
Press release

AFME appoints Juan Blasco as new Chair of the Board

12 December 2024

The Association for Financial Markets in Europe (AFME) has today announced that Juan Blasco, Global Head of Institutional Business at BBVA, has been appointed as Chair of the Board. He assumes the role from Thalia Chryssikou who was previously a member of the AFME Board and served as Chair between June 2021 and July 2024.

Adam Farkas, AFME Chief Executive, said: "We are delighted to welcome Juan as AFME's new Chair. Since joining the Board in 2020, Juan has brought invaluable insight and perspective to AFME and its members. His wealth of knowledge and experience from his over 20-year career in financial services equips him to lead the AFME Board as we work to ensure Europe's capital markets can play its role in allowing Europe to regain its competitive edge and secure long-term economic prosperity."

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Thalia for her service and dedication to AFME. Under Thalia's Chairmanship, AFME continued to advance its reach and reputation as an expert and credible voice for Europe's wholesale financial markets across a broad range of regulatory and capital markets issues. She has been a very energetic and committed Chair; she remains a friend of AFME's and we wish her well in her future endeavours."

Juan Blasco, said: "I am deeply honoured to assume the role of Chair at AFME and excited to build on its impactful work. As we navigate an evolving global landscape, Europe's ability to foster efficient and integrated capital markets is key to enhancing global competitiveness. This requires continued collaboration and coordination between the EU and the UK to ensure that companies and investors are empowered to drive sustainable economic growth. I look forward to working closely with our members to advance capital markets that effectively serve businesses, investors, and communities."

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Notes:

1. **Biography:** Juan Blasco is Global Head of Institutional Business at BBVA, where he leads a unit that integrates client coverage and product specialization. He is also a member of the BBVA Corporate and Investment Banking Executive Committee. Previously, Juan served as Global Head of Credit Markets, overseeing Debt Origination (DCM), Syndicate, and flow and structured trading activities. Prior to that, he held the roles of Global Head of Syndicate and Head of Leveraged Finance EMEA. Juan holds dual Spanish and UK citizenship, bringing a broad international perspective and deep understanding of global financial markets. He earned a Master (MSc) in Finance from the University of London and a postgraduate diploma in Management from IESE, Spain. In addition to his role at BBVA, Juan serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Association for Financial Markets in Europe (AFME), where he works to promote efficient and integrated European capital markets.
2. AFME (Association for Financial Markets in Europe) promotes fair, orderly, and efficient European wholesale capital markets and provides leadership in advancing the interests of all market participants. AFME represents a broad array of European and global participants in the wholesale financial markets. Its members comprise pan-EU and global banks as well as key regional banks, brokers, law firms, investors and other financial market participants. AFME participates in a global alliance with the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) in the US, and the Asia Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (ASIFMA) through the GFMA (Global Financial Markets Association). For more information, please visit the AFME website: www.afme.eu
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