovered in that other currency on the date of that receipt or recovery (or, if it is not practicable to make that purchase on that date, on the first date on which it is practicable to do so). If the amount received or recovered is less than the amount expressed to be due to the recipient under any Note, Coupon or Receipt, the relevant Issuer, failing whom the Guarantor (if applicable), shall indemnify it against any loss sustained by it as a result. In any event, the relevant Issuer, failing whom the Guarantor (if applicable), shall indemnify the recipient against the cost of making any such purchase. For the purposes of this Condition, it will be sufficient for the holder of Notes or Couponholder, as the case may be, to demonstrate that it would have suffered a loss had an actual purchase been made. These indemnities constitute a separate and independent obligation from the relevant Issuer's and the Guarantor's (if applicable) other obligations, shall give rise to a separate and independent cause of action, shall apply irrespective of any indulgence granted by any holder of Notes or Couponholder and shall continue in full force and effect despite any other judgment, order, claim or proof for a liquidated amount in respect of any sum due under any Note, Coupon or Receipt of any other judgment or order.

#### 18. Redenomination, Renominalisation and Reconventioning

- (a) *Application*: This Condition 18 is applicable to the Notes only if it is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.
- (b) Notice of redenomination: If the country of the Relevant Currency becomes or, announces its intention to become a Participating Member State the relevant Issuer may, without the consent of the Noteholders and the Couponholders, on giving at least 30 days' prior notice to the Noteholders and the Paying Agents, designate a date (the "Redenomination Date"), being an Interest Payment Date under the Notes falling on or after the date on which such country becomes a Participating Member State.
- (c) **Redenomination**: Notwithstanding the other provisions of these Conditions, with effect from the Redenomination Date:
  - the Notes shall be deemed to be redenominated into Euro in the denomination of Euro 0.01 with a principal amount for each Note equal to the principal amount of that Note in the Relevant Currency, converted into Euro at the rate for conversion of such currency into Euro established by the Council of the European Union pursuant to the Treaty (including compliance with rules relating to rounding in accordance with European Union regulations); **provided however**, that, if the relevant Issuer determines, with the agreement of the Fiscal Agent then market practice in respect of the redenomination into Euro 0.01 of internationally offered securities is different from that specified above, such provisions shall be deemed to be amended so as to comply with such market practice and the relevant Issuer shall promptly notify the Noteholders and Couponholders, each listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system (if any) by which the Notes have then been admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation and the Paying Agents of such deemed amendments;
  - (ii) if Notes have been issued in definitive form:
    - (A) all unmatured Coupons denominated in the Relevant Currency (whether or not attached to the Notes) will become void with effect from the date (the "Euro Exchange Date") on which the relevant Issuer gives notice (the "Euro Exchange Notice") to the Noteholders that replacement Notes and Coupons denominated in Euro are available for exchange (provided that such Notes and Coupons are available) and no payments will be made in respect thereof;
    - (B) the payment obligations contained in all Notes denominated in the Relevant Currency will become void on the Euro Exchange Date but all other obligations of the relevant Issuer thereunder
    - (C) (including the obligation to exchange such Notes in accordance with this Condition 18) shall remain in full force and effect; and

- (D) new Notes and Coupons denominated in Euro will be issued in exchange for Notes and Coupons denominated in the Relevant Currency in such manner as the Fiscal Agent may specify and as shall be notified to the Noteholders in the Euro Exchange Notice; and
- all payments in respect of the Notes (other than, unless the Redenomination Date is on or after such date as the Relevant Currency ceases to be a sub-division of the Euro, payments of interest in respect of periods commencing before the Redenomination Date) will be made solely in Euro by cheque drawn on, or by credit or transfer to a Euro account (or any other account to which Euro may be credited or transferred) maintained by the payee with, a bank in the principal financial centre of any Member State of the European Communities.
- (d) *Interest*: Following redenomination of the Notes pursuant to this Condition 18, where Notes have been issued in definitive form, the amount of interest due in respect of the Notes will be calculated by reference to the aggregate principal amount of the Notes presented (or, as the case may be, in respect of which Coupons are presented) for payment by the relevant holder.
- (e) *Interest Determination Date*: If the Floating Rate Note Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable and Screen Rate Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Interest Rate(s) is/are to be determined, with effect from the Redenomination Date the Interest Determination Date shall be deemed to be the second TARGET2 Settlement Day before the first day of the relevant Interest Period.

## 19. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

## (a) Governing law

The issue of the Notes, including their legal nature (*obligaciones*) and status, the capacity of each of the Issuers, the relevant corporate resolutions, are and shall be governed by Spanish law. Save as mentioned above, the Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons and all matters arising from or connected with the Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons (including a dispute relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with them) are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law except for the status of the payment obligations under the Deed of Guarantee, including any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with it, which are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, Spanish law.

### (b) English courts

The courts of England have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute arising from or connected with the Notes, Receipts, Coupons and/or Talons (including a dispute relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with them) (a "**Dispute**").

#### (c) Appropriate forum

Each of the Issuers and the Guarantor agrees that the courts of England are the most appropriate and convenient courts to settle any Dispute and, accordingly, that it will not argue to the contrary.

# (d) Rights of the holders of the Notes to take proceedings outside England

Condition 19(b) (*English courts*) is for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, Receipts, Coupons and/or Talons only. As a result, nothing in this Condition 19 (*Governing law and jurisdiction*) prevents any holder of a Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon from taking proceedings relating to a Dispute ("**Proceedings**") in any other courts with jurisdiction. To the extent allowed by law, holders of Notes, Coupons, Receipts and/or Talons may take concurrent Proceedings in any number of jurisdictions.

## (e) Process agent

Each of the Issuers and the Guarantor agrees that the documents which start any Proceedings and any other documents required to be served in relation to those Proceedings may be served on it by being delivered to Banco Popular Español, S.A., 10 Storey's Gate, London SW1P 3AY,

United Kingdom, or, if different, its registered office for the time being or at any address of the relevant Issuer or Guarantor, as the case may be, in Great Britain at which process may be served on it in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. If such person is not or ceases to be effectively appointed to accept service of process on behalf of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable), as the case may be, the Issuer and the Guarantor (acting together) shall, on the written demand of any holder of Notes addressed and delivered to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) or to the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent appoint a further person in England to accept service of process on its behalf and, failing such appointment within 15 days, any holder of Notes shall be entitled to appoint such a person by written notice addressed to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) and delivered to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) or to the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent. Nothing in this paragraph shall affect the right of any holder of Notes to serve process in any other manner permitted by law. This Condition applies to Proceedings in England and to Proceedings elsewhere.

## 20. **Rights of Third Parties**

No person shall have any right to enforce any term or condition of any Note under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

#### PRO FORMA FINAL TERMS

The Final Terms in respect of each Tranche of Notes will be completed to reflect the particular terms of the relevant Notes and their issue. Text in this section appearing in italics does not form part of the form of the Final Terms but denotes directions for completing the Final Terms.

Final Terms dated [ ]

[BPE Financiaciones, S.A.]/[Banco Popular Español, S.A.]

Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes]

[Guaranteed by

BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL, S.A.]

under the

€5,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme

#### PART A— CONTRACTUAL TERMS

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Base Prospectus dated 10 December 2015 [and the supplement[s] dated [insert date] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive (the "Prospectus Directive"). This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with such Base Prospectus [as so supplemented]. Full information on the Issuer[, the Guarantor] and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus. [The Base Prospectus [and the supplemental Prospectus] [is] [are] available for viewing at [address] [and] on www.ise.ie and copies may be obtained from [address].

The following alternative language applies if the first tranche of an issue which is being increased was issued under a Prospectus with an earlier date.

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the [date] Conditions (the "Conditions") which are incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus dated 10 December 2015. These Final Terms contain the final terms of the Notes and must be read in conjunction with the Base Prospectus dated 10 December 2015 [and the supplement[s] to it dated [insert date] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus (the "Base Prospectus") for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive (the "Prospectus Directive"), save in respect of the Conditions which are set forth in the base prospectus dated [insert date] and are incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus. This document constitutes the Final Terms relating to the issue of Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive. Full information on the Issuer[, the Guarantor] and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus dated 10 December 2015 [and the supplement[s] dated [insert date]. [The Base Prospectus [and the supplement[s]] [is/are] available for viewing at [address] [and] on www.ise.ie and copies may be obtained from [address].]

[Include whichever of the following apply or specify as "Not Applicable" (N/A). Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if "Not Applicable" is indicated for individual paragraphs or subparagraphs. Italics denote guidance for completing the Final Terms.]

[When completing [any] final terms, consideration should be given as to whether such terms or information constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.]

1. (i) Issuer: [BPE Financiaciones, S.A.]/[Banco Popular Español, S.A.]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the case of Notes to be listed on a non-regulated market, references to the Prospectus Directive to be removed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the case of Notes to be listed on a non-regulated market, references to the Prospectus Directive to be removed.

	[(ii)	Guarantor:	Banco Popular Español, S.A.]
2.	[(i)] [[(ii)] [[(iii)]	Series Number: Tranche Number: Date on which the Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series:	[ ] [ ] The Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series with Tranche [ ] on [the Issue Date/exchange of the Temporary Global Note for interests in the Permanent Global Note, as referred to in paragraph 22 below, which is expected to occur on or about [ ]]
3.	Specific	ed Currency or Currencies:	
4.	Aggreg [(i)] [[(ii)]	gate Nominal Amount of Notes: Series: Tranche:	[ ]
5.	Issue P	rice:	[ ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from [insert date] (in the case of fungible issues only, if applicable)]
6.	(i)	Specified Denominations:	[ ] No Notes may be issued which have a minimum denomination of less than €100,000 (or equivalent in another currency)
	(ii)	Calculation Amount:	[ ]
7.	[(i)] [(ii)]	Issue Date: Interest Commencement Date:	[ ] [Issue Date]]
8.	Matur	ity Date:	[specify date or (for Floating Rate Notes) Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to the relevant month and year]
9.	Interes	st Basis:	[[ ] per cent. Fixed Rate]] [Fixed Reset Notes] [ ] month [[LIBOR]/[EURIBOR]]+/- [ ] pbs Floating Rate] (Further particulars specified in paragraphs 15/16/17] below)
10.	Reden	nption/Payment basis:	[Redemption at par] [Instalment]
11.	Chang Basis:	ge of Interest or Redemption/Payment	[Applicable/Not Applicable] [specify the date when any change to the Interest Basis or Redemption/Payment Basis occurs to refer to paragraphs 15, 16 and 17 below]
12.	Put/Ca	all Options:	[Investor Put] [Issuer Call] [(further particulars specified below)] [Not Applicable]
13.	[(i)] [(ii)	Status of the Notes: Status of the Guarantee:	[Senior/Subordinated]. Condition [4(a)/4(b)] applies. [Senior/Subordinated].

	[(iii)]	[Date Board] approval for issuance of Notes [and Guarantee] obtained:	[ ] and [ ] respectively]] (N.B. Only relevant where Board (or similar) authorisation is required for the particular tranche of the Notes or related Guarantee)]
14.	Metho	d of distribution:	[Syndicated/Non-syndicated]
PRO	OVISIO	NS RELATING TO INTEREST PAY	ABLE
15.	Fixed	<b>Rate Note Provisions</b>	[Applicable/Not Applicable] (if not applicable, delete the remaining sub-
	(i)	Rate[(s)] of Interest:	paragraphs of this paragraph) [ ] per cent. per annum [payable [annually/semi-annually/quarterly/monthly] in arrear]
	(ii)	Interest Payment Date(s):	[ ] in each year [adjusted in accordance with [specify Business Day Convention and any applicable Business Day Jurisdictions for
	(iii)	Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]:	Condition 8(h)]]/[not adjusted] [ ] [per Note of [ ] Specified Denomination and per Note of [ ] Specified Denomination]
	(iv)	Day Count Fraction:	[Actual/Actual (ICMA)][Actual/Actual (ISDA)/Actual/365(Fixed)]/[Actual/360]/[30/360]/[30E/360][30E/360(ISDA)]
	(v)	Broken Amount(s):	[Insert particulars of any initial or final broken interest amounts which do not correspond with the Fixed Coupon Amount(s)]
16.	Fixed	Reset Provisions	[Applicable/Not Applicable] (if not applicable, delete the remaining sub- paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Initial Interest Rate:	[ ] per cent. per annum [payable [annually/semi-annually/quarterly] in arrear on each Interest Payment Date]
	(ii)	Interest Payment Date(s):	[[ ] in each year up to and including the Maturity Date]
	(iii)	Fixed Coupon Amount to (but excluding) the First Reset Date:	[[ ] per Calculation Amount/Not Applicable]
	(iv)	Broken Amount(s):	[[ ] per Calculation Amount payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [ ]][Not Applicable]
	(v)	Day Count Fraction:	[Actual/Actual (ICMA)][Actual/Actual (ISDA)/Actual/365(Fixed)]/[Actual/360]/[30/360]/[30E/360][30E/360(ISDA)]
	(vi)	Determination Date(s):	[[ ] in each year][Not Applicable]
	(vii) (viii)	First Reset Date: Second Reset Date:	[ ]/[Not Applicable]
	(ix)	Subsequent Reset Date(s):	[ ] [and [ ]]/[Not Applicable]
	(x)	Reset Margin:	[+/-][ ] per cent. per annum
	(xi) (xii)	Mid-Swap Rate: Fixed Reset Rate Relevant Screen Page:	
	(xiii)	Floating Leg Reference Rate:	
	(xiv) (xv)	Floating Leg Screen Page: Initial Mid-Swap Rate:	[ ] per cent. per annum (quoted on a[n] annual/semi-annual basis)
17.	Floati	ing Rate Note Provisions	[Applicable/Not Applicable] (if not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Interest Period(s):	[ ]

	(iii)	Business Day Convention:	[Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day
	(iv)	Manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined:	Convention/No adjustment] [Screen Rate Determination/ISDA Determination]
	(v)	Calculation Agent:	
	(vi)	Party responsible for calculating the Rate(s) of Interest and Interest Amount(s) (if not the Calculation Agent):	[ ]
	(vii)	Screen Rate Determination:	
	` /	Reference Rate:	[ ] month [LIBOR]/[EURIBOR]
		• Reference Banks:	
		• Relevant Time:	[For example, 11.00 a.m. London time/Brussels time]
		<ul> <li>Relevant Screen Page:</li> </ul>	[For example, Reuters LIBOR 01/EURIBOR 01]
		• Interest Determination Date(s):	
		• Relevant Financial Centre:	[ ]
	(viii)	ISDA Determination:	
		• Floating Rate Option:	
		Designated Maturity:	
	<i>(</i> : \)	• Reset Date:	
	(ix)	Linear Interpolation:	[Applicable – the Rate of Interest for the [long/short] [first/last] Interest Period shall be calculated using Linear Interpolation] (specify for each short or long interest period) /[Not Applicable]
	(x)	Margin(s):	[+/-] [ ] per cent., per annum
	(xi)	Minimum Rate of Interest:	[ ] per cent. per annum
	(xii)	Maximum Rate of Interest:	[ ] per cent. per annum
	(xiii)	Day Count Fraction:	
PRO	OVISIO	NS RELATING TO REDEMPTION	
18.	Call (	Option	[Applicable/Not Applicable] (if not applicable, delete the remaining sub- paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Optional Redemption Date(s):	
	(ii)	Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note:	[ ] per Note of [ ] specified denomination
	(iii)	If redeemable in part:	
	(a)	Minimum Redemption Amount:	
	(b)	Maximum Redemption Amount:	
	(iv)	Notice period	
19.	Put C	Option	[Applicable/Not Applicable] (If not applicable, delete the remaining sub- paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Optional Redemption Date(s):	
	(ii)	Optional Redemption Amount(s):	
	(iii)	Notice period:	
20.	Final	Redemption Amount:	[ ] per Note of specified denomination
21.		Redemption Amount  Redemption Amount(s) payable on	[Not Applicable (if both the Early Redemption
	Lauv	resemblion amounts) parable this	TITOLINDUICADIC III DOIIL IIIC LAILY NEACHIDIIDI

redemption for taxation reasons or on event Amount and the Early Termination Amount are the of default:

Amount and the Early Termination Amount are the principal amount of the Notes/specify the Early

Amount and the Early Termination Amount are the principal amount of the Notes/specify the Early Redemption Amount and/or the Early Termination Amount if different from the principal amount of the Notes)]

# GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

22.	Form o	of Notes:	Bearer Notes: [Temporary Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Global Note which is exchangeable for Definitive Notes in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note.] [Temporary Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes.] [Permanent Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note.] [Registered Notes]
23.	Busines 8(h):	ss Day Jurisdictions for Condition	[Not Applicable/[ ]. Note that this item relates to the date and place of payment, and not interest period end dates, to which items 15(ii), 16(ii) and 17(i) relate]
24.	New G	lobal Note Form:	[Applicable/Not Applicable]
25.	attached	for future Coupons or Receipts to be d to Definitive Notes (and dates on such Talons mature):	[Yes/No.]
26.	Details	relating to Instalment Notes:	[Applicable/Not Applicable]
		Instalment Amount(s): Instalment Date(s):	[ ]
27.		omination, renominalisation and entioning provisions:	[Not Applicable/The provisions [in Condition 18 (Redenomination, Renominalisation and Reconventioning)] apply]]
28.	[Comm	issioner	[•]
DIST	TRIBUT	ION	
29.	(i)	If syndicated, names [and addresses] of Managers [and underwriting commitments]:	[Not Applicable/[ ]] [(Include names and addresses of entities agreeing to underwrite the issue on a firm commitment basis and names and addresses of the entities agreeing to place the issue without a firm commitment or on a "best efforts" basis if such entities are not the same as the Managers)]
	(ii) [(iii)	Stabilising Manager (if any): Date of[Subscription] Agreement:]	[Not Applicable/[ ]] [ ]
30.	If non- Dealer:	-syndicated, name and address of	[Not Applicable/[ ]]

31.	[Total commission and concession:]	[[ ] per	r c	ent. of the Agg	gregate Nominal A	Amount]			
32.	U.S. Selling Restrictions:	- 0		Compliance D/TEFRA not	Category[1/2]; applicable]	TEFRA			
[LIST	LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING APPLICATION]								
Notes	These Final Terms comprise the final terms required to list and have admitted to trading the issue of Notes described herein pursuant to the $\[ \in \]$ 5,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme of BPE Financiaciones, S.A.								
THIR	RD PARTY INFORMATION								
[ ] has been extracted from [ ]. [Each of the] [The] Issuer [and the Guarantor] confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by [ ], no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced inaccurate or misleading.]									
Signe	d on behalf of the Issuer:	Signed o	on l	behalf of the C	Juarantor:				

By: By: Duly authorised

By: Duly authorised

Duly authorised

#### PART B— OTHER INFORMATION

#### 1. LISTING

(i) Listing: Application [has been made]/[is expected to be made] for the Notes

to be admitted to listing on [[the Official List of the Irish Stock Exchange][●]] with effect from [●].

