



*The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. These companies employ 1,175,000 people.*

Brussels, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## **GERARDO PÉREZ ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN CAR DEALER ALLIANCE AECDR**

Gerardo Pérez, President of the Spanish dealer association FACONAUTO, has been unanimously elected President of the Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) at its General Assembly held yesterday.

Gerardo Pérez Giménez has been president of FACONAUTO since 2017 and has spent his entire business career linked to vehicle distribution and repair. He is president of the Autogex Group, which markets 6,000 vehicles per year and employs 285 people.

*"I take on the presidency of the AECDR with great enthusiasm and great responsibility. I hope, from my position as a businessman and with the experience gained in recent years at the head of the Spanish dealer association, to contribute to the growth of an organisation called to respond to the new scenarios that arise in the automotive industry and in which European dealers and repairers are called to play a fundamental role",* said Gerardo Pérez. Perez thanked Antje Woltermann (ZDK Germany) for her leadership of AECDR in the past 4 years. Antje Woltermann has managed to make AECDR not only an open forum for a fruitful exchange of ideas and diverse perspectives but she also turned the Alliance into an institution of reference in the associative world at European level. Thus, the Alliance was e.g. a well known and well accepted institution in the consultations concerning the Vertical Block Exemption Regulation. The intimate knowledge of the sector within AECDR combined with the necessary consistency led to reasonable clarifications made in the Guidelines on vertical restraints, for the benefit of car dealers all over Europe.

This appointment is part of the AECDR's new strategy, which will have a structure and governing bodies that will enable it to face the challenges it will have to face in the coming years in order to defend the interests of European dealers.

Specifically, the following members of the Board of Directors have been appointed for the Alliance's next mandate: Peter Byrdal (EVCDA Volvo), Andrea



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Cappella (FEDERAUTO Italy), Giuseppe Marotta (GACIE, IVECO), Marc Voß (ZDK Germany) and Manuel Sánchez Moreno (FACONAUTO Spain) as observer member.

The AECDR members adopted new statutes so that the Alliance can now be registered in Belgium as an AISBL. Friedrich Trosse has also been elected as the new Secretary General who is based in Brussels.

The official distribution and repair sector in the EU generates 2 million direct jobs and more than 6 million indirect jobs and is linked to the marketing of around 9 million vehicles per year. Dealers sustain EU manufacturing and employment in the sector, while at the same time driving the adoption of new technologies, by being in contact with the end customer, to whom they deliver the best experience, both in sales and after-sales. AECDR's commitment is to ensure that the current vehicle distribution system remains the most competitive and linked to the development and deployment of innovative mobility services.

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