

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

MONTSERRAT MARTÍNEZ PARERA, VICE-CHAIR OF THE CNMV 17 December 2020

Vice-President and Minister, authorities, ladies and gentlemen.

Today is mainly a day of thanks.

It has been 16 years since I first joined the CNMV. And today I have the great honour of returning to this institution as vice-chair, which has also allowed me to meet again with excellent professionals and friends.

First of all, I would like to thank the Third Vice-President and Minister of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation, Nadia Calviño, for nominating me for the post. And the Commission of Economy and Digital Transformation of the Congress and the Government for their approval and designation.

I assume this task with a strong awareness of the responsibility that comes with it. I do so with a firm commitment to continue strengthening the prestige and credibility of the CNMV, as well as with the utmost respect for the function and public service. Based on this conviction, the principles that will guide my actions in the coming years will be the reinforcement of the independence of the CNMV and the application of maximum rigour in decision-making.

I would also like to thank all those colleagues and friends with whom I have been able to coincide in my professional development over the years. In particular, I would like to mention those who have directly influenced my professional career in the public service and, specifically, in the CNMV.

Thanks to Carlos Arenillas, for trusting me and offering me the opportunity to start my journey at the CNMV, to Fernando Restoy, for instilling in me rigour and excellence in every step, and for also opening the doors of the Bank of Spain to me. Thanks to Julio Segura, for being a constant reference point and guide, as a teacher, academic, and as a great defender of the public function and management.

And, of course, thanks to my family and closest friends, and, above all, to my partner, David, without whose unconditional support none of this would be possible.

I shall finish by saying that we have many challenges ahead of us. With the leadership of Rodrigo Buenaventura as Chairman, we begin today an era where investor protection and financial education, the development of capital markets, digital transformation, the promotion of sustainable finance and the preservation of financial stability will undoubtedly be priorities that will mark our agendas.

The evolution of the pandemic, unfortunately, still conditions the situation of our country and of each one of us. One example of this is the extraordinary circumstances in which we are holding this event today. I hope that, little by little, we will start on the road to recovery and resume the interaction we so long for.

Allow me to conclude with a quote from the well-known book, "Man's Search for Meaning", by Viktor E. Frankl, which says "Life *ultimately means taking the responsibility to find the right answer to its problems and to fulfil the tasks which it constantly sets for each individual*".

I am confident that I will always be able to find the right answer in my new role.

Thank you all very much.