(ii) Admission to Application [has been made]/[is expected to be made] for the Notes

trading: to be admitted to trading on [[the regulated market of the Irish Stock Exchange] $[\bullet]$ ] with effect from  $[\bullet]$ .

[(Where documenting a fungible issue need to indicate that original securities are already admitted to trading.)]

#### 2. RATINGS

Ratings: The Notes to be issued have been rated:

[S&P: [ ]]

[Moody's: [ ]]

[Fitch: [ ]]

[DBRS: [ ]]

[[Other]: [ ]]

[Option 1: Credit Rating Agency ("CRA") is (i) established in the EU and (ii) registered under the CRA Regulation: [Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is established in the EU and registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009, as amended (the "CRA Regulation").]

[Option 2: Credit Rating Agency ("CRA") is not established in the EU nor registered under the CRA Regulation: [Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is not established in the EU and is not registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/200, as amended (the "CRA Regulation").]

[Option 3: CRA is not established in the EU but the relevant rating is endorsed by a CRA which is established and registered under the CRA Regulations: [Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is not established in the EU but the rating it has given to the Instruments is endorsed by [insert legal name of credit rating agency], which is established in the EU and registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the "CRA Regulation").]

[Option 4: CRA is not established in the EU and the relevant rating is not endorsed under the CRA Regulation, but the CRA is certified in accordance with the CRA Regulation: [Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is not established in the EU but is certified under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the "CRA Regulation").]

[Need to include a brief explanation of the meaning of the ratings if this has previously been published by the rating provider.]

(The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to the issue of Notes.)

# 3. [NOTIFICATION

The [include name of competent authority in EEA home Member State] [has been requested to provide/has provided—include first alternative for an issue which is contemporaneous with the establishment or update of the Programme and the second alternative for subsequent issues] the

[include names of competent authorities of host Member States] with a certificate of approval attesting that the Base Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Directive.]

#### [INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE 4. [ISSUE/OFFER]

Need to include a description of any interest, including conflicting ones, that is material to the issue/offer, detailing the persons involved and the nature of the interest. May be satisfied by the inclusion of the following statement:

"Save as discussed in ["Plan of Distribution"] and "General Information", so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the offer of the Notes has an interest material to the offer."]

[(When adding any other description, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)]

5.	REASONS FOR THE OFFER, ESTIMATED NET PROCEEDS AND TOTAL EXPENS						
	[(i)	Reasons for the offer	Pros mak	["Use of Proceeds"] wording in Base pectus — if reasons for offer different from ing profit and/or hedging certain risks will need clude those reasons here.)]			
	[(ii)]	Estimated net proceeds:	need prod	roceeds are intended for more than one use will to split out and present in order of priority. If eeds insufficient to fund all proposed uses state unt and sources of other funding.)			
	[(iii)]	Estimated total expenses:	[ ]	[Include breakdown of expenses.]			
6.	[Fixed	Rate Notes only —YIELD					
	Indicat	ion of yield:	[ ]				
			basi	yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the s of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of re yield.]			
7.	[Floati	ing Rate Notes Only — HISTORIC I	NTEF	EST RATES			
	Details	s of historic [LIBOR]/[EURIBOR] rates	can b	e obtained from [Reuters].]			
8.	OPER	ATIONAL INFORMATION					
	ISIN C	Code:	[	]			
	Comm	on Code:	[	]			
	CUSIF	Code:	[	]			
	manne	New Global Note intended to be held in a manner which would allow Eurosystem		[Not Applicable/Yes/No]			
	eligibility:		[Note that the designation "Yes" simply means that the Notes are intended upon issue to be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common				

safekeeper [or registered in the name of a nominee of one of the ICIDs acting as common safekeeper] and does not necessarily mean that the Notes will be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem either upon issue or at any or all times during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.] [Include this text if "Yes" selected in which case the Notes must be issued in NGN form]/

[Whilst the designation is specified as "No" at the date of these Final Terms, should the Eurosystem eligibility criteria be amended in the future such that the Notes are capable of meeting them the Notes may then be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common safekeeper [and registered in the name of a nominee of one of the ICSDs acting as common Safekeeper]. Note that this does not necessarily mean that the Notes will then be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem at any time during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.] [Include this text if "No" selected in which case the Notes must be issued in CGN form]]

Any clearing system(s) other than Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking Société Anonyme and the relevant identification number(s): [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s)]

Delivery:	Deliv	ery [against/free of] payment
Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any):	[	1
Calculation Agent:	[	]

#### SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM

## **Initial Issue of Notes**

Each tranche of Bearer Notes having an original maturity of more than one year shall be represented initially by a Temporary Global Note in bearer form, without Coupons (a "Temporary Global Note"), which shall be deposited with (a) in the case of a global note which is not intended to be issued in new global note form (a "Classic Global Note" or "CGN"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, with or on behalf of a Common Depositary located outside the United States for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg; or (b) in the case of a global note which is intended to be issued in new global note form (a "New Global Note" or "NGN"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, with a common safekeeper for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg. Notes issued in registered form will be represented by Note certificates (each a "Certificate"), one Certificate being issued in respect of each Noteholder's entire holding of Registered Notes of one Series.

# Relationship of Accountholders with Clearing Systems

Each of the persons shown in the records of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or such approved intermediary as the holder of a Note represented by a Global Note must look solely to Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or such approved intermediary (as the case may be) for his share of each payment made by the relevant Issuer to the bearer of such Global Note and in relation to all other rights arising under the Global Notes, subject to and in accordance with the respective rules and procedures of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be). Such persons shall have no claim directly against the relevant Issuer in respect of payments due on the Notes for so long as the Notes are represented by such Global Note and such obligations of the relevant Issuer will be discharged by payment to the bearer of such Global Note in respect of each amount so paid.

#### **Amendment to Conditions**

The Temporary Global Notes and the Permanent Global Notes contain provisions which apply to the Notes which they represent, some of which modify the effect of the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in this document. The following is a summary of certain of those provisions:

Exchange: Each Temporary Global Note will be exchangeable in whole or in part for interests in a Permanent Global Note or, if so provided in a Temporary Global Note, for definitive Bearer Notes (as described in the next paragraph) after the date falling 40 days after the issue date of the Notes upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership in the form set out in the Fiscal Agency Agreement in the case of Bearer Notes. If specified in the relevant Final Terms, each Permanent Global Note is exchangeable in whole at the request and cost and expense of the relevant Issuer for definitive Bearer Notes by such holder giving notice to the Fiscal Agent, or by the relevant Issuer giving notice to the Fiscal Agent and the Noteholders of its intention to exchange (at the option, cost and expense of the relevant Issuer) such Permanent Global Note for definitive Bearer Notes, in each case on or after the Exchange Date specified in the notice.

On or after any Exchange Date (as defined below) the holder of a Permanent Global Note may surrender such Permanent Global Note or, in the case of a partial exchange, present it for endorsement to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent. In exchange for any Permanent Global Note, or the part thereof to be exchanged, the relevant Issuer will deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate principal amount of duly executed and authenticated definitive Bearer Notes (if appropriate, having attached to them all Coupons and Receipts in respect of interest or Instalment Amounts which have not already been paid on the Permanent Global Note and a Talon), security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and stock exchange requirements and in or substantially in the form set out in the Fiscal Agency Agreement. On exchange in full of each Permanent Global Note, the relevant Issuer will, if the holder so requests, procure that it is cancelled and returned to the holder together with the relevant definitive Bearer Notes.

"Exchange Date" means a day falling not less than 60 days after that on which the notice requiring exchange is given and on which banks are open for business in the city in which the specified office of the Fiscal Agent is located and in the cities in which the relevant clearing system is located.

Payments: No payment falling due more than 40 days after the Issue Date will be made on a Temporary Global Note unless exchange for an interest in a Permanent Global Note or for definitive Bearer Notes is improperly withheld or refused. Payments on any Temporary Global Note during the period up to 40 days after its Issue Date will only be made against presentation of certification as to non U.S. beneficial ownership in the form set out in the Fiscal Agency Agreement. All payments in respect of Notes represented by a Global Note will be made against presentation for endorsement and, if no further payment falls to be made in respect of the Notes, surrender of that Global Note to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent or such other Paying Agent as shall have been notified to the Noteholders for such purpose. A record of each payment so made will be endorsed in the appropriate schedule to each Global Note, which endorsement will be *prima facie* evidence that such payment has been made in respect of the Notes.

Payment Business Day: In the case of a Global Note, shall be: (i) if the currency of payment is not Euro, where payment is to be made by transfer to an account maintained with a bank in the relevant currency, a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in the relevant currency in the principal financial centre of the country of such currency; or (ii) if the currency of payment is Euro, where payment is to be made by transfer to an account, a day on which is a TARGET Business Day and a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in each (if any) Relevant Financial Centre (as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms).

*Registered Notes:* Interest on Registered Notes in global form will be paid to the person shown on the Register at close of business on the business day before the due date for payment thereof ("**Record Date**").

*Notices:* Notwithstanding Condition 15 (Notices), while all the Notes are represented by the Temporary Global Note (or by the Temporary Global Note and the Permanent Global Note) deposited with a depositary or a common depositary for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system or a common safekeeper, notices to Noteholders may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system and, in any case, such notices shall be deemed to have been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 (Notices) on the date of delivery to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system.

*Purchase and Cancellation:* Cancellation of any Note surrendered for cancellation following its purchase will be effected by reduction in the principal amount of the relevant Global Note.

Default: Following the giving of a notice of an event of default by or through a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or if the holder of a Global Note so elects or the Global Note will become void as to the specified portion and the persons entitled to such portion as accountholders with a clearing system will acquire direct enforcement rights against the relevant Issuer under the terms of the Deed of Covenant.

*Prescription:* Claims against the relevant Issuer in respect of Notes which are represented by a permanent Global Note will become void unless it is presented for payment within a period of ten years (in the case of principal) and five years (in the case of interest) from the appropriate Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 9).

*Meetings:* The holder of a permanent Global Note will be treated as being two persons for the purposes of any quorum requirements of a meeting of holders and, at any such meeting, as having one vote in respect of each minimum Denomination of Notes for which such Global Note may be exchanged.

In relation to the Permanent Global Note only:

Exercise of call option: In connection with an exercise of the option contained in Condition 7(e) (Redemption at the option of the Issuer and exercise of Issuer's options) in respect of some but not all of the Notes, the rights of accountholders with a clearing system in respect of the Notes will be governed by the standard procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg (this shall be recorded in the records of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as either a pool factor or a reduction in principal amount, at their discretion) or any other clearing system (as the case may be).

Exercise of put option: In order to exercise the option contained in Condition 7(f) (Redemption at the option of Noteholders and Holders exercise of Noteholder's options) the bearer of the Permanent Global Note must give notice to the Fiscal Agent (via the relevant clearing system) within the time limits relating to the deposit of Notes with a Paying Agent set out in the Conditions substantially in the form of the notice available from any Paying Agent, except that the notice shall not be required to contain the serial numbers of the Notes in respect of which the option has been exercised, and stating the principal amount of Notes in respect of which the option is exercised and at the same time presenting the Permanent Global Note to the Fiscal Agent, or to a Paying Agent for notation.

In the case of any Tranche of Notes having a maturity of more than 365 days, the following legend will appear on all Global Bearer Notes and Definitive Notes that are not in registered form for U.S. tax purposes, and any related Coupons or Talons:

"Any United States person who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws, including the limitations provided in sections 165(j) and 1287(a) of the Internal Revenue Code."

The sections referred to in the above legend provide that a United States taxpayer, with certain exceptions, will not be permitted to deduct any loss, and will not be eligible for capital gains treatment with respect to any gain realised on any sale, exchange or redemption of Bearer Notes or any related Coupons.

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, Bearer Notes with maturities of one year or less may be issued.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds of the issue of each Tranche of Notes will be used for the general corporate purposes of Banco Popular.

#### **BPE FINANCIACIONES, S.A.**

## **Background**

BPE Financiaciones, S.A. ("**BPEF**") was incorporated on 19 February 2004 for an indefinite period of time as a limited liability corporation (sociedad anónima) under the laws of the Kingdom of Spain, with its registered office at calle José Ortega y Gasset 29, 28006 Madrid (telephone +34 915 207 278). BPEF is registered under Volume 19,873, Book 0, Folio 164, Section 8, Sheet M 350196, Registration 1 of the Mercantile Registry (Registro Mercantil) of Madrid. BPEF operates under the Spanish Companies Act (*Texto Refundido de la ley de Sociedades de Capital*).

BPEF has no subsidiaries. The authorised share capital of BPEF is & 100,000 divided into 100 common shares, each with a par value of & 1,000. As of 30 September 2015, the subscribed and fully paid up share capital is & 100,000.

The members of the Board of Directors of BPEF are Mr. Santiago Armada Martínez de Campos (Chairman), Mr. Daniel de Diego Rozas (Vice-Chairman), Mr. Juan Babío Fernández (Vice-Chairman), and Mr. Jose Alberto García Piedras. Mr. Santiago Armada Martínez de Campos, Mr. Daniel de Diego Rozas and Mr. Jose Alberto García Piedras work as the Head of the Funding Department of the Bank and as employee of the Funding Department respectively. Mr. Juan Babío Fernández works as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, there were no conflicts of interest between any duties owed to BPEF by the members of its Board of Directors and each of their private, nor any potential conflicts of interest, interests or other duties.

The business address of each of Santiago Armada Martínez de Campos, Mr. Daniel de Diego Rozas, Mr. Juan Babío Fernández, Jorge Stecher Navarra and Mr. José Sartorius Álvarez de Bohorques is calle José Ortega y Gasset, 29, 28006 Madrid.

The auditors of BPEF are PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L.

#### **Activities of BPEF**

BPEF is a wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary of Banco Popular Español, S.A. BPEF was incorporated for the purpose of raising funds for Banco Popular and its consolidated subsidiaries on the domestic and international capital markets through the issuance of promissory notes, bonds, notes or other analogous subordinated or unsubordinated securities.

Funds raised by BPEF are typically deposited with Banco Popular. Income earned by BPEF in respect of such deposits (normally calculated on the basis of the nominal value of the corresponding debt plus a spread to cover direct and indirect costs associated with it is used to repay the interest payable in respect of the outstanding securities issued by it.

As at 30 September 2015, BPEF had  $\[ \in \] 2.0$  billion of senior and subordinated debt securities issued and outstanding. This is comprised of  $\[ \in \] 57.3$  million of debt securities issued pursuant to BPEF's  $\[ \in \] 8,000$  million programme for the issuance of fixed income securities guaranteed by the Bank and registered with the Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores, the Spanish securities market regulator, as well as  $\[ \in \] 1,971.7$  million debt securities issued pursuant to the Programme described in this Base Prospectus. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the aggregate figure remains unchanged.

# BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL, S.A.

#### **Information about Banco Popular**

Banco Popular Español, S.A. (the "Bank" or "Banco Popular") was incorporated for an indefinite period on 14 July 1926, under the name "Banco Popular de los Previsores del Porvenir", a public limited company registered in the Mercantile Registry of Madrid under volume (tomo) 174, sheet (folio) 44, page (hoja) 5,438 inscripción 1ª. It commenced operations on 1 October 1926, changing its name to "Banco Popular Español, S.A." by a deed on 8 March 1947.

Banco Popular's registered office is at calle Velázquez nº 34, 28001 Madrid, Spain, telephone number +34 902 30 10 00.

Banco Popular is incorporated as a *sociedad anónima* (public limited company), and is governed by the Consolidated Text of the Capital Companies Act (*Texto Refundido de la Ley de Sociedades de Capital*) approved by Royal Legislative Decree 1/2010, dated 2 July, and associated regulations.

The purposes of Banco Popular (set out in Article 4 of Banco Popular's Articles of Association) are to:

- (a) carry out all kinds of operations in relation to securities and credit instruments, without prejudice to the provisions of stock trading and collective investment laws;
- (b) carry out active and passive credit and surety operations in its own name or on behalf of third parties;
- (c) acquire or transmit, in its own name, commission, shares, debentures, and other public and private securities, national or international, bank notes and coins from all countries and formulating public offers for the purchase and sale of securities;
- (d) receive and place cash and securities on deposit or administration. The Bank is not authorised under any circumstances to use the cash or securities placed in its custody on deposit;
- (e) perform all kinds of operations related to current accounts, time deposits, and others;
- (f) accept and grant administrations, representations, delegations, commission, agencies and other remits in the interest of those who use the Bank's services; and
- (g) perform all other private banking activities allowed by law.

