

## Inside information

CaixaBank, S.A. announces the start of the placement of its stake of 5.42% in Erste Bank, a listed Austrian bank, through an accelerated book building addressed to institutional investors. A press release with further information is attached hereto.

4 November 2021

LAUNCH PRESS RELEASE

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**CaixaBank launches placing of Erste Group shares**

Further to its statement on October 21, 2021, CaixaBank S.A. (the “**Seller**” or “**CaixaBank**”) announces that it is selling approximately 23.3 million ordinary shares (corresponding to a stake of 5.42%; the “**Shares**”) it owns in Erste Group Bank AG (the “**Company**” or “**Erste Group**”) via an accelerated bookbuilt offering to institutional investors (the “**Sale**”). The Sale will be launched immediately following this announcement. The price at which the Shares are to be placed (the “**Placing Price**”) will be determined at the close of the bookbuild process. The results of the Sale will be announced as soon as practicable thereafter.

An institution has committed to the Seller that it will place a firm order in the Sale for 4,298,000 Shares.

BofA Securities and Erste Group are acting as Joint Bookrunners on the accelerated bookbuilt offering.

Concurrently to the Sale, CaixaBank is physically settling its equity swaps in relation to its remaining approximately 19.3 million shares in Erste Group. As a result, following completion of the Sale and the settlement of the equity swaps, CaixaBank will have fully exited its holding in Erste Group.

This press release is not and does not constitute an offer to sell and there will be no public offering of the Shares in any jurisdiction.

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In connection with the sale of the Shares, any of the Joint Bookrunners and any of their respective affiliates may take up a portion of the Shares in the Sale as a principal position and in that capacity may retain, purchase, sell, offer to sell for their own accounts such Shares and other securities of the Company or related investments in connection with the Sale or otherwise. Accordingly, references in this announcement to the Shares being sold, offered, subscribed, acquired, placed or otherwise dealt in should be read as including any issue or offer to, or subscription, acquisition, placing or dealing by, any of the Joint Bookrunners and any of their respective affiliates acting in such capacity. In addition, any of the Joint Bookrunners and any of their respective affiliates may enter into financing arrangements (including swaps or contracts for differences) with investors in connection with which the Joint Bookrunners and any of their respective affiliates may from time to time acquire, hold or dispose of Shares. The Joint Bookrunners do not intend to disclose the extent of any such investment or transactions otherwise than in accordance with any legal or regulatory obligations to do so.

A communications that a transaction is or that the book is “covered” (i.e. indicated demand from investors in the book equals or exceeds the amount of the securities being offered) is not any indication or assurance that the book will remain covered or that the transaction and securities will be fully distributed by the Joint Bookrunner(s). The Joint Bookrunner(s) reserve the right to take up a portion of the securities in the offering as a principal position at any stage at their sole discretion, inter alia, to take account of the objectives of the seller, MiFID II requirements and in accordance with allocation policies.

None of the Joint Bookrunners or any of their respective affiliates or any of its or their respective directors, officers, employees, advisers or agents accepts any responsibility or liability whatsoever for or makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the truth, accuracy or

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Each of the Bookrunners is acting on behalf of the Seller and no one else in connection with any offering of the Shares and will not be responsible to any other person for providing the protections afforded to any of its clients or for providing advice in relation to any offering of the Shares.