

Juan Manuel Morales re-elected as EuroCommerce President

- Morales is the first Spaniard to hold the Presidency of the European association for wholesale and retail, as well as the only President to and has been, exceptionally, re-elected for a second term until 2027.
- The main objectives of the organisation are to improve the competitiveness of the European retail and wholesale sectors, to support the Single Market and to advance the development of the triple sustainable, digital and skills transformation.
- EuroCommerce represents a sector that brings together 5 million companies, generates 26 million jobs – one in seven in Europe – and contributes 10% of European GDP.

Members of EuroCommerce, the European association for retail and wholesale, have unanimously re-elected [Juan Manuel Morales](#) as their President. The exceptional decision was taken at the last meeting of the General Assembly, where members recognised his outstanding leadership over the past three years and favours continuity. Morales is the first Spaniard to hold the EuroCommerce Presidency and his second term will last until 2027.

"I am grateful for the trust that the members of EuroCommerce have placed in me. I would like to highlight the support I have had over the years from the Board of Directors and the EuroCommerce team, with Christel Delberghe at the helm. Together, we have tackled the management of the pandemic and the serious inflationary and energy crises, on behalf of European retailers and wholesalers," says Juan Manuel Morales. Furthermore, he noted that "the objective for the next three years is to strengthen the unity of European wholesale and retail, as well as to establish a better and more effective dialogue with the European institutions in the face of the legislative challenges that lie ahead".

The most immediate challenge facing European retailers and wholesalers is to convey to the EU legislator the problems posed by the draft Late Payments Regulation – which proposes the capping of payment terms to 30 days and removing the freedom to negotiate terms that benefit companies of all sizes and creates a financing gap of up to €150 billion.

Christel Delberghe, EuroCommerce Director General stated: "I applaud this decision by EuroCommerce members, as it supports the continuity in leadership for the association at a turbulent time. It helps us advocate stronger together for the right policy framework to support the sector transformation."

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EuroCommerce is the principal European organisation representing the retail and wholesale sector. It embraces national associations in 27 countries and 5 million companies, including leading global players and many small businesses. Over a billion times a day, retailers and wholesalers distribute goods and provide an essential service to millions of business and individual customers. The sector generates 1 in 7 jobs, offering a varied career to 26 million Europeans, many of them young people. It also supports millions of further jobs throughout the supply chain, from small local suppliers to international businesses. EuroCommerce is the recognised European social partner for the retail and wholesale sector.