Part or all of the activities included in the corporate purpose may be carried out indirectly by the Bank through the ownership of shares or participations in companies with similar or identical purposes.

Given its status as a financial entity, Banco Popular's activities are subject to supervision by the Bank of Spain. Banco Popular is registered in the Banks and Bankers' Registry (*Registro de Bancos y Banqueros*) registration 0075.

#### **Group Structure**

The Banco Popular group is comprised of the Bank and its consolidated subsidiaries (the "Group").

## **Share Capital**

The Board of Directors resolved in April 2011 to carry out a share capital increase with a charge to reserves in order to implement the "**Banco Popular Dividend**" programme. The par value of this capital increase amounted to &1,201,373.90, represented by 12,013,739 shares, each having a par value of &0.10, which were admitted to trading on the Spanish Stock Exchanges on 6 May 2011.

At a meeting held on 21 June 2011, the Board of Directors resolved to execute a further share capital increase with a charge to reserves approved by the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting on 21 June 2011. The par value of this capital increase amounted to  $\[mathcal{\in}\]$ 1,284,878.10, represented by 12,848,781 ordinary shares each having a par value of  $\[mathcal{\in}\]$ 0.10, which were admitted to trading on the Spanish Stock Exchanges on 20 July 2011.

At its meeting held on 19 October 2011, the Board of Directors resolved to carry out a share capital increase in order to service the conversion of certain notes pertaining to the issue entitled "Subordinated Notes Necessarily Convertible into Banco Popular Español, S.A. Shares 1/2009", issued by Banco Popular, into newly-issued shares of Banco Popular. The par value of this capital increase amounted to £78,252.50 and the paid-in surplus was set at £6.911 per share £5,408,030.28).

At its meeting of 20 December 2011, the Board of Directors resolved to carry out a share capital increase in order to service the conversion of certain notes pertaining to the issue entitled "Subordinated Notes Necessarily Convertible into Banco Popular Español, S.A. Shares I/2010", issued by Banco Popular, into newly-issued shares of Banco Popular. The par value of this capital increase amounted to  $\{0.379,900.30\}$  and the paid-in surplus was set at  $\{0.31833\}$  per share  $\{0.43,926,366.25\}$ .

At its meeting of 7 October 2011, the Board of Directors resolved to carry out a voluntary public offering for the acquisition of shares and necessarily convertible subordinated notes directed to all such outstanding Banco Pastor securities. At its meeting of 20 December 2011, the Board of Directors delegated authority to the Executive Committee meeting of 6 March 2012 to execute resolutions of the Board including the share capital pursuant to the public tender offer. The amount of the capital increase was set at  $\{0.156,587.60\}$  and the paid-in surplus was set at  $\{0.162\}$  per share ( $\{0.36,571,299.91\}$ ). At its meeting on 16 February 2012, the Executive Committee resolved to set the amount of the share capital increase at  $\{0.37,043,384.50\}$  (20.75 per cent. of the outstanding share capital as at that date).

The Board of Directors, at its meeting held on 25 January 2012, resolved to execute a share capital increase to offer its shareholders a new flexible remuneration system referred to as the "Banco Popular Dividend", which allows the shareholder to choose between receiving all or part of the dividend in cash or in newly-released shares of Banco Popular. At its meeting held on 23 March 2012, the Executive Committee resolved to set the amount of the share capital increase at €1,701,014.40. The capital increase was carried out at par, with no paid-in surplus.

At its meeting held on 25 April 2012, the Board of Directors resolved to proceed with the total conversion of the issue of "*Necessarily Exchangeable Subordinated Bonds I/2010*" issued by Popular Capital S.A. and the increase in share capital for an amount of  $\[ \in \] 23,364,017.10 \]$  (11.41 per cent. of the share capital at that date). The paid-in surplus was set at  $\[ \in \] 1.8461 \]$  per share ( $\[ \in \] 431,323,119.68 \]$ ).

At its meeting held on 30 March 2012, the Board of Directors resolved to carry out a share capital increase for the maximum amount necessary in order to service the conversion of certain bonds pertaining to the issue entitled "Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español, S.A. Shares II/2012" into newly-issued shares of Banco Popular. By virtue of this resolution, the Executive Committee, at its meeting held on 4 September 2012, resolved to set the amount of the share capital increase at  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}57,184.00}$ . The paid-in surplus was set at  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}6.8452}$  per share  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}63,914,359.17}$ ).

Following the above mentioned capital increases, the issued share capital of Banco Popular as of 15 November 2012 was  $\[ \in \] 217,407,710.60$  represented by a single series and class of 2,174,077,106 shares, with a nominal value per ordinary share of  $\[ \in \] 0.10$ .

On 30 September 2012, the Board of Directors of the Bank resolved to carry out a capital increase of up to  $\[ \in \] 2.5$  billion, with preferential subscription rights for existing shareholders (the "Capital Increase"), taking place before 31 December 2012. The Capital Increase was agreed at the Extraordinary Shareholders General Meeting held on 10 November 2012.

On 4 December 2012, Banco Popular announced that, in accordance with the securities note in respect of the Capital Increase, registered on 12 November 2012 with the CNMV (the "Securities Note"), the Capital Increase had been fully subscribed to during the preferential subscription and additional subscription periods. The total number of shares subscribed to during the preferential subscription period and the number of additional shares requested amounted to 11,426,819,911 shares, representing 183.29 per cent. of the Capital Increase.

The preferential subscription period ended on 28 November 2012. During this period 6,229,596,909 newly-issued ordinary shares of Banco Popular were subscribed to, representing 99.92 per cent. of the Capital Increase. In a regulatory announcement (*Hecho Relevante*) dated 27 November 2012, Allianz, S.E., Américo Amorim, Banque Fedérative du Crédit Mutuel and Unión Europea de

Inversiones, S.A., effectively exercised their preferential subscription rights in accordance with the terms of the irrevocable commitments they had previously entered into.

During the preferential subscription period, requests were made for 5,197,223,002 additional shares to be allocated during the additional subscription period, representing 83.36 per cent. of the total Capital Increase.

As the number of additional shares requested exceeded the number of shares available for allocation (4,817,055 shares), Banco Popular, in its capacity as agent of the Capital Increase, carried out the prorata allocation. The final percentage for the purpose of the calculation of the pro-rata allocation was 0.092 per cent., as described in the Securities Note.

As the Capital Increase was fully subscribed to during the preferential subscription and additional subscription periods, no discretionary allocation period has taken place.

In accordance with the expected timetable set out in the Securities Note, on 5 December 2012, Banco Popular executed the Capital Increase public deed for subsequent registration in the Mercantile Registry of Madrid. The admission to trading of the new shares from the Capital Increase on the Spanish Stock Exchanges took place on 5 December 2012, with commencement of trading on 6 December 2012.

On 6 May 2013, the Board of Directors of Banco Popular resolved to carry out (i) a capital reduction of 0.30 by the redemption of three treasury shares of a nominal value of 0.10 each; and (ii) the grouping of shares and the increase in the nominal value of the shares of Banco Popular by a ratio of five old shares with a nominal value of 0.10 each for one new share with a nominal value of 0.50 each, without any change in the amount of Banco Popular's share capital (the "Reverse Split"). The Reverse Split was implemented to reduce volatility in trading of Banco Popular's shares caused as a result of the 0.50 billion capital increase which had pushed Banco Popular's share price below 0.50. The capital reduction and the Reverse Split were agreed at the Ordinary Shareholders General Meeting held on 10 June 2013. The new shares with the new nominal value were listed on the Spanish Stock Exchanges and the Spanish stock market interconnection system (SIBE), commonly referred to as the Continuous Market, on 13 June 2013.

On 10 December 2013, the Board of Directors of Banco Popular resolved to carry out a capital increase to offer its shares to a small number of investors. At its meeting held on 11 December 2013, the Delegated Committee resolved to begin an accelerated bookbuilding process through a private accelerated placement, excluding pre-emptive acquisition rights and subject to obtaining the corresponding authorisations of the supervisory and regulatory authorities, for a nominal amount of  $\varepsilon$ 56,962,025 through the issuance of 113,924,050 new shares, which represents 6.39 per cent. of the current share capital of Banco Popular. The new shares were issued at a price of three euro and ninety-five cents ( $\varepsilon$ 3.95),  $\varepsilon$ 0.50 being the nominal value plus a share premium of three euro and forty-five cents per share.

On 18 December 2013, the Board of Directors of Banco Popular agreed to resume dividend payments to its shareholders in the amount of €0.04 per share against profit for the year 2013. On 29 January 2014, Banco Popular published the information document related to the increase of the share capital approved by the Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting of Banco Popular held on 10 June 2013, under point 7 of the Agenda, implementing the flexible remuneration system for shareholders known as "Dividendo Banco Popular: un dividendo a su medida". Following this information, Banco Popular announced on 17 February 2014 that the final number of ordinary shares issued in the released capital increase came to 14,399,623 shares equivalent to 0.70 per cent. of Banco Popular's equity capital, and the capital increase came to a total of €7,199,811.50.

On 20 December 2013, the Board of Directors of Banco Popular, at its meeting held on 18 December 2013, approved the mandatory conversion of all the Subordinated Bonds Mandatorily Convertible into shares of Banco Popular Español, S.A I/2012, with ISIN Code ES0213790035, pursuant to section 4.6.3.c).3. of the Securities Note, filed with the Spanish National Securities Market Commission on 13 March 2012.

On 23 January 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares IV/2012, a total of 3,977,723 new shares were issued due to the conversion of one third of the nominal value of each of the 500 bonds in circulation.

On 20 March 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 66,513 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 1,190 bonds.

On 8 May 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares III/2012, a total of 15,916,745 new shares were issued due to the last partial conversion of one third of the total initial nominal amount of 2,569 bonds.

On 24 June 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 30,005 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 537 bonds.

On 22 July 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares IV/2012, a total of 3,162,555 new shares were issued due to the conversion of one third of the nominal value of each of the 500 bonds in circulation.

On 30 July 2014, regarding the flexible remuneration system for shareholders known as "*Dividendo Banco Popular: un dividendo a su medida*", the Delegated Committee of Banco Popular approved a share capital increase of €1,689,428, through the issuance of 3,378,856 new shares in order to attend the subscription requests made by the shareholders.

On 16 September 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 21,169 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 378 bonds.

On 24 September 2014, the Board of Directors of the Bank resolved to carry out a capital increase of €2,531,881, with preferential subscription rights for existing shareholders (the "Capital Increase"). The Capital Increase was agreed at the Ordinary Shareholders General Meeting held on 7 April 2014.

On 2 December 2014, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 62,518 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 1.114 bonds.

On 28 January 2015, regarding the flexible remuneration system for shareholders known as "Dividendo Banco Popular: un dividendo a su medida", the Delegated Committee of Banco Popular approved a share capital increase of  $\mathfrak{C}_{3,751,066.50}$ , through the issuance of 7,502,133 new shares in order to attend the subscription requests made by the shareholders.

On 11 March 2015, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 29,629 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 526 bonds.

On 10 June 2015, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 538,174 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 9,521 bonds.

On 10 September 2015, in relation to the issue of Subordinated Bonds Compulsorily Convertible into Banco Popular Español shares II/2012, a total of 74,657 new shares were issued due to the conversion of 1,321 bonds.

As at 31 December 2014 the Board of Directors of Banco Popular represented approximately 24.56 per cent. of the Bank's share capital, institutional investors represented approximately 44.89 per cent. of the Bank's share capital and individual shareholders represented approximately 30.55 per cent. of the Bank's share capital.

Based on the information available to the Bank, there is no individual or corporation that directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, exercises or may exercise any type of control over the Bank. By way of ensuring no abuse of control, various independent directors are appointed to the Board of Directors and the Bank has processes in place to monitor the purchase of its shares.

## **Principal Subsidiaries**

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the seven principal banking subsidiaries of the Bank are:

- Bancopopular-e, S.A., specialising in Internet banking in Spain (owned 51 per cent. by Värde Partners and 49 per cent. by the Bank);
- Popular Banca Privada, S.A., ("**Popular Banca Privada**") which provides private banking services in Spain (wholly owned subsidiary);
- Banco Popular Portugal, S.A. ("Banco Popular Portugal"), a commercial bank operating in Portugal (wholly-owned subsidiary). Banco Popular Portugal shares the Group's technological platform and is fully integrated with its central services, but it also maintains a structure of its own in order to comply with Portuguese regulations and to respond to the specific requirements of its customers;
- TotalBank, which provides a range of business and personal banking and financial products and services in the United States (wholly-owned subsidiary). This entity operates through fourteen branches located in Miami Dade County, in the state of Florida;
- Banco Pastor, S.A.U. ("**Banco Pastor**") which provides banking and financial services within the Spanish region of Galicia, with 236 branches spread throughout the region;
- Allianz Popular, specialising in insurance activities (owned 40 per cent. by the Bank and 60 per cent. by Allianz, SE); and
- Targobank, S.A. is a Spanish financial entity, owned 50 per cent. by the Bank and the other 50 per cent. by the French Group Crédit Mutuel-CIC.

## Other Subsidiaries and Affiliates

The Group also includes other operating companies which provide a range of financial services offered by the Group, including factoring, mutual and pension fund management, securities intermediation, portfolio and asset management, life insurance broking, venture capital investment and equipment renting. Some of these companies are joint ventures between the Bank and other entities. The Group also includes companies which provide support for the Group's main activities and several other smaller companies.

The following table summarises the companies making up the Group and the Bank's ownership of such companies as at 31 December 2014:

				Ownership Interest (per cent.)		
	Registered Office	Business	Direct	Indirect	Total	
Deposit-taking companies:						
Banco Pastor, S.A.U	A Coruña	Banking	100	_	100	
Banco Popular Portugal, S.A	Lisbon	Banking	100	_	100	
Popular Banca Privada, S.A	Madrid	Banking	92.50	7,50	100	
TotalBank	Miami	Banking	100	_	100	
Financing companies:						
Popular Factoring, S.A. (Portugal)	Lisbon	Factoring	99.83	_	99.83	
Popular de Factoring, S.A.	Madrid	Factoring	100	_	100	
Portfolio & Service Companies:						
		Share portfolio				
Gestora Popular, S.A	Madrid	and ownership	35	65	100	
Popular Servicios Financieros EFC, S.A	A Coruña	Venture-capital	100			
Popular Bolsa SV, S.A	Madrid	Stockbroker	100		100	
		Pension Plan				
Popular Gestão de Activos, S.A	Lisbon	management	100	_	100	

Ownership Interest (per cent.)

	Registered Office	Ducinoss	Diment	Indinat	Total
	Office	Business	Direct	Indirect	Total
Popular de Participaciones Financieras, S.A	Madrid	Venture capital Holding	100	_	100
Grupo La Toja Hoteles	A Coruña	company Holding	90.67	_	90,67
Sobrinos de Jose Pastor Inversiones, S.A	Madrid	company Holding	100	_	100
Pastor Privada Investment 1, S.L	A Coruña	company	_	5	5
Pastor Privada Investment 2, S.L	A Coruña	Holding company Holding	100	_	100
Pastor Privada Investment 3, S.L.	A Coruña	company	_	5	5
Pastor Privada Eolica 2, S.L	Madrid	Wind power	_	100	100
Pastor Privada Eolica 3, S.L	Madrid	Wind power	_	100	100
		Mutual Fund			
Popular Gestión Privada SGIIC, S.A	Madrid	management	_	100	100
Instrumentality companies:		TT 11'			
A1: 1 G A	M. 111	Holding	100		100
Aliseda, S.A.	Madrid	company	100	_	100
DDE Einensissismes C A	Madeid	Financial	90	10	100
BPE Financiaciones, S.A.	Madrid	Instrumentality Financial	90	10	100
BPE Preference International, L.T.D	George Town	Instrumentality	100		100
DI E i reference international, E. I.D.	Town	Real estate management	100	_	100
Consulteam-Consultores de Gestão, S.A	Lisbon	consultant Property	86.27	13.73	100
Finespa, S.A.	Madrid	instrumentality Property	4.19	95.81	100
Fondo Imopopular, FEIIFFundo Popular	Lisbon	investment fund Rua Ramaljo	90	10	100
Predifundo	Lisboa	Ortigao 51 Property		72.62	72.62
Gestora Europea de Inversiones, S.A	Madrid	Investment fund	99.9	0.1	100
Hercepopular S.L.	Guadalajara	Real state		51	51
	· ·	Financial			
Gold Leaf Title Company	Miami	Instrumentality Property	_	100	100
Inmobiliaria Viagracia, S.A Intermediación y Servicios Tecnológicos,	Madrid	instrumentality Services	100	_	100
S.A	Madrid	Instrumentality Property	99.5	0.5	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Alprosa, S.L	Madrid	instrumentality Property	68.25	31.75	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Canvives, S.L	Madrid	instrumentality Property	100	_	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Cedaceros, S.L	Madrid	instrumentality Property	_	100	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Gercebio, S.L	Madrid	instrumentality Property	_	100	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Jeráguilas, S.L	Madrid	instrumentality Property	_	100	100
Inversiones Inmobiliarias Tamadaba, S.L	Las Palmas	instrumentality Financial	100	_	100
Isla de los Buques, S.A	Madrid	Instrumentality Real estate	99.98	0.02	100
Manberor, S.L.	Madrid	development Real estate	_	100	100
Meglahe, S.L.	Madrid	development Financial	_	100	100
Popular Capital, S.A	Madrid	Instrumentality Insurance	90	10	100
Popular de Mediación, S.A	Madrid	brokering	100	_	100

