



CAIXABANK S.A. AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE REPORT 2023

February 2024

This auditor independence report was drawn up by the Audit and Control Committee of CaixaBank S.A. (hereinafter referred to as the “**Committee**”) on 14 February 2024, before the issue of the audit report for the financial year 2023, in accordance with Art. 529 *quaterdecies* section 4 f) of the Spanish Corporation Law (*Ley de Sociedades de Capital*) and the Rules of the Board of Directors of CaixaBank, S.A. (hereinafter referred to as “**CaixaBank**” or the “**Company**”). The content of this report will be informed of at the meeting of the Board of Directors of CaixaBank to be held on the following day.

* * *

PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L. (hereinafter referred to as “**PwC**”) is the current auditor of the Company and its consolidated Group, having been appointed by the General Shareholders' Meeting as the auditor of CaixaBank and its consolidated Group for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and reappointed annually, after assessment of its work and its independence, objectivity, professional capacity and quality, as required both legally – for public interest entities – and internally.

The Committee has established the appropriate relationship with the auditor PwC in order to receive information for study by the Committee on any matters that might pose a risk to the independence of the said auditor and any other matters relating to the auditing process, and all other communications envisaged in the auditing legislation and the technical auditing standards.

The auditor PwC has provided the Committee with its annual Declaration of Independence, dated 14 February 2024, with regard to CaixaBank and its subsidiary companies, together with information on the additional services of any kind provided and the corresponding fees received from these entities by PwC and the entities in its network, in accordance with Law 22/2015, of 20 July, on Auditing (hereinafter referred to as the “**LAC**”) and Royal Decree 2/2021, of 12 January, implementing the LAC (hereinafter referred to as the “**Royal Decree**”) and Regulation (EU) no. 537/2014, of 16 April.

In this regard, PwC has confirmed the following in the Declaration of Independence sent to the Committee:

- The audit engagement team, the audit firm and, where the case may be, other persons belonging to the audit firm, and where appropriate other firms in its network with any

applicable extensions of scope, were compliant with the applicable independence requirements in accordance with the LAC, the Royal Decree and Regulation (EU) no. 537/2014, of 16 April.

- The fees incurred on provision of audit and other services to CaixaBank S.A. and its related enterprises by the auditing company and others forming part of its network have not exceeded the limits set forth in Art. 41.2. of the LAC and the Royal Decree.
- PwC has implemented internal policies and procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance that the audit company and its staff and, where the case may be, other persons subject to independence requirements (including the staff of the firms in the network) maintain their independence when so required by the applicable legislation.
- Such procedures include those aimed at identifying and assessing any threats that may arise from circumstances related to audited entities, including those that may be grounds for incompatibility and/or those that may require application of the necessary safeguard measures to reduce the threats to an acceptably low level.

Consequently, PwC has declared with regard to the aforementioned audit that in its professional opinion no circumstances have been identified that could individually or jointly pose a significant threat to its independence and would therefore require application of safeguard measures or could be grounds for incompatibility.

The Committee has also analysed the total amount invoiced by PwC and the entities in its network in 2023 for non-auditing services, which account for 27% of the average amount for auditing services corresponding to the financial years 2021, 2022 and 2023, in accordance with the current Spanish audit legislation. Likewise, in the financial year 2023 PwC has complied with both the legal and internal requirements for independence, objectiveness, and professional capacity.

The Committee has conducted an individual and joint assessment of the provision of additional non-audit services provided by PwC, which are annexed to this report, and it considers that they do not pose a risk to its independence, in accordance with the legislation governing auditing. In 2023, the Committee has approved all the services provided to the CaixaBank Group by the external auditor and its organisation and has verified that they comply with the independence requirements set forth in the applicable legislation.

The Committee has therefore favourably verified the independence of the external auditor, at its meeting of 14 February 2024, concluding that on the basis of the information obtained through the aforementioned communication channels it has not identified any aspects casting doubt on the compliance of the auditor's work with the current Spanish audit legislation with regard to auditor independence and, in particular, it confirms that it has not identified any such

aspects connected with the provision of any kind of additional services. Therefore, in the Committee's opinion, there are no objective reasons for its independence to be questioned.

Valencia, 14 February 2024

The Audit and Control Committee of CaixaBank, S.A.

ANNEX – SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR OF THE CAIXABANK GROUP

EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S FEES

(Thousands of euros)

	2023
Group auditor (PwC)	
Auditing	6,424
Statutory or voluntary audit	6,424
Merger balance sheet audit and amendment of proposed profit distribution	0
Audit-related services	3,039
<i>Review services prescribed by statutory or supervisory regulation to an auditor</i>	<i>1,843</i>
<i>Limited review</i>	<i>969</i>
<i>Customer asset protection reports</i>	<i>147</i>
<i>Review of pro forma financial information</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Review of TLTRO III forms / other Eurosystem eligibility reports</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Review of forms with indicators for calculating SRF contribution</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Information on financial position and solvency</i>	<i>412</i>
<i>Report on procedures agreed regarding BPI's loan portfolio impairment</i>	<i>131</i>
<i>Other reports on procedures agreed by BPI</i>	<i>147</i>
<i>Other audit-related services</i>	<i>1,196</i>
<i>Comfort letters for issuances</i>	<i>654</i>
<i>Non-financial information review report</i>	<i>237</i>
<i>Internal Control over Financial Reporting System Report</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Social bond and carbon footprint assurance reports</i>	<i>118</i>
<i>Other assurance services</i>	<i>162</i>
Other services	342
TOTAL	9,805

Note: No tax advisory services were provided.