Ownership	Interest	(per cent.)
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	Registered Office	Business	Direct	Indirect	Total
		Financial			
Popular Español Asia Trade, L.T.D	Hong Kong	Instrumentality Property	100	_	100
Red Leaf Holding	Miami	instrumentality Property	100	_	100
Urbanizadora Española S.A	Madrid	instrumentality	7.19	90.55	97.74
IM Cédulas Grupo Banco Popular 3, FTA	Madrid	Asset securitisation fund	100	_	100
IM Banco Popular MBS 2, FTA	Madrid	Asset securitisation fund	100	_	100
BPE Representações y Participações, L.T.D.A	São Paulo	Financial Instrumentality	100	_	100
IM Grupo Banco Popular Empresas 1,		Asset securitisation			
FTA	Madrid	fund Asset	100	_	100
IM Grupo Banco Popular FT PYME I, FTA	Madrid	securitisation fund	100	_	100
Centro de Análisis y Reclamaciones de Incumplimientos, S.A.	Madrid	Debt collection Asset	100	_	100
IM Grupo Banco Popular FT PYME II,		securitisation			
FTAPopular Arrendamiento-FIIF para	Madrid	fund Property	100	_	100
Arrendamiento Habitacional	Lisbon	investment fund	84.42	15.58	100
FIB Realty Corporation Total Sunset INC	Miami Miami	No activity No activity	_	100 100	100 100
		Asset			
IM Grupo Banco Popular Empresas 5, FTA	Madrid	securitisation fund	100	_	100
Pastor Participaciones Preferentes, S.A	Madrid	Financial Instrumentality	100	_	100
Naviera Islas Cies, S.L.	Madrid	Financial Instrumentality Financial	100	_	100
Naviera Cañada, S.L.	Madrid	Instrumentality Real estate	100	_	100
Residencial Valdemar, S.L	Madrid	development Asset securitisation	_	100	100
IM Banco Popular FPYME 1, FTA	Madrid	fund	100		100
Velázquez 34, S.A	Madrid	Real estate	97.8	2.2	100
BPE Asesores, S.A	Buenos Aires	Financial Instrumentality Asset	68.2	31.8	100
EDT FTPYME Pastor 3	Madrid	securitisation fund Asset	100	_	100
GC FTPYME Pastor 4	Madrid	securitisation fund	100	_	100
Non-financial companies:					
Eurovida, S.A (Portugal)	Lisbon	Insurance	84.07	15.93	100
Popular de Renting, S.A Popular de Seguros, S.A	Madrid Lisbon	Renting Insurance	100	100	100 100
1 opinal de Seguitos, S.A	LISUUII	Property	_	100	100
Vilamar Gestión, S.L.	Madrid	instrumentality	_	100	100

Ownership Interest (per cent.)

	Registered Office	Business	Direct	Indirect	Total
General de Terrenos y Edificios Servicios Integrales, S.L	Madrid	Property instrumentality		100	100
Gestora Inmobiliaria La Toja, S.A	Pontevedra	Property instrumentality	89.71	10.29	100
General de Terrenos y Edificios, S.L	Madrid	Property instrumentality	100	_	100
Inti Entertaiment	Santa Cruz de Tenerife	Cinematographi c activities		99.89	99.89
La Toja, S.A Pastor Vida, S.A	A Coruña Madrid	Hotels Insurance	100	=	100
Cercebelo Assets, S.A.	Madrid	Property instrumentality	100	_	100
Promoción Social de Viviendas S.A	Madrid	Holding company	_	91.84	91.84
Bancopopular-e S.A.	Madrid	Banking Securitization	49	_	49
IM Tarjetas I, FTA	Madrid	Investment Fund Real estate	_	49	49
Targoinmuebles, S.A	Madrid San	development Real estate	_	50	50
Inverlur Aguilas I, S.L.	Sebastián San	development Real estate	_	50	50
Inverlur Aguilas II, S.L.  Targobank	Sebastián Madrid	development Banking	50	50 —	50 50
Sociedad Conjunta para la Emisión y Gestión de medios de Pago "Iberia		Payment			
Cards", S.A.	Madrid	systems Financial	42.5		42.5
Popular-e Cobros A.I.E Popular-e Operador de Banca Seguros	Madrid	Instrumentality Financial		49	49
Vinculado S.A.U. Aliseda Servicios de Gestión Inmobiliaria,	Madrid	Instrumentality Real estate		49	49
S.L	Madrid	management Exploitation	49	_	49
Saite, S.A.	A Coruña	Concession Real estate	50	_	50
Saite-Cobal, S.A  Associated companies:	Madrid	development	_	50	50
Allianz Popular, S.L	Madrid	Insurance Financial	40	_	40
Aviacion Intercontinental, A.I.E.	Madrid	Instrumentality	35	_	35
Inversiones en Resorts Mediterráneos	Murcia	Real estate development Payment	_	20.98	20.98
Aevis Europa S.L	Madrid	systems Payment	27.54		27.54
Euroautomatic Cash Entidad de Pago S.L	Madrid	Systems Payment	50		50
Gestora patrimonial C/Francisco Sancha 12 Grupo financiero Ve por Mas S.A. de CV.	Madrid México	Systems Banking	27.54 24.99		27.54 24.99
Sistema 4B	Madrid	Payment systems	27.42	_	27.42
Master red Europa S.L.	Madrid	Payment Systems	27.54		27.54
Trindade Fundo de Investimento Imobiliario Fechado	Lisbon	Real estate development	27.6	50	50
Amarres Deportivos, S.L	Palma de Mallorca	Sporting marinas	_	40.90	40.90
Fotovoltaica Monteflecha, S.L.	Palencia	Photovoltaic energy	_	4.05	4.05

	Registered Office	Business	Direct	Indirect	Total
		Real estate			
Metrovacesa, S.A.	Madrid	development	12.64		12.64
	Madrid	Education	_	30.86	30.86
		Sporting			
Puertos Futuros, S.L	A Coruña	marinas	_	49	49
Universal Pay , S.L.U	Madrid	Payment entity	50	_	50

By virtue of Banco Popular's majority holdings in capital stock and voting rights or agreements with both its principal and other subsidiaries and affiliates, the Group operates as a single holdings unit with unified direction and management and common technical and support services. The banking and other subsidiaries of Banco Popular act as geographical or functional units forming part of the organisation, the primary differentiating features being those arising from the differing legal status of each entity.

#### **Business of the Group**

Banco Popular's business strategy is focused on SMEs, groups and families with a customer-centric business model. Through its specialised subsidiaries it also offers factoring, investment management, mutual and pension funds, stock broking, life assurance and mortgage lending. At the date of this Base Prospectus, Banco Popular's shares are listed on the Spanish Stock Exchanges, which are regulated markets for the purposes of MiFID.

#### **Commercial Banking**

The Group's primary activity focuses on providing financial services to approximately 5.5 million customers, companies and families through its extensive branch office network. The core business consists of: typical lending transactions, raising of deposits, issuing guarantees and the provision of all types of financial services.

Compared to the year ended 31 December 2014, the Group must take into account the reduction in the number of customers due to the segregation of cards to bancopopular-e.

Gross margin increased by 9.1 per cent. due to the greater contribution from operating results in 2014. At the same time, commissions and fees contributed less due to the deconsolidation of the cards business and other corporate transactions. The increased contribution of properties sold relative to the year ended 31 December 2014 (almost €305 million more than in 2013) enabled a pre-tax profit of €574 million to be achieved for the year ended 31 December 2014, 19.9 per cent. more than the year ended 31 December 2013. The categories into which this segment is subdivided are described below:

#### (i) Banking for Private Individuals

Banking for private individuals manages 79 per cent. of the Group's total customers. The segment is broken down into Óptima, banking for private individuals and mass banking.

Óptima is made up of those customers with funds greater than €150,000. The difference between banking for private individuals and mass banking lies in the level of personalised service and degree of association.

Noteworthy within banking for private individuals is the weight of the specific groups of customers on which the Group's business strategy focuses because they require a higher level of service. These are homogeneous groups of customers, generally in the same profession.

# (ii) Banking for businesses

Banking for businesses manages 21 per cent. of the Group's total customers. This segment consists of the public sector, large companies, SMEs, self-employed persons and retail traders, and non-commercial undertakings.

A large company is defined as a company with total assets of over €100 million and revenues of over €100 million.

The SMEs category comprises medium-sized companies with assets and revenues of between  $\in 10$  million and  $\in 100$  million, small companies with assets and revenues of between  $\in 10$  million and  $\in 10$  million, and micro companies with assets and revenues of less than  $\in 10$  million. In addition, a distinction is made between self-employed individuals and retail traders, and other companies, the segment in which legal entities such as associations, sports clubs, etc. are included.

# **Commercial Banking in Spain**

In Spain the business is mainly carried out through Banco Popular and, in Galicia, also through Banco Pastor.

Its main activity is commercial banking and a distinction may be made between individual and corporate customers. Additionally the Group has three specialised banks, Popular Banca Privada (private banking), bancopopular-e (cards, a 49 per cent. stake) and Targobank, S,A., a bank in which equal 50 per cent. stakes are held by the Bank and Crédit Mutuel, and which carried out its activity throughout Spain.

# Commercial Banking abroad

The commercial banking business in Portugal is conducted mainly through the Banco Popular Portugal subsidiary and is also focused on retail banking, primarily for SMEs. The total assets at the Portuguese bank totalled €8,529 million at 31 December 2014, of which €5,840 million relates to customer loans (gross). For 2013 the latter item increased by 4.7 per cent. Customer deposits at 31 December 2014 stood at €4,049 million, 3.8 per cent. lower than at 31 December 2013.

Banco Popular Portugal experienced a slight reduction in net interest income, falling by 1.2 per cent. for the year ended 31 December 2014 compared to the year ended 31 December 2013, due primarily to lower prices for contracting loans and receivables, although lower cost of customer funds through the pricing management is noteworthy.

Gross margin for the year ended 31 December 2014 fell by 2.9 per cent. with regard to the year ended 31 December 2013, reaching €185 million.

The net operating income at 31 December 2014 was 3.0 per cent. below the figure for the year ended 31 December 2013: although staff costs have increased slightly, with an increase of 3.3 per cent. compared to 2013, general expenses were reduced by 7.2 per cent. For provisions for loan impairment, there has been a decrease of  $\epsilon$ 44 million compared to the year ended 31 December 2013. This led to a pre-tax profit of  $\epsilon$ 5.4 million at 31 December 2014, compared to a loss of  $\epsilon$ 51.5 million the year ended 31 December 2013.

The commercial banking business in the United States is carried out through Totalbank, an entity that was acquired at the end of 2007, and which operates in the State of Florida. At the end of the year 2014 this bank had 21 branch offices and 418 employees. Its total assets amounted to  $\{0.056 \text{ million at } 31 \}$  December 2014 (which is a 17.8 per cent. increase compared with 2013) of which  $\{0.056 \text{ million relates} \}$  to gross credit to customers (33.5 per cent. higher than the year before). When referring to customer deposits, these have increased by 18.1 per cent. compared to December 2013.

## Asset management and insurance

The Asset Management and Insurance business unit covers the distribution of investment funds, pension plans and insurance in Spain through Allianz Popular Holding, S.L., in which Banco Popular holds a 40 per cent. stake. This holding company is formed by three companies specific to each activity: Allianz Popular Vida, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros S.A; Allianz Popular Pensiones, E.G.F.P., S.A.; and Allianz Popular Asset Management, S.G.I.I.C., S.A. It also includes the distribution of non-life insurance by Allianz through Popular de Mediación, S.L., wholly owned by the Group.

## (i) Collective investment institution management

At the end of the year 2014, the assets managed or marketed by the Group in collective investment institutions in Spain amounted to  $\[ \in \]$ 9,499 million, which represents an increase of 13.9 per cent., compared to  $\[ \in \]$ 8,342 million at the end of 2013. The number of registered participants was 328,149 for the year ended 31 December 2014, an increase of 18,590 from 309,559 registered participants in the year ended 31 December 2014. For the Group the past year was marked by the increase in fixed-income and mixed funds to the detriment of guaranteed funds due to the fact that investors seek higher yields given the low interest rate situation for traditional deposits.

## (ii) Individual and collective pension plans management

This activity is mainly carried out through Allianz Popular Pensiones, E.G.F.P., S.A. The activity in Portugal is performed by Eurovida, a wholly owned subsidiary of Banco Popular.

The assets managed by Allianz Popular Pensiones at the end of 2014 reached €5,365 million, representing an increase of 3.55 per cent. compared to €5,181 million at the end of December 2013.

The assets managed in individual schemes at 31 December 2014 totalled  $\in$ 4,098 million, with  $\in$ 1,212 million in occupational plans and  $\in$ 54 million in associated schemes.

## (iii) Private banking

The Group also offers its services to high net worth customers through its specialised bank Popular Banca Privada. Following the integration of Pastor Banca Privada in 2013, this unit now has more than 5,300 customers with a business volume of almost €6 billion.

The Bank has 29 of its own branch offices located in the main Spanish cities, through which it provides its services to both customers from the Group's network as well as direct customers.

Popular Banca Privada is geared towards providing advice and management services to clients with a high economic level, with assets under management or advisory of at least €300,000. The broad range of investment products and services offered are managed by a team of experts in markets, tax, legal, real estate, corporate finance issues and other non-conventional investments. This provides coverage to customer asset needs and allows them to optimize their returns and the tax impact of their decisions.

At the end of 2014 the Group held a 100 per cent. stake in its capital and voting rights. Following the exercise in January 2014 of the purchase option which it had on 40 per cent. of the share capital in Popular Banca Privada, which had been in the hands of the French-Belgian Dexia Group since 2001, Popular Banca Privada became the only independent bank belonging to a major Spanish financial group specializing in the professional management of this customer segment.

Thanks to the improving environment, the results have shown a steady increase, especially due to the continued decline in interest rates which has led to a significant revaluation of the fixed income portfolio and made a greater demand for higher added value wealth management services possible. Consequently, the Group has managed to capture customer funds deposits of  $\ensuremath{\in} 280$  million.

In 2014 Revenue increased significantly (54.3 per cent. as at 31 December 2014), supported by gains on Financial Transactions from the sale of part of the Fixed Income portfolio which amounted to €21.6 million.

At 31 December 2014, Popular Banca Privada had 5,389 specific customers, 384 more than in 2013, and managed assets (understood to be total resources and customer investments plus assets under management and advisory services) totaling  $\[ \in \]$ 5,978 million, which is 8.4 per cent. higher than at the end of 2013.

Operating profit reached €32.3 million as at 31 December 2014, an increase of 118.7 per cent. compared to 2013, the strongest growth achieved by Popular Banca Privada during its time in operation. Pre-tax profit totalled €26.3 million (year-on-year growth of €15.5 million), which was driven by balance sheet management and the realization of substantial capital gains.

#### Insurance

The Bank assurance business unit focuses on provident and protection products including life insurance policies, both those used as a means of savings and those linked to loan transactions, and non-life insurance, mainly home, health and motor insurance, and those linked to retirement. The products offered are adapted to each of the Bank's various businesses and customer segments, whether individuals, companies or institutions.

Allianz Popular Vida and Eurovida Portugal are the Group's two primary life insurance companies. The former, as previously indicated, is owned by Allianz Popular Holding, while Eurovida Portugal is wholly owned by the Group. The latter company distributes non-life Allianz insurance through its branch offices and Popular de Mediación, which is wholly owned by Banco Popular.

The non-life insurance business in Portugal is managed by Popular Seguros. Popular de Mediación also operates as an associated bank assurance partner. Both are 100 per cent. owned by the Group.

# Institutional and market activity

This heading includes the rest of the activities carried out, among which the following are notable: asset and liability transactions with credit institutions, the trading and available-for-sale financial asset portfolios, asset and liability hedge derivatives, held-to-maturity investment and shareholding portfolio, pension-related asset and liability balances, and raising of funds through issues on wholesale markets. The Bank's activity in this area has focused on the tactical management of its fixed-income portfolio, highlighting the results of financial transactions that increased by 72.1 per cent. compared to December 2013 and which compensate for the decrease in net interest income.

Profit before tax in the year ended 31 December 2014 was €615.1 million, which is an increase of 14.1 per cent. compared to the year ended 31 December 2013.

#### **Financial Overview**

## Consolidated Profit

The Group's consolidated profit for the year ended 31 December 2014 was €330 million (compared to €254 million for the year ended 31 December 2013), whereas for the first six months ended 30 June 2015 it was €188 million.

# Assets and liabilities and solvency

At 31 December 2014, the Group had total assets of €161,456 million, compared with €146,709 million at 31 December 2013. At 30 June 2015 the Group had total assets of €162,647 million, customer funds of €89,994 million and own funds of €12,500 million. The year ended 31 December 2014 was characterised by significant transformations in the regulatory environment of financial institutions' scope of activity. Firstly, the coming into force on 1 January 2014 of the transposition of Basel III into European legislation through Directive 2013/36/EU of 26 June on access to the activity of credit institutions and the prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms, and Regulation (EU) 575/2013 of 26 June on prudential requirements for credit institutions and investment firms.

In Spain, the Group saw the publication of the Bank of Spain Circular 2/2014 of 31 January on the exercise of various regulatory options contained in Regulation (EU) 575/2013; the Bank of Spain Circular 3/2014 of 30 July to credit institutions and approved appraisal companies and services exercising regulatory options in relation to the deduction of intangible assets, by means of an amendment to Circular 2/2014; and Law 10/2014 of 26 June on the organisation, supervision and solvency of credit institutions with the purpose of incorporating the regulatory changes imposed internationally and by the European Union into Spanish law, continuing the transposition initiated by Royal Decree-Law 14/2013 of 29 November.

Secondly, the comprehensive assessment exercise carried out by the European Central Bank, the results of which were announced on 26 October 2014, assessed the quality of public financial reporting and the impact of an adverse, highly unlikely scenario on the participating institutions' capacity to absorb losses. The results showed that no Spanish institution would find itself in a capital deficit situation using the thresholds defined in the exercise as a reference. The AQR (asset quality review) exercise shows that the capital adjustments required for institutions in Spain as at December 2013 are the smallest in the entire Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM).

As for the Group, the results show that, in the adverse scenario, the top quality capital ratio (CET 1, or Common Equity Tier 1) would stand at 7.56 per cent. in 2016, well above the 5.5 per cent. required. Similarly, in the base scenario, the top quality capital ratio (CET 1) would stand at 10.93 per cent. in 2016, again well above the 8 per cent. required.

Lastly, in recent months the work necessary for the creation of a Single Supervisory Mechanism has been completed, the aim being to increase the quality of supervision of the banking sector and encourage greater financial integration, so that markets do not assign different valuations to similar financial assets depending on the nationality of the issuer. The new mechanism became fully operational on 4 November 2014, having been made possible following the approval of the SSM Regulation in October 2013 and the carrying out of the comprehensive assessment referred to in the previous point.

The Group continues to give priority to one of the pillars of its management; strengthening its solvency. Capital strength is an unavoidable objective to ensure the development of the activity. The Group's objective is to remain comfortably above the ratios required by current regulations at all times, taking into account the position within the cycle and the implicit characteristics of each ratio, supported by a measurement, planning and control system that will allow it to know its needs under normal conditions and under pressure in order to take early action.

In the area of solvency therefore, the minimum thresholds required by the introduction of a new minimum capital requirement based on the Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) have changed and are situated at 4.5 per cent., and will reach 7 per cent. when fully applying the capital conservation buffer. The planned implementation schedule for the capital conservation buffer will be 0.625 per cent. in 2016, 1.25 per cent. in 2017, 1.875 per cent. in 2018 before reaching the definitive 2.5 per cent. from 1 January 2019.

The total Tier 1 capital (ordinary plus additional, CET1 + AT1) required is set at 6 per cent. and the total capital (Tier 1 plus Tier 2) fixed at 8 per cent., keeping the original requirement set in Basel II. Regarding the leverage ratio, it has been incorporated into Basel III and transposed to the CRR as a simple, transparent measurement, not linked to risk, which complements the risk-based minimum capital ratio and acts as its floor. This ratio is defined as the ratio of Tier 1 capital to an exposure value. This value is calculated as the sum of exposures of on- and off-balance sheet items, including derivatives. The leverage ratio is intended to be an objective measure that reconciles leverage ratios disclosed with the financial statements published by the banks from one period to another.

Although the definition and calibration of the leverage ratio will come into force in 2018, the Group carries out an estimation and monitoring of this measurement to ensure that leverage is kept well above the tentative minimum levels currently serving as a reference (3 per cent.). The full application of this regulatory framework will be gradual until 2019, and the regulations themselves establish compliance with a number of transitional provisions.

The table below shows the capital ratios of the Group at 31 December 2014:

	At 31 December 2014
	(thousands of euro except percentages)
Ordinary Tier 1 capital	9,217,570
CET 1 ratio (%)	11.51
Tier I capital	9,217,570
Tier I ratio (%)	11.51
Own funds	9,582,873
Total capital ratio (%)	11.96

	December 2014
	(thousands of euro except percentages)
Fully loaded Basel III leverage ratio (%) <sup>1</sup>	5.56
Total BIS risk-weighted assets*	80,112,663

At 31

Measures taken during 2014 to strengthen the capital ratios notably include the conversion into shares of 122 million of the Mandatory Convertible Notes ("MCN") namely MCN II, MCN III and MCN IV.

The Group continues to improve its risk management and control policies in order to reduce the risk of its assets and thus improve its long-term solvency. In this respect, the fact that the Bank has internal models that have been ratified by the Bank of Spain to measure the credit risk of a large part of its portfolios is notable.

The portfolios that have been validated by the Bank of Spain for the use of these models are: (i) Financial institutions, (ii) Large companies, (iii) Medium companies, (iv) Small companies, (v) Retail mortgages and (vi) Project Finance (Slotting Method), the use of which was authorised in June 2014.

It should also be pointed out that there are other internal models for other portfolios which have not been validated by the Bank of Spain and, therefore, the capital calculation is performed using the standard method.

Within the framework of the management of all of the processes relating to the calculations of expected losses and regulatory capital required, the Bank maintains a database of all its exposures (risks) that are currently active. This database includes all the necessary data and the calculations deriving from them, and is the result of the joint and coordinated effort of multi-discipline areas, both technological and risk-or business-specific, that transversely cover the entire Bank. All these processes are updated on a monthly basis to include new data, legislative changes, improvements in the estimates of the parameters or in the risk mitigation processes due to guaranties, etc.

During 2014 the Group updated all calculation parameters used in each of the portfolios for the requirements of which advanced methods are used, taking factors which occurred during the year into account which include, among others, those observed in the AQR framework.

Accordingly, the Group ended the year ended 31 December 2014 in a privileged position and in the best conditions to take advantage of the opportunities for growth that arise in the future.

## Liquidity

The priority financing strategy for the Group has been to obtain retail liabilities through products that meet the needs of its customers while, at the same time, providing stability to its balance sheet. This strategy is based on the capacity to access private individual and company customers through the Group's broad commercial network.

At 31 December 2014 the commercial gap was €11,092 million, attaining a loan to deposit ratio of 113.4 per cent.

From the point of view of financing the commercial gap, in 2014 the Group's retail funding has dropped  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{e}}}\]$ 2,333 million to  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{e}}}\]$ 38.6 per cent. of all funding of the Group, excluding equity, with the following composition: (i) 51.3 per cent. of on-demand deposits, term deposits and commercial paper, (ii) 6.2 per cent. ICO and EIB mediation credit, (iii) 0.6 per cent. other securities distributed through the commercial network, and (iv) 0.5 per cent. collection accounts and valuation adjustments. However, retail financing is showing great stability in this part of the business cycle in which demand deposits and term deposits have increased since 31 December 2012 by  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{e}}}\]$ 4,060 million, demonstrating the loyalty of the Group's customers.

<sup>1.</sup> Fully loaded Basel III Leverage ratio in accordance with CRR pro forma

<sup>\*</sup> Strictly includes the Pillar I requirements

On the other hand, wholesale financing, representing 12.8 per cent. of the Group's financing, increased by  $\in$ 91 million. Retail financing is diversified among a broad variety of instruments, notably mortgage covered bonds, which represent 57 per cent. of this heading and whose collateral may be reused. In 2014 Banco Popular has taken advantage of the issue opportunities that existed in the wholesale markets by placing  $\in$ 2,185 million during the year,  $\in$ 600 million in senior debt and  $\in$ 1,585 million in mortgage-covered bonds. Wholesale markets remain open showing a growing demand and an increase in the number and types of investors with an appetite for Spanish paper.

These circumstances have allowed Banco Popular to carry out the first issue of senior debt of a Spanish private bank in 2015, amounting to €500 million, with a term of five years.

Financing from clearing houses and other market repos make up 21.5 per cent. of total financing at €30.51 billion during the year. Since 2010, the Bank has been a member of the three main European counterparty clearing houses, LCH London, Paris and Eurex Repo, together with other international banks. This operation is part of the Group's strategy to diversify funding sources and reduce costs, increasing liquidity sources guaranteed by liquid assets other than the ECB. The counterparty clearing houses act as guarantors for the transactions carried out between financial entities, allowing risks to be minimized. The maturity of these translations means that available collateral can be reused.

Finally, financing from the European Central Bank stood at €9,992 million, which represents 7.1 per cent. of the Group's total financing. This amount is related to the measures approved by the European Central Bank in order to support financing of the real economy through the private sector.

In this sense, Banco Popular has been part of, in September and December, the first two "targeted longerterm refinancing operations" (TLTRO) convened by the European Central Bank for a total of €5,696 million. These auctions have allowed financing to be secured for four years at a competitive cost the ECB reference rate plus 0.10 per cent.

During 2015 the Bank will have the opportunity to attend quarterly dynamic auctions of the European Central Bank to the extent that the growth of the credit portfolio, calculated for TLTRO purposes, allows it

### **Credit Quality**

At 31 December 2014 the Group's total exposure to credit risk amounts to epsilon 153,580 million, which is 3.3 per cent. less than the year ended 31 December 2013. If the epsilon 6.43 billion exposure relating to lines of credit available to third parties (27.1 per cent. less than in 2013) is added, the maximum exposure figure rises to epsilon 16.00 billion (1.6 per cent. higher than compared with the epsilon 157.53 billion in 2013).

In 2014, the global risk exposure was increased by 1.6 per cent., mainly due to an increase in counterparty risk of the activity of markets by 30.9 per cent. as at 31 December 2014; that is offset by a reduction of lines available to third parties of 27.1 per cent. (because of the recent sale of the cards business in the third quarter of 2014); together with a reduction of 14.9 per cent. in Contingent Risks due to a lower balance in guarantees.

In 2014, the risk of market activity has increased from €24,944 million in December 2013 to €32,646 million at the end of 2014. This increase was mainly due to the reduction of the balance of the investment portfolio in December 2013 by the tactical management of the same.

To cover credit risk, the Bank has a specific provision for non-performing loans in accordance with a regulatory established calendar and, in the case of the doubtful, disputed or substandard balances, based on a reasonable estimate of their recoverability.

The downward trend in new NPLs has brought down the NPL ratio for the fourth consecutive quarter, reaching 13.78 per cent., consolidating the reduction that has been occurring in recent months. The net change in non-performing and doubtful assets remains negative for the fourth consecutive quarter at year-end, reflecting an improved underlying trend for arrears in 2014.

#### **Investments**

At 31 December 2014, Banco Popular has a total of 14 representative and 3 collaboration offices in 14 countries and has concluded agreements with several financial institutions in order to promote foreign trade

The Group also has other subsidiaries and maintains interests in other companies that supplement the banking business. One of its most important deals was the acquisition of a 25 per cent. holding in the Bx+ Mexican financial group, which will help it to introduce and develop the business model in Mexico. It also reached an agreement to sell its investment fund depositary and custody, pension plans, SICAVs and EPSVs (Voluntary Social Welfare Entity) business in Spain to BNP Paribas.

In 2014, in order to boost its competitive position in the Spanish cards market, Banco Popular acquired Citibank's cards business, opening the door to new segments and distribution channels. This integration not only created new opportunities for expansion and consolidation in this market, but also significant operating synergies. As a result, bancopopular-e, the company which owns the Group's entire card issue business, became the fourth-ranking company in the sector with a market share of 7.5 per cent.

Furthermore, with the aim of continuing to grow and improve in the sector, Banco Popular forged an alliance with an international partner, Värde Partners, to exploit the card business together. This American company is specialised in investments in financial markets and assets, and also in providing services to restricted groups of international investors.

Through this, the two companies have combined their areas of expertise: on one hand, Citibank's experience in revolving and direct sales channels, as well as its diversified customer portfolio, and, on the other, Banco Popular's large branch network. In addition, the innovation and common brand products point towards prospects of higher income for the joint venture.

In short, this transaction materialises the value of the card business and is expected to provide future synergies.

## **Recent Developments**

The most significant acquisitions and disposals of investments in Group entities and other relevant corporate transactions from 31 December 2011 to the date of this Base Prospectus are as follows:

# Business Plan 2012/2014 and Recapitalisation Plan

On 6 June 2012, Banco Popular filed a regulatory announcement (*Hecho Relevante*) disclosing its plan to comply with the requirements of Royal Decree-Law 2/2012 and Law 8/2012 (formerly Royal Decree-Law 18/2012). On 27 July 2012, Banco Popular presented its first half results for 2012 and disclosed information about the development of its Business Plan approved by the Bank of Spain. On 28 September 2012, the Bank of Spain published the results of the stress tests exercise carried out by Oliver Wyman in furtherance of the external financial assistance requested by the Spanish government in the context of the ongoing restructuring and recapitalisation of the Spanish banking sector. For Banco Popular, the results were as follows:

- in the base scenario, Banco Popular had a capital excess of €677 million; and
- in the adverse scenario Banco Popular had a capital shortfall of €3,223 million.

In response to the conclusion that Banco Popular had a capital shortfall under the "adverse" scenario, the Board of Directors submitted a recapitalisation plan to the Bank of Spain (the principal elements of which were approved by the Board of Directors on 30 September 2012 and submitted to the CNMV on 1 October 2012) (the "**Recapitalisation Plan**"). The Bank of Spain approved the Recapitalisation Plan on 31 October 2012. The Bank of Spain concluded, together with the European Commission, that Banco Popular would be classified as a group 3 bank (entities with needs of capital equal to 2 per cent. or more of risk-weighted assets).

By 31 December 2012, the Bank had successfully completed all the points included in its Recapitalisation Plan.

#### Negotiations for acquisition of retail banking and payment cards business in Spain

On 23 June 2014 as a result of on-going negotiations, Banco Popular entered into certain arrangements with Citibank España, S.A. for the acquisition of its retail banking and payment cards businesses in Spain.

On 22 September 2014, Banco Popular announced the signature of the definitive agreements to acquire the cards and retail businesses of Citibank España, S.A. by Bancopopular-e, S.A. The total amount of the transaction has been €238.5 million.

## Sale of depositary services

On 30 April 2014, Banco Popular announced the agreement of the sale to BNP Paribas Securities Services of the depositary services and the investment funds custody business, pension schemes, SICAVs and EPSVs (Voluntary Mutual Benefit Organisations) in Spain.

#### Sale of Bancopopular-e

On 19 December 2014 Banco Popular announced (once the relevant regulatory approvals were obtained), the signature of the definitive agreements with Värde Partners for the sale to this entity of 51 per cent. of Bancopopular-e S.A., which owns the entire card issuing business of the Group.

## Administrative, Management and Supervisory Bodies

#### **Board of Directors**

The table below sets forth, at the date of this Base Prospectus, the names of the members of the Board of Directors of Banco Popular, the respective dates of their appointment their positions within Banco Popular and their membership type:

Last appointed	First appointed	Name	Title	Type
11/06/2012	18/12/2003	Francisco Aparicio Valls	Secretary-Director	Executive
10/06/2013	30/01/2013	Francisco Gómez Martín	CEO	Executive
11/06/2012	21/06/2001	Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba	Vice Chairman-	Independent
			Director	
07/04/2014	30/05/2008	Roberto Higuera Montejo	Vice Chairman	Independent
20/12/2011	20/12/2011	Alain Fradin <sup>(1)</sup>	Director	Large shareholder
20/12/2011	28/04/2011	Ana María Molins López-Rodó <sup>(2)</sup>	Director	Independent
11/06/2012	30/05/2007	Helena Revoredo Delveccio	Director	Independent
07/04/2014	14/03/2002	Ángel Carlos Ron Güimil	Chairman	Executive
11/06/2012	28/06/1988	Sindicatura de Accionistas de BPE <sup>(3)</sup>	Director	Large shareholder(*)
07/04/2014	19/12/2007	Vicente Tardío Barutel	Director	Large shareholder (*)
19/05/2009	19/05/2009	Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A. (4)	Director	Large shareholder(*)
11/06/2012	11/06/2012	José María Arias Mosquera <sup>(5)</sup>	Vice Chairman-	Large shareholder (*)
			Director	
11/06/2012	11/06/2012	Barrié de la Maza Foundation (6)	Director	Large shareholder(*)
10/06/2013	30/01/2013	Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Director	Independent
07/04/2014	07/04/2014	Antonio del Valle Ruiz	Director	Large shareholder(*)

<sup>(1)</sup> Alain Fradin was appointed Director, classified as large shareholder representative at the Extraordinary General Shareholders Meeting held on 20 December 2011, representing Banque Fedérative du Crédit Mutuel and replacing Michel Lucas.

The table below sets forth the names of the members of the Board of Directors of Banco Popular and their principal activities outside Banco Popular as at the date of this Base Prospectus. As at the date of this

<sup>(2)</sup> Ana María Molins López-Rodó was appointed Director by co-option on the Board of Directors on 28 April 2011, her appointment ratified by the Extraordinary General Shareholders Meeting held on 20 December 2011.

<sup>(3)</sup> Representative: Since 30 January 2013, Miguel Solís replacing Carlos Figuero García.

<sup>(4)</sup> On 25 June 2015, Luís Nigorra Cobián was appointed representative of Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A., replacing José Ramón Rodríguez García.

<sup>(5)</sup> Jose María Arias is a Director on a personal basis.

<sup>(6)</sup> Representative: Ana José Varela González.

<sup>(\*)</sup> Directors are classified as representing large shareholders when their direct or indirect holding exceeds 1 per cent. of the Bank's capital or they were appointed to represent shareholders holding that percentage of the capital.

Base Prospectus, there were no conflicts of interest in relation to members of the Board of Directors of Banco Popular between any duties owed to Banco Popular and their private interests and other duties.

Name	ame Company	
Aparicio Valls, Francisco	Centro Social Universitario Pan de Azúcar, S.A.	Sole Director
	Francisco Aparicio y Compañía, S.R.C. Banco Pastor, S.A.	Sole Director Vice Chairman
	Banco Bx+, S.A.	Director
	Grupo Financiero Bx+, S.A.	Director
	Popular Banca Privada, S.A.	Director
Francisco Gómez Martín	Targobank, S.A.	Director Director
	Allianz Popular, S.L. Banco Bx+, S.A.	Director
	Grupo Financiero Bx+, S.A.	Director
Herrando Prat, Luis	Instituto de Educación e Investigación, S.A. Sociedad de Promoción y Desarrollo Talde, S.A.	President Director
	Estudios y Promociones Padros, S.L.	Sole Director
	Asistencia Clínica Universitaria de Navarra, S.A.	Director
	Popular Banca Privada, S.A.	President
	Aliseda, S.A.	Director
	Fundiciones del Estado S.A.	Director
Fradin, Alain	Banque Fedérative du Crédit Mutuel	Chief Executive
	Caisse Fédéral du Crédit Mutuel Caisse Fédéral du Crédit Mutuel Antilles-	Officer Management
	Guyane	Management Member Executive
	Euro-Information	Committee
		Deputy General
	Federation CM Centre est Europe	Manager
	Confederation Nationale du Crédit Mutuel	Officer
	Caisse Centrale du Crédit Mutuel CIC Migrations	Officer Chief Executive
	CM CIC Titres	Director
	CM CIC Bail	President
	CIC CIC Iberbanco	Vicepresident President Supervisory
	Euroinformation Teleco	Board Member Executive Committee
	Targobank, S.A.	Officer
	Targo Deutschland	Vice Chairman
	Groupe Sofemo	Director
	Credit Industriel et Commercial	Officer President
	Cofidis Participations	Director
	Banque Credit Mutuel Île de France Targo Management AG	Vicepresident Vicepresident
	Targobank AG	Member Senior
	Bischenberg	Management
		President
	Cofidis	President
	Boreal Euroofrique Information	Member Senior
	Euroafrique-Information CM Akquisitions GMBH	Management Vicepresident
	BFCM	Officer
Higuera, Roberto	Popular de Mediación, S.A.	President
	Popular de Factoring, S.A., E.F.C	President
	Bancopopular-e S.A.	Director
Molins López-Rodó, Ana María	Cementos Molins, S.A.	Vice Chairman and
	Invargara Dadralyas, C. A	Director Director
	Inversora Pedralves, S.A. Otinix, S.A.	Director
	Inmobiliaria Inclar, S.L.	Director
	* *	

Name	Company	Position
	Promotora de FIncas Tex S.A. Ventucap SCR S.A. Ventucap II SCR S.A:	Director Director Director
Revoredo Delveccio, Helena	Prosegur, S.A. Euroforum Escorial S.A. Mediaset España Comunicaciones, S.A. TF Artes Gráficas S.A. Proactinmo, S.L. Gubel, S.L. Hisapaninver, S.L. Prorevosa, S.L. Agrocinegetica San Huberto, S.L. Romeracapital Sicav S.A. Endesa Energía S.A. Tirte S.A.	President President Director Director President President Director Director Director Sole Director Director Sole Director
Ron, Ángel Carlos	_	_
Sindicatura de Accionistas de BPE (rep. Solís, Miguel Ángel de)	Guelmisa, S.L.	Sole Director
Tardío Barutel, Vicente	Allianz Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros, S.A Allianz Popular, S.L. BPI Allianz Do Brasil Participaçoes LTD Allianz Colombia S.A Allianz Mejico S.A. CIA Seguros Allianz Seguros Colombia Fiduciaria Colseguros S.A. CIA. De Seguros Allianz Portugal S.A. Allianz Seguros Vida S.A. Colombia Allianz Inversiones S.A. Allianz Seguros S.A. (Brasil) Allianz S.E	President and CEO  Presidente Director President Alternate Director President Director Director President Director President Director Member Executive Committee
Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A. (rep. Luís Nigorra	Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A.	President
Cobián)	Popular Banca Privada S.A.	Director
	Marina de Santa Ponsa S.L.U	Sole Director
	Nova Santa Ponsa Golf S.A	Director
	Habitat Golf Santa Ponsa S.L	Director
	Inversiones Bosques Bendinat S.A	President
	Real Golf de Bendinat S.A.Compañía de Gestión de Servicios S.L.	President President
José María Arias Mosquera	Banco Pastor, S.A.	President
•	Fundación Barrié de la Maza Asociación Española de Banca Asociación para el Progreso de la Dirección (Zona Noroeste) Patronato Príncipe de Asturias	President Director President Director
	Asociación Española de Fundaciones Fundación Juana de Vega	Director Director Director
	Consello da Cultura Galega Escuelas Populares Gratuitas	Director Director
	Museo de Pontevedra Consejo Social Universidad de Santiago	Director President
Fundación Barrié de la Maza (rep. Ana José Varela González)	Torus Software Solutions S.L. Nasasbiotech S.L.	President President

Name	Company	Position
Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Transportes Boyaca, S.L.  Val Disme S.L  Distribuidora Almeriense de Publicaciones S.L  Distriemdios S.L.  Nuevo Distrigades S.L.  Grupo Distribución Editorial de Revistas S.L.  Logistica de Ciudad Real S.L.  Distribuciones Ricardo Rodriguez S.L.  Beralan S.L.  Transportes Boyaca S.L.  Distribuciones Papiro S.L.  Distribuciones Papiro S.L.  Distribuidora de Publicaciones de Sur S.L.  Distribuidores de Publicaciones Boreal S.L.  Grupo Cronos Distribución Integral S.L.  Trecedis S.L.  Tecnología de Venta de Publicaciones S.L.	Officer Director
Antonio del Valle Ruiz	Grupo Financiero Ve Por Más, S.A. de C.V. Teléfonos de México, S.A.B. de C.V. AXA Seguros de México, S.A.B. de C.V. Banco Ve por Mas S.A. Desarrolladora GEK S.A. de C.V Mexichem Fluor Comercial S.A. de C.V Quimir S.A. de C.V. FA Servicios S.A. de C.V. Plaza Azcapotzalco S.A. de C.V. Aerokaluz S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Fluor S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Soluciones Integrales Holding S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Resinas S.A de C.V Mexichem Servicios Resinas Bradley S.A de C.V Mexichem Compuestos S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Compuestos S.A. de C.V. Mexichem S.A.B. de C.V. Mexichem S.A.B. de C.V. Mexichem S.A.B. de C.V. Mexichem S.A.B. de C.V. Mexichem Soluciones Integrales S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Soluciones Integrales S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Resinas Weslayan S.A. de C.V. Unión Minera del Sur S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Transformados S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Resinas Berchem S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Resinas Berchem S.A. de C.V. Arte Mexicano Promoción y Excelencia A.C. ACI Caltia S.A.P.I. de C.V. Servicios Hoteleros Hidalgo 85, S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Resinas Vinícolas S.A. de C.V. Operadora de Hoteles Asturval S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Derivados S.A. de C.V. Immobiliaria Asturbal S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Derivados S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Derivados S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Derivados S.A. de C.V. Rancho Coahuila S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Derivados S.A. de C.V. Rancho Coahuila S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Compuestos S.A. de C.V. Mexichem Servicios Fluor S.A de C.V.	Director Director Director Director Presidente Director Director Presidente Director President President Director President Director

#### **Delegated Committee**

The Board of Directors has delegated all of its powers in favour of the Delegated Committee, except for those which cannot be delegated pursuant to the provisions of the Capital Companies Act (Ley de Sociedades de Capital) and Board Regulations (Reglamentos del Consejo).

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Delegated Committee was composed of the following six directors:

Name	Position
Ángel Ron Güimil	Chairman
Francisco Gómez Martín	Chief Executive Officer
Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba	Member
Roberto Higuera Montejo	Member
José María Arias Mosquera	Member
Francisco Aparicio Valls	Secretary

The resolutions adopted by the Delegated Committee do not require subsequent ratification by a meeting of the Board of Directors, although the Delegated Committee does inform the Board of Directors about the matters dealt with and the decisions adopted in its meetings.

#### **Audit and Control Committee**

The Audit and Control Committee is entrusted with the task of assisting the Board of Directors in its functions of overseeing and controlling Banco Popular by means of the evaluation of Banco Popular's auditing system, the verification of the independence of the external auditor and the review of the internal control systems. The role of this committee is fundamentally informative and consultative, although, on an exceptional basis, the Board of Directors may delegate decision-making powers to it.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Audit and Control Committee was composed of the following three directors:

Name	Position
Roberto Higuera Montejo	Chairman
José María Arias Mosquera	Member
Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Member

#### Risk Commission

The Risk Commission supervises the market and operational credit risks affecting Banco Popular's activity and evaluates continuously the overall risk assumed, its industry and geographic diversification and the hedges that are deemed advisable to preserve the solvency level considered to be necessary, proposing the most adequate policies to obtain these objectives.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Risk Commission was composed of the following three directors:

Name	Position
Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Chairman
Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba	Member
Luís Nigorra Cobián (Representative of the Unión Europea de Inversiones, S.A.)	Member

## Risk Committee

The Risk Committee is composed of four executive members of the Group who are also members of the Senior Management of the Group. This Committee is entrusted with the task of analyzing and approving transactions in amounts exceeding the maximum limits imposed by the Board of Directors.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Risk Committee was composed of the following four members:

Name	Position
José María Sagardoy	Chairman
Antonio Pujol	Member
José Ramón Alonso	Member
Francisco Sancha	Member

#### **Appointments and Remuneration Committee**

In 1998 the Board of Directors decided to create the Appointments, Corporate Governance and Conflicts of Interest Committee, which in 2003 was attributed tasks with respect to the compensation policy for the Board and the Executive Management of the Group and, in 2005, the determination of policy, control and reporting in regard to Corporate Social Responsibility.

In October 2014, the Committee was divided in two independent Committees: the Appointments Committee and the Remuneration Committee.

## Appointments Committee

The role of the Committee is fundamentally informative and consultative, although, on an exceptional basis, the Board may delegate decision-making powers to it. Its principal duty is to assist the Board in its functions of the appointment, re-election, termination and compensation of the Directors and of the Senior Management of the Group, to ensure that the Directors receive all of the necessary information for the proper discharge of their duties, to evaluate the Board and its Committees, as well as to oversee observance of the rules of governance of the Bank, reviewing compliance with its rules, recommendations and principles on a regular basis.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Appointments Committee was composed of the following three directors:

Name	Position
Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba	Chairman
Ana María Molins López-Rodó	Member
Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Member

## **Remuneration Committee**

The role of the Committee is fundamentally informative and consultative, although, on an exceptional basis, the Board may delegate decision-making powers to it. Its principal duty is to assist the Board in its functions of implementing and overseeing the compensation systems of the Directors and of the Senior Management of the Group.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the Remuneration Committee was composed of the following three directors:

Name	Position
Luis Herrando Prat de la Riba	Chairman
Ana María Molins López-Rodó	Member
Jorge Oroviogoicoechea Ortega	Member

# **International Advisory Board**

The International Advisory Board works together with the Board of Directors in the design, development and implementation of the international business strategy, supporting new ideas, contacts and business opportunities. The International Advisory Board is organically and functionally subordinated to the Board of Directors.

At the date of this Base Prospectus, the International Advisory Board was composed of the following five directors:

Name	Position
Jacobo González-Robatto	Chairman
Jean Olof Richard Carendi	Member
Reyes Calderón Cuadrado	Member
Tomás García Madrid	Member
Javier Arrigunaga	Member

# **Senior Management**

The following table specifies the senior management of Banco Popular.

Name	Position
Francisco Gómez Martín	Chief Executive Officer
Jesús Arellano Escobar	Chief Control and Audit Officer
Fernando Rodríguez Baquero	Technical Resources, Chief
	Operations Officer
Rafael de Mena Arenas	Affiliated Companies
Alberto Muñoz Fernández	Chairman's Office
Carlos Balado	Head of Communications, Banking
	and Corporate Relations
Francisco Sancha Bermejo	Chief Financial Officer
Miguel Ángel Moral	General Secretary
Javier Moreno	Financial Controller
Antonio Pujol	Head of Retail Banking
José Ramón Alonso	Commercial Banking Management
José María Sagardoy	Chief Risk Officer
Susana de Medrano	CEO`s Office
Jacobo González-Robatto.	International Advisory Board

As provided by article 26 of the by-laws, the general management of Banco Popular is the technical and executive governing body.

At present, Banco Popular's Senior Management Committee is formed by Mr. Francisco Gómez Martín, Mr. Jesús Arellano Escobar, Mr. Carlos Balado, Mr. Rafael de Mena, Mr. Fernando Rodríguez Baquero, Mr. Miguel Ángel Moral, Mr. Francisco Sancha Bermejo, Mr. Alberto Muñoz Fernández, Mr. José María Sagardoy, Mr. Antonio Pujol, Mr. José Ramón Alonso, Mr. Javier Moreno, Ms. Susana de Medrano and Mr. Jacobo González-Robatto.

The principal activities of each member of senior management outside of Banco Popular are set out in the table below:

Name	Company	Title
Jesús Arellano Escobar	Sociedad Conjunta para la Emisión and Gestión de Medios de Pago EFC, S.A. (IBERIA CARDS)	Director
Francisco Gómez Martín	Allianz Popular, S.L.	Director
	Targobank, S.A.	Director
	Banco Bx+, S.A.	Director
	Grupo Financiero Bx+, S.A.	Director
Miguel Ángel Moral	<del>-</del>	_
Rafael S. de Mena	_	_
Alberto Muñoz Fernández	_	_
Fernando Rodriguez Baquero	Redsys Servicios de Procesamiento, S.L.	Director
Carlos Balado	_	_
Francisco Sancha Bermejo	_	_
Javier Moreno	_	_
Antonio Pujol	_	_
José Ramón Alonso	Popular de Factoring, S.A., E.F.C.	Director
	Allianz Popular, S.L.	Director
	Banco Popular Portugal, S.A.	Director
	Popular Gestao de Activos	Director
	Eurovida Compañia Seguros Portugal	Director
	Popular Seguros Compañia Seguros Portugal	Director
José María Sagardoy	Targobank, S.A.	Director
Susana de Medrano	Targobank, S.A.	Director

There are no conflicts of interest, or potential conflicts of interest, between any duties toward Banco Popular of any of the persons referred to above and their respective private interests and/or any other duties.

The business address of each member of the Board of Directors and the other members of Banco Popular's management mentioned above is calle Velázquez nº 34, 28001 Madrid, Spain.

## Deferred and contingent bonuses for the Board of Directors' Compensation

No member of Banco Popular's Board of Directors has received any remuneration by membership of the Board of Directors in other companies of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Until the Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting held on 13 April 2015, the members of the Board of Directors did not receive any remuneration as a result of their belonging to the Board of Directors of Banco Popular. However, pursuant to Article 217.3 of Royal Legislative Decree 1/2010 of 2 July approving Spain's Corporate Enterprises Act in the version introduced by Law 31/2014 of 3 December for the improvement of corporate governance, Banco Popular approved at the Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting held on 13 April 2015 a maximum annual amount of  $\epsilon$ 2,500,000, which is to be paid to all its directors in their capacity as such. This amount will be the same until the General Shareholders' Meeting passes a resolution to amend such account.

That remuneration in their capacity as such, will consist of an annual fixed amount which will be distributed by the Board of Directors using the procedure determined by it, and this will either be an equal amount for all directors, or consideration of the conditions of each director, the functions and responsibilities attributed to them by the Board and their membership of the various Committees may give rise to different remunerations.

The remuneration of Directors in their capacity as such will not be considered under any circumstances as pensionable for the purposes of the provisions of the Bylaws.

The maximum amount of the annual remuneration of directors in their capacity as such will be the amount determined by the General Meeting, and this will remain in place unless the General Meeting decides to amend it, although the Board of Directors may reduce the amount in years in which it considers it is appropriate to do so. Directors carrying out executive functions at the Group, irrespective of the nature of their legal relations with the Group, will also be entitled to receive remuneration for carrying out these functions, which must be set out in a contract between the Director and the Group, and this remuneration will consist of the following: (i) fixed remuneration in cash and in kind, appropriate for the services and responsibilities undertaken, where applicable, (ii) short and long-term variable remuneration and any incentive schemes established in a general fashion for senior executives at the Group, (iii) a welfare portion, which will include suitable insurance and benefits schemes and social security and, where applicable, (iv) compensation for postcontract non-competition.

In addition, Executive Directors may receive payment in Group shares, stock options on shares or other securities granting rights to shares or through remuneration systems related to Share Price listings. The application of these systems must be agreed by the General Meeting, which will determine the maximum number of shares that may be allocated in each financial year on this remuneration scheme, the exercise price or the system for calculating the exercise price of stock options on shares, the value of shares taken as a reference and the term of the scheme.

In any case, the remuneration of directors will be in accordance with the policy of directors' remuneration, which will be approved by the General Shareholders' Meeting at least every three years as a separate item on the agenda.

In line with the adjustment of Banco Popular's remuneration policy to Directive 2010/76/EU of 24 November 2010, the Executive Directors' remuneration for 2013 comprises of a fixed and a variable component. Calculation of variable remuneration involves the necessary technical criteria and precautions to ensure that the amount corresponds with the individual professional commitment of its recipients, the particular business unit and Banco Popular as a whole, in order to reach objectives that are measurable and aligned with the shareholders' interests and with prudent risk management. The calculation method tries to restrict variable remuneration deriving simply from the general evolution of financial sector markets or other similar circumstances.

The deferred, conditioned, variable remuneration method allows for the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Appointments, Remuneration, Corporate Government and Conflict of Interest Committee, to reduce or prevent collection of deferred remuneration in the following circumstances: i) insufficient financial commitment by Banco Popular; ii) breach by the beneficiary of the internal codes and rules he/she is subject to; iii) the material reformulation of Banco Popular's financial statements

(unless it is due to modification of the applicable accounting rules); and iv) significant variations in the Group's capital and the qualitative valuation of its risks.

Shares paid as remuneration are not disposable for a year.

In 2014, the cost to the Bank of covering the pension commitments to the directors concerned, Messrs. Ángel Ron (Chairman), Francisco Gómez (Chief Executive Officer) and Francisco Aparicio (Secretary and Director) was  $\[mathematical]$  reserves connected with retirement pensions for Messrs Ángel Ron, Francisco Gómez, Francisco Aparicio, Roberto Higuera and José María Arias was  $\[mathematical]$  respectively, which totals  $\[mathematical]$  the combined with the  $\[mathematical]$  the combined above, the grand total is  $\[mathematical]$  to the directors concerned, Messrs. Ángel Ron, Francisco Aparicio, Secretary and Francisco Gómez, Francisco Aparicio, Roberto Higuera and José María Arias was  $\[mathematical]$  for  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  and  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  and  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  and  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  and  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$  and  $\[mathematical]$  so  $\[mathematical]$ 

# **Employees**

The number of employees of the Group at 31 December 2014 was 15,321 (13,501 in Spain and 1,820 abroad), compared to 15,613 (13,765 in Spain and 1,848 abroad) at 31 December 2013.

At December 2014, of those 13,501 employees in Spain, 8,430 were men and 5,071 were women. Abroad, the number of employees was 1,820, of which 1,106 were men and 714 women.

The number of employees of the Group at 30 June 2015 was 15,102. The number of employees in Spain was 13,292, of which 8,257 were men and 5,035 women. Abroad, the number of employees was 1,810, of which 1,092 were men and 718 women.

# **Major Shareholders**

Banco Popular is not aware of the existence of any individual or body corporate exercising, or who could exercise, directly or indirectly, control over it, nor is Banco Popular aware of the existence of any agreement which could lead to a change of control at a subsequent date.

# Financial Information Concerning Banco Popular's Assets and Liabilities, Financial Position and Profits and Losses

The Banco Popular 2014 Financial Statements, the Banco Popular 2013 Financial Statements and the Banco Popular June 2015 Interim Financial Statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ("**IFRS-EU**"), have been incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus.

The above mentioned financial statements were audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L., the auditors of Banco Popular (registered in the Official Registry of Auditors of Accounts (Registro Oficial de Auditores de Cuentas) under number SO.242). The auditor is a member of the following professional bodies in Spain (i) Instituto de Censores Jurados de Cuentas de España and (ii) Registro Oficial de Auditores de Cuentas. The auditors have not resigned, been removed or re-appointed during the period covered by the historical financial information contained herein.

No other information in this Base Prospectus has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L.

No financial data in this Base Prospectus has been extracted from a source other than the Banco Popular 2014 Financial Statements, the Banco Popular 2013 Financial Statements or the Banco Popular June 2015 Interim Financial Statements.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Subject to the terms and conditions contained in a dealer agreement dated 10 December 2015 (the "**Dealer Agreement**" as amended, supplemented or restated from time to time) between the Issuers, the Guarantor, the Arranger and the Dealers, the Notes will be offered on a continuous basis by the Issuers to the Dealers. However, each Issuer has reserved the right to sell Notes directly on its own behalf to other dealers. The Notes may be resold at prevailing market prices, or at prices related thereto, at the time of such resale, as determined by the Dealers. The Notes may also be sold by the relevant Issuer through the Dealers, acting as agents of the relevant Issuer. The Dealer Agreement also provides for Notes to be issued in syndicated Tranches which are jointly and severally underwritten by two or more Dealers.

Each of the Issuers failing whom, the Guarantor (in the case of Notes issued by BPEF only), has agreed to indemnify the Dealers against certain liabilities in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes. The Dealer Agreement may be terminated in relation to all the Dealers or any of them by the relevant Issuer or, in relation to itself and the relevant Issuer only, by any Dealer, at any time on giving not less than ten business days' notice.

## 1. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1.1 The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act, and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in accordance with Regulation S under the Securities Act or pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has offered and sold any Notes, and will offer and sell any Notes (i) as part of their distribution at any time and (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution of all Notes of the Tranche of which such Notes are a part, as determined and certified as provided below, only in accordance with Rule 903 of Regulation S under the Securities Act. Each Dealer who has purchased Notes of a Tranche hereunder (or in the case of a sale of a Tranche of Notes issued to or through more than one Dealer, each of such Dealers as to the Notes of such Tranche purchased by or through it or, in the case of a syndicated issue, the relevant Lead Manager) shall determine and certify to the Agent the completion of the distribution of the Notes of such Tranche. On the basis of such notification or notifications, the Agent has agreed to notify such Dealer/Lead Manager of the end of the distribution compliance period with respect to such Tranche. Each Dealer also agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that, at or prior to confirmation of sale of Notes, it will have sent to each distributor, dealer or person receiving a selling concession, fee or other remuneration that purchases Notes from it during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or notice to substantially the following effect:

"The Securities covered hereby have not been registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution of the Securities as determined and certified by the relevant Dealer, in the case of a non-syndicated issue, or the Lead Manager, in the case of a syndicated issue, and except in either case in accordance with Regulation S under the Securities Act. Terms used above have the meanings given to them by Regulation S."

Terms used in this subclause 1.1 have the meanings given to them by Regulation S.

- 1.2 Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Dealer Agreement will be required to agree, that it, its affiliates or any persons acting on its or their behalf have not engaged and will not engage in any directed selling efforts with respect to any Note, and it and they have complied and will comply with the offering restrictions requirement of Regulation S.
- 1.3 In addition in respect of Notes where TEFRA D is specified in the applicable Final Terms:
  - (a) except to the extent permitted under U.S. Treas. Reg. Section 1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D) (the **D Rules**), each Dealer (i) has represented, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent, that it has not offered or sold, and has agreed

that during the restricted period it will not offer or sell, Notes in bearer form to a person who is within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, and (ii) has represented, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent, that it has not delivered and has agreed that it will not deliver within the United States or its possessions definitive Notes in bearer form that are sold during the restricted period;

- each Dealer has represented, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent that it has and has agreed that throughout the restricted period it will have in effect procedures reasonably designed to ensure that its employees or agents who are directly engaged in selling Notes in bearer form are aware that such Notes may not be offered or sold during the restricted period to a person who is within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except as permitted by the D Rules;
- (c) if it is a United States person, each Dealer has represented, and each further Dealer will be required to represent, that it is acquiring Notes in bearer form for purposes of resale in connection with their original issuance and if it retains Notes in bearer form for its own account, it will only do so in accordance with the requirements of U.S. Treas. Reg. Section 1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D)(6);
- (d) with respect to each affiliate that acquires Notes in bearer form from a Dealer for the purpose of offering or selling such Notes during the restricted period, such Dealer has repeated and confirmed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to repeat and confirm, the representations and agreements contained in subclauses 1.3(a), 1.3(b), 1.3(c) and 1.3(d) on such affiliate's behalf; and
- (e) each Dealer obtained, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to obtain, for the benefit of the Issuers the representations and agreements contained in subclauses 1.3(a), 1.3(b), 1,3(c), 1.3(d), and 1.3(e) from any person other than its affiliate with whom it enters into a written contract for the offer or sale during the restricted period of Notes in bearer form.

Terms used in this subclause 1.3 have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and regulations thereunder, including the D Rules as in effect from 18 March 2012.

In respect of Notes where TEFRA C is specified in the applicable Final Terms, such Notes must be issued and delivered outside the United States and its possessions in connection with their original issuance. Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not offered, sold or delivered, and will not offer, sell or deliver, directly or indirectly, such Notes within the United States or its possessions in connection with their original issuance. Further, each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, in connection with the original issuance of such Notes that it has not communicated, and will not communicate, directly or indirectly, with a prospective purchaser if such purchaser is within the United States or its possessions and will not otherwise involve its

U.S. office in the offer or sale of such Notes.

## 2. UNITED KINGDOM

In relation to each Tranche of Notes, the Dealers subscribing for or purchasing such Notes have represented to and agreed with, or will represent to and agree with, the relevant Issuer, the Guarantor (if applicable) and each other such Dealer (if any) that:

- (a) **No deposit-taking:** in relation to any Notes having a maturity of less than one year:
  - (i) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business; and:

- (ii) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons:
  - (A) whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses; or
  - (B) who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses, where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of Section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the "FSMA") by the Issuer;
- (b) *Financial promotion:* it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (if applicable); and
- (c) *General compliance:* it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to any Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

## 3. THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that the Notes may not be offered or sold in Spain other than by institutions authorised under the consolidated text of the Securities Market Law approved by legislative Royal Decree 4/2015 of 23 October (*Real Decreto Legislativo 4/2015*, *de 23 de octubre*, *por el que se aprueba el texto refundido de la Ley del Mercado de Valores*) (the "Securities Market Law") and related legislation, and Royal Decree 217/2008 of 15 February on the Legal Regime Applicable to Investment Services Companies (*Real Decreto 217/2008*, *de 15 de febrero*, *sobre el Régimen Jurídico de las empresas de servicios de inversión y de las demás entidades que prestan servicios de inversión*), to provide investment services in Spain, and in compliance with the provisions of the Securities Market Law and any other applicable legislation, provided that offers of the Notes shall not be directed specifically at or made to investors located in Spain.

#### 4. **REPUBLIC OF ITALY**

The offering of the Notes has not been registered with the *Commissione Nazionale per le Societá* e la Borsa ("CONSOB") pursuant to Italian securities legislation.

Each of the Dealers has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer will be required to represent and agree, that any offer, sale or delivery of the Notes or distribution of copies of this Base Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy will be effected in accordance with all Italian securities, tax and exchange control and any other applicable laws and regulations of the Republic of Italy.

Any such offer, sale or delivery of the Notes or distribution of copies of this Base Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy must be:

- (i) made by an investment firm, bank or financial intermediary permitted to conduct such activities in the Republic of Italy in accordance with the Legislative Decree No. 5 of 24 February 1998 as amended from time to time, CONSOB Regulation No. 16190 of 29 October 2007 and Legislative Decree No. 385 of 1 September 1993 (the "Banking Act"), in each case as amended, and any other applicable laws and regulations; and
- (ii) in compliance with Article 129 of the Banking Act, as amended, and the implementing guidelines of the Bank of Italy, as amended from time to time, pursuant to which the Bank of Italy may request information on the issue or the offer of securities in the Republic of Italy; and

(iii) in compliance with any other applicable laws and regulations or requirement imposed by CONSOB or the Bank of Italy.

# 5. **FRANCE**

Each of the Dealers has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer will be required to represent and agree that it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell, directly or indirectly, any Notes to the public in France and it has not distributed or caused to be distributed and will not distribute or cause to be distributed to the public in France, the Base Prospectus, the relevant Final Terms or any other offering material relating to the Notes and such offers, sales and distributions have been and will be made in France only to (a) persons providing investment services relating to portfolio management for the account of third parties, and/or (b) qualified investors (investisseurs qualifiés) acting for their own account, as defined in, and in accordance with, Articles L.411-1, L.411-2 and D.411-1 of the French Code monétaire et financier.

# 6. **GENERAL**

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and undertaken, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent, warrant and undertake, to the relevant Issuer and Guarantor (if applicable) that it has complied and will comply with all applicable securities laws and regulations in each country or jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or has in its possession or distributes the Base Prospectus, any Drawdown Prospectus or any Final Terms or any related offering material, in all cases at its own expense.

## TAXATION AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH PAYMENTS

The information provided below does not purport to be a complete summary of tax law and practice currently applicable and is subject to any changes in law and the interpretation and application thereof, which could be made with retroactive effect. The following summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to acquire, hold or dispose of the Notes, and does not purport to deal with the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of whom (such as dealers in securities) may be subject to special rules. Other than in accordance with Condition 9, neither of the Issuers nor the Guarantor assumes responsibility for withholding taxes. Prospective investors who are in any doubts as to their position should consult with their own professional advisers.

## **EU Savings Directive**

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income, each Member State is required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest or other similar income paid by a person within its jurisdiction to, or collected by such a person for, an individual resident or certain limited types of entity established in that other Member State; however, for a transitional period, Austria may instead apply a withholding system in relation to such payments, deducting tax at rates rising over time to 35 per cent. The transitional period is to terminate at the end of the first full fiscal year following agreement by certain non-EU countries to the exchange of information relating to such payments.

A number of non-EU countries, and certain dependent or associated territories of certain Member States, have agreed to adopt similar measures (either provision of information or transitional withholding) in relation to payments made by a person within its jurisdiction to, or collected by such a person for, an individual resident or certain limited types of entity established in a Member State. In addition, the Member States have entered into reciprocal provision of information or transitional withholding arrangements with certain of those dependent or associated territories in relation to payments made by a person in a Member State to, or collected by such a person for, an individual resident or certain limited types of entity established in one of those territories.

On 10 November 2015 the Council of the European Union adopted a Council Directive repealing the Directive from 1 January 2016 in relation to all Member States other than Austria (and from 1 January 2017, or after 1 October 2016 for certain payments, in relation to Austria), (subject to on-going requirements to fulfil administrative obligations such as the reporting and exchange of information relating to, and accounting for withholding taxes on, payments made before those dates).

Investors who are in any doubt as to their position should consult their professional advisers.

## The proposed Financial Transactions Tax ("FTT")

On 14 February 2013, the European Commission published a proposal (the "Commission's Proposal") for a Directive for a common FTT in Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (the "participating Member States").

The Commission's Proposal has very broad scope and could, if introduced, apply to certain dealings in Notes (including secondary market transactions) in certain circumstances. The issuance and subscription of Notes should, however, be exempt.

Under the Commission's Proposal the FTT could apply in certain circumstances to persons both within and outside of the participating Member States. Generally, it would apply to certain dealings in Notes where at least one party is a financial institution, and at least one party is established in a participating Member State. A financial institution may be, or be deemed to be, "established" in a participating Member State in a broad range of circumstances, including (a) by transacting with a person established in a participating Member State or (b) where the financial instrument which is subject to the dealings is issued in a participating Member State.

However, the FTT proposal remains subject to negotiation between the participating Member States. It may therefore be altered prior to any implementation, the timing of which remains unclear. Additional EU Member States may decide to participate.

Prospective holders of the Notes or CDs are advised to seek their own professional advice in relation to the FTT.

#### The Kingdom of Spain

#### Introduction

This information has been prepared in accordance with the following Spanish tax legislation in force at the date of this Base Prospectus:

- (a) of general application, Additional Provision One of Law 10/2014 and Royal Decree 1065/2007 establishing information obligations in relation to preferential holdings and other debt instruments and certain income obtained by individuals resident in the European Union and other tax rules as amended by Royal Decree 1145/2011 of 29 July, and Royal Decree-Law 20/2011, of December 30, on urgent measures on budget, tax and finance matters for the correction of the public deficit;
- for individuals with tax residency in Spain who are personal income tax ("**Personal Income Tax**") tax payers, Law 35/2006, of 28 November 2006 on Personal Income Tax and on the partial amendment of the Corporate Income Tax Law, Non Residents Income Tax Law and Wealth Tax Law as amended by Law 26/2014 of, 27 November and Royal Decree-law 9/2015, of 15 July (the "**Personal Income Tax Law**"), and Royal Decree 439/2007, of 30 March 2007 promulgating the Personal Income Tax Regulations as amended by Royal Decree 633/2015, of 10 July, along with Law 19/1991, of 6 June 1991 on Wealth Tax as amended by Law 4/2008 and Law 29/1987, of 18 December 1987 on Inheritance and Gift Tax;
- for legal entities resident for tax purposes in Spain which are corporate income tax ("Corporate Income Tax") taxpayers, Law 27/2014, of 27 November, of the Corporate Income Tax Law applicable on the tax periods starting as of 1 January 2015 and Royal Decree 634/2015, of 10 July promulgating the Corporate Income Tax Regulations (the "Corporate Income Tax Regulations"); and
- (d) for individuals and legal entities who are not resident for tax purposes in Spain and are non-resident income tax ("Non-Resident Income Tax") taxpayers, Royal Legislative Decree 5/2004, of 5 March 2004 promulgating the Consolidated Text of the Non-Resident Income Tax Law as amended by Law 26/2014, of 27 November, and Royal Decree 1776/2004, of 30 July promulgating the Non-Resident Income Tax Regulations as amended by Royal Decree 633/2015, of 10 July ("Non-Resident Income Tax Law"), along with Law 19/1991, of 6 June 1991 on Wealth Tax as amended by Law 4/2008, Royal Decree-Law 13/2011 as amended by Law 36/2014, of 26 December and Law 29/1987, of 18 December 1987 on Inheritance and Gift Tax.

Whatever the nature and residence of the holder of a beneficial interest in the Notes (each, a "**Beneficial Owner**"), the acquisition and transfer of the Notes will be exempt from indirect taxes in Spain, for example exempt from transfer tax and stamp duty, in accordance with the consolidated text of such tax promulgated by Royal Legislative Decree 1/1993, of 24 September 1993, and exempt from value added tax, in accordance with Law 37/1992, of 28 December 1992 regulating such tax.

# 1. Individuals with Tax Residency in Spain

## 1.1 Individual Income Tax (Impuesto sobre la Renta de las Personas Físicas)

Payments of income deriving from the transfer, redemption or repayment of the Notes would constitute a return on investment obtained from the transfer of own capital to third parties in accordance with the provisions of Section 25.2 of the Personal Income Tax Law, and should be included in each investor's taxable savings and taxed at the tax rate applicable from time to time, currently at the rate of 19.5 per cent. for taxable income up to  $\epsilon$ 6,000, 21.5 per cent. for taxable income between  $\epsilon$ 6,000.01 to  $\epsilon$ 50,000 and 23.5 per cent. for taxable income in excess of  $\epsilon$ 50,000.

As from 1 January 2016, an investor's savings income tax base will be taxed at 19 per cent for taxable income up to €6,000; 21 per cent. for taxable income between €6,000.01 to €50,000 and 23 per cent. for taxable income in excess of €50,000.

According to Section 44.5 of Royal Decree 1065/2007, of 27 July, the Issuers will make interest payments to individual holders who are resident for tax purposes in Spain without withholding **provided that** the relevant information about the Notes is submitted. In addition, income obtained upon transfer, redemption or exchange of the Notes may also be paid without withholding. However, in the case of Notes held by Spanish resident individuals and deposited with a Spanish resident entity acting as depositary or custodian, payments of interest under the Notes may be subject to withholding tax at the current rate of 19.5 per cent. (19 per cent. as from as from 1 January 2016) which will be made by the depositary or custodian.

## Wealth Tax (Impuesto sobre el Patrimonio)

Individuals with tax residency in Spain are subject to Wealth Tax to the extent that their net worth exceeds €700,000 (subject to any exceptions provided under relevant legislation in an autonomous region (*Comunidad Autónoma*). Therefore, they should take into account the value of the Notes which they hold as at 31 December in each year, the applicable rates ranging between 0.2 per cent. and 2.5 per cent.

## 1.2 Inheritance and Gift Tax (Impuesto sobre Sucesiones y Donaciones)

Individuals with tax residency in Spain who acquire ownership or other rights over any Notes by inheritance, gift or legacy will be subject to inheritance and gift tax in accordance with the applicable Spanish regional or federal rules. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the applicable tax rates currently range between 7.65 per cent. and 34 per cent. Relevant factors applied (such as previous net wealth or family relationship among transferor and transferee) determine the final effective tax rate that range, as of the date of this Base Prospectus, between 0 per cent. and 81.6 per cent.

# 2. LEGAL ENTITIES WITH TAX RESIDENCY IN SPAIN

# 2.1 Corporate Income Tax (Impuesto sobre Sociedades)

Payments of income deriving from the transfer, redemption or repayment of the Notes constitute a return on investments for tax purposes obtained from the transfer to third parties of own capital and would have to be included in profit and taxable income of legal entities with tax residency in Spain for Corporate Income Tax purposes in accordance with the rules for Corporate Income Tax and subject to the general rate of 28 per cent. as at the date of this Base Prospectus, and 25 per cent. for the tax period beginning as from 1 January 2016 and onwards.

In accordance with Section 44.5 of Royal Decree 1065/2007, of 27 July, there is no obligation to withhold on income payable to Spanish CIT taxpayers (which for the sake of clarity, include Spanish tax resident investment funds and Spanish tax resident pension funds). Consequently, the Issuers will not withhold on interest payments to Spanish CIT taxpayers **provided that** the relevant information about the Notes is submitted. However, in the case of Notes held by Spanish resident entity and deposited with a Spanish resident entity acting as depositary or custodian, payments of interest under the Notes may be subject to withholding tax at the applicable rate of 19.5 per cent. (19 per cent. as from 1 January 2016) which will be made by the depositary or custodian, if the Notes do not comply with exemption requirements specified in the Reply to the Consultation of the Directorate General for Taxation (*Dirección General de Tributos*) dated 27 July 2004 and require a withholding to be made.

## 2.2 Wealth Tax (Impuesto sobre el Patrimonio)

Spanish resident legal entities are not subject to Wealth Tax.

# 2.3 Inheritance and Gift Tax (Impuesto sobre Sucesiones y Donaciones)

Legal entities tax resident in Spain which acquire ownership or other rights over the Notes by inheritance, gift or legacy are not subject to inheritance and gift tax and must include the market value of the Notes in their taxable income for Spanish Corporate Income Tax purposes.

## 3. Individuals and Legal Entities with no Tax Residency in Spain

#### 3.1 Non-Resident Income Tax (Impuesto sobre la Renta de No Residentes)

(a) Non-Spanish resident investors acting through a permanent establishment in Spain

Ownership of the Notes by investors who are not resident for tax purposes in Spain will not in itself create the existence of a permanent establishment in Spain.

If the Notes form part of the assets of a permanent establishment in Spain of a person or legal entity who is not resident in Spain for tax purposes, the tax rules applicable to income deriving from such Notes are the same as those for Spanish Corporate Income Tax taxpayers.

(b) Non-Spanish resident investors not acting through a permanent establishment in Spain

Payments of income deriving from the transfer, redemption or repayment of the Notes obtained by individuals or entities who have no tax residency in Spain, and which are Non-Resident Income Tax taxpayers with no permanent establishment in Spain, are exempt from such Non-Resident Income Tax on the same terms laid down for income from public debt.

## 3.2 Wealth Tax (Impuesto sobre el Patrimonio)

Individuals resident in a country with which Spain has entered into a double tax treaty in relation to the Wealth Tax would generally not be subject to such tax. Otherwise, non-Spanish resident individuals whose properties and rights located in Spain, or that can be exercised within the Spanish territory exceed  $\epsilon$ 700,000 would be subject to Wealth Tax, the applicable rates ranging between 0.2 per cent. and 2.5 per cent.

Non-Spanish resident legal entities are not subject to Wealth Tax.

# 3.3 Inheritance and Gift Tax (Impuesto sobre Sucesiones y Donaciones)

Individuals not tax resident in Spain who acquire ownership or other rights over the Notes by inheritance, gift or legacy, and who reside in a country with which Spain has entered into a double tax treaty in relation to inheritance and gift tax will be subject to the relevant double tax treaty.

If the provisions of the foregoing paragraph do not apply, such individuals will be subject to inheritance and gift tax in accordance with the Spanish legislation applicable in the relevant autonomous region (*Comunidad Autónoma*).

Non-Spanish resident legal entities which acquire ownership or other rights over the Notes by inheritance, gift or legacy are not subject to inheritance and gift tax. They will be subject to Non-Resident Income Tax. If the legal entity is resident in a country with which Spain has entered into a double tax treaty, the provisions of such treaty will apply. In general, double-tax treaties provide for the taxation of this type of income in the country of residence of the beneficiary.

## 4. Tax Rules for payments made by the Guarantor

Payments which may be made by the Guarantor to holders, if the Guarantee is enforced, will be subject to the same tax rules previously set out for payments made by BPEF.

# 5. Information about the Notes in Connection with Payments

Each Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) are currently required by Spanish law to file an annual return with the Spanish tax authorities in which they report on certain information relating to the Notes. In accordance with Section 44 of Royal Decree 1065/2007, for the purpose of preparing the annual return referred to above, certain information with respect to the Notes must be submitted to the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable) at the time of each payment.

Such information would be the following:

- (a) Identification of the Notes in respect of which the relevant payment is made;
- (b) Date on which relevant redemption is made;
- (c) the total amount of the relevant redemption; and
- (d) the amount of the relevant payment and to each entity that manages a clearing and settlement system for securities situated outside Spain.

In particular, the Fiscal Agent must certify the information above about the Notes by means of a certificate the form of which is attached as Annex I of this Base Prospectus. In light of the above, the Issuers and the Fiscal Agent have arranged certain procedures to facilitate the collection of information concerning the Notes.

In light of the above, each Issuer, the Guarantor (if applicable) and the Fiscal Agent have arranged certain procedures to facilitate the collection of information concerning the Notes. If, despite these procedures, the relevant information is not received by the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (if applicable), the relevant Issuer may be required to withhold at the applicable rate of 19.5 per cent. (19 per cent. as from 1 January 2016) from any payment in respect of the relevant Notes as to which the required information has not been provided. In that event the relevant Issuer or Guarantor (if applicable) will pay such additional amounts as will result in receipt by the Noteholders of such amount as would have been received by them had no such withholding been required.

The procedures for providing documentation referred to in this section are set out in detail in the amended and restated fiscal agency agreement dated 10 December 2015 (the "Fiscal Agency Agreement") which may be inspected during normal business hours at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent. In particular, if the Fiscal Agent does not act as common depositary, the procedures described in this section will be modified in the manner described in the Fiscal Agency Agreement.

Set out below is Annex I. Sections in English have been translated from the original Spanish and such translations constitute direct and accurate translations of the Spanish language text. In the event of any discrepancy between the Spanish language version of the certificate contained in Annex I and the corresponding English translation, the Spanish tax authorities will give effect to the Spanish language version of the relevant certificate only.

#### ANNEX I

Anexo al Reglamento General de las actuaciones y los procedimientos de gestión e inspección tributaria y de desarrollo de las normas comunes de los procedimientos de aplicación de los tributos, aprobado por Real Decreto 1065/2007

Modelo de declaración a que se refieren los apartados 3, 4 y 5 del artículo 44 del Reglamento General de las actuaciones y los procedimientos de gestión e inspección tributaria y de desarrollo de las normas comunes de los procedimientos de aplicación de los tributos

Annex to Royal Decree 1065/2007, of 27 July, approving the General Regulations of the tax inspection and management procedures and developing the common rules of the procedures to apply taxes

Declaration form referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Article 44 of the General Regulations of the tax inspection and management procedures and developing the common rules of the procedures to apply taxes

Don (nombre), con número de identificación fiscal  $(...)^{(1)}$ , en nombre y representación de (entidad declarante), con número de identificación fiscal  $(...)^{(1)}$  y domicilio en (...) en calidad de (marcar la letra que proceda):

Mr. (name), with tax identification number  $(...)^{(1)}$ , in the name and on behalf of (entity), with tax identification number  $(...)^{(1)}$  and address in (...) as (function – mark as applicable):

- (a) Entidad Gestora del Mercado de Deuda Pública en Anotaciones.
- (a) Management Entity of the Public Debt Market in book entry form.
- (b) Entidad que gestiona el sistema de compensación y liquidación de valores con sede en el extranjero.
- (b) Entity that manages the clearing and settlement system of securities resident in a foreign country.
- (c) Otras entidades que mantienen valores por cuenta de terceros en entidades de compensación y liquidación de valores domiciliadas en territorio español.
- (c) Other entities that hold securities on behalf of third parties within clearing and settlement systems domiciled in the Spanish territory.
- (d) Agente de pagos designado por el emisor.
- (d) Fiscal Agent appointed by the Issuer.

Formula la siguiente declaración, de acuerdo con lo que consta en sus propios registros:

Makes the following statement, according to its own records:

- 1.2 Income payment date (or refund if the securities are issued at discount or are segregated)
- 1.3 Importe total de los rendimientos (o importe total a reembolsar, en todo caso, si son valores emitidos al descuento o segregados)......

1.3	Total amount of income (or total amount to be refunded, in any case, if the securities are issued at discount or are segregated)
1.4	Importe de los rendimientos correspondiente a contribuyentes del Impuesto sobre la Renta de las Personas Físicas, excepto cupones segregados y principales segregados en cuyo reembolso intervenga una Entidad Gestora
1.4	Amount of income corresponding to Personal Income Tax taxpayers, except segregated coupons and segregated principals for which reimbursement an intermediary entity is involved
1.5	Importe de los rendimientos que conforme al apartado 2 del artículo 44 debe abonarse por su importe íntegro (o importe total a reembolsar si son valores emitidos al descuento o segregados).
1.5	Amount of income which according to paragraph 2 of Article 44 must be paid gross (or total amount to be refunded if the securities are issued at discount or are segregated).
2.	En relación con el apartado 5 del artículo 44.
2.	In relation to paragraph 5 of Article 44.
2.1	Identificación de los valores
2.1	Identification of the securitites
2.2	Fecha de pago de los rendimientos (o de reembolso si son valores emitidos al descuento o segregados)
2.2	Income payment date (or refund if the securities are issued at discount or are segregated)
2.3	Importe total de los rendimientos (o importe total a reembolsar si son valores emitidos al descuento o segregados
2.3	Total amount of income (or total amount to be refunded if the securities are issued at discount or are segregated)
2.4	Importe correspondiente a la entidad que gestiona el sistema de compensación y liquidación de valores con sede en el extranjero A.
2.4	Amount corresponding to the entity that manages the clearing and settlement system of securities resident in a foreign country A.
2.5	Importe correspondiente a la entidad que gestiona el sistema de compensación y liquidación de valores con sede en el extranjero B.
2.5	Amount corresponding to the entity that manages the clearing and settlement system of securities resident in a foreign country $B$ .
2.6	Importe correspondiente a la entidad que gestiona el sistema de compensación y liquidación de valores con sede en el extranjero C.
2.6	Amount corresponding to the entity that manages the clearing and settlement system of securities resident in a foreign country C.
Lo que	declaro endedede
I declar	e the above in on the of of
(1) 17	aga de percence físico e invídicos no residentes sin establecimiente permenente se herá constan el número e

or identification code which corresponds according to their country of residence.

En caso de personas, físicas o jurídicas, no residentes sin establecimiento permanente se hará constar el número o código de identificación que corresponda de conformidad con su país de residencia

In case of non-residents (individuals or corporations) without permanent establishment in Spain it shall be included the number

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. This Base Prospectus has been approved by the Central Bank as competent authority under the Prospectus Directive. The Central Bank only approves this Base Prospectus as meeting the requirements imposed under Irish and European Union law pursuant to the Prospectus Directive. Application has been made to the Irish Stock Exchange for the notes to be admitted to the Official List and trading on its regulated market.

However, Notes may be issued pursuant to the Programme which will be listed on such stock exchange as the Issuers and the relevant Dealer(s) may agree.

- 2. Each of BPEF and Banco Popular have obtained all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in Ireland and the Kingdom of Spain in connection with the establishment of the Programme and the issue and performance of the Notes and the guarantees relating to them. The establishment of the Programme was authorised by the resolution of the shareholders of BPEF passed on 17 April 2007, and the establishment of the Programme and the giving of the guarantees relating to the Notes by the Guarantor was authorised by a resolution of the Delegated Committee of the Guarantor passed on 18 April 2007. The update of the Programme was authorised by the shareholders and the board of directors of BPEF on 17 November 2015, and by the Delegated Committee of Banco Popular as Issuer and Guarantor on 1 December 2015 and 17 November 2015, respectively.
- 3. Each Bearer Note, Receipt, Coupon and Talon will bear the following legend: "Any United States person who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws, including the limitations provided in Sections 165(j) and 1287(a) of the Internal Revenue Code".
- 4. There are no pending or threatened governmental, legal or arbitration actions, suits or proceedings against or affecting BPEF or the Banco Popular or any of Banco Popular's subsidiaries, which may have, or have had during the 12 months prior to the date hereof, individually or in the aggregate, a significant effect on the financial position of the Issuers or the Guarantor and, to the best knowledge of the BPEF or the Banco Popular, no such actions, suits or proceedings are threatened or contemplated.
- 5. BPEF has no significant changes in financial and trading position and no material adverse change in prospects since 31 December 2014. Banco Popular and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, have no significant changes in financial and trading position since 30 September 2015 and no material adverse change in prospects since 31 December 2014.
- 6. Notes will be accepted for clearance through the Euroclear and Clearstream systems. The Common Code and the International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.
- 7. For so long as the Programme remains in effect or any Notes remain outstanding, the following documents will be available for inspection and (in the case of the items listed under (vii), (viii) and (ix) below) obtainable, during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) in physical form, at the registered offices of the Issuers, the Guarantor, the Fiscal Agent and each of the Paying Agents:
  - (i) amended and restated the Fiscal Agency Agreement;
  - (ii) the Programme Manual (which includes the form of the Global Notes, the definitive Bearer Notes, the Certificates in respect of Registered Notes, the Coupons, the Receipts and the Talons);
  - (iii) the Dealer Agreement;
  - (iv) the Deed of Covenant;
  - (v) the Deed of Guarantee;

- (vi) the *Estatutos* (together with English translations) of each of the Issuers and the Guarantor;
- (vii) each of the documents referred to in "Documents Incorporated by Reference";
- (viii) any Final Terms relating to Notes which are listed on the Irish Stock Exchange or which are admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any other listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system;
- (ix) a copy of this Base Prospectus together with any Supplement to this Base Prospectus or further Base Prospectus; and
- (x) all reports, letters and other documents, balance sheets, valuations and statements by any expert any part of which is extracted or referred to in this Base Prospectus.
- 8. The consolidated annual accounts of Banco Popular for the years ended 31 December 2014 and 2013 and the consolidated half-yearly financial report of Banco Popular for the six month period ended 30 June 2015 prepared in accordance with IFRS, were audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L. (auditors in Spain, who are members of the *Registro Oficial de Auditores de Cuentas*). The auditors' reports were unqualified.
- 9. The non-consolidated annual accounts of BPEF for the years ended 31 December 2014 and 2013 prepared in accordance with Spanish GAAP were audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L. (auditors in Spain, who are members of the *Registro Oficial de Auditores de Cuentas*). The auditors' report was unqualified.
- 10. The unaudited interim consolidated quarterly report of Banco Popular for the nine month period ended 30 September 2015 prepared in accordance with IFRS has not been subject to an audit or a limited review.
- 11. Any websites mentioned in this Base Prospectus shall not form part of this Base Prospectus.
- 12. Clifford Chance, S.L. has acted as legal advisers to the Arranger and Dealers as to Spanish law and English law in relation to the Programme.
- 13. There are no material contracts which could result in any member of the Group being under an obligation that is material to the Issuer's ability to meet its obligations to holders of Notes.

#### THE ISSUERS

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## Banco Popular Español, S.A.

Velázquez, 34 28001 Madrid Spain

## THE GUARANTOR

#### Banco Popular Español, S.A.

Velázquez, 34 28001 Madrid Spain

## ARRANGER AND DEALER

# **Barclays Bank PLC**

5 The North Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4BB United Kingdom

## **DEALERS**

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