



PRESS RELEASE

**FERNANDO PÉREZ-HICKMAN JOINS AZORA AS A SENIOR PARTNER,
TO LEAD THE MANAGER'S ENTRY INTO THE AMERICAS.**

- **Pérez-Hickman joins Azora's roster of Senior Partners to drive Azora's expansion strategy and entry into the US market, through Azora Exan.**
- **Perez-Hickman's appointment at Azora follows a successful career in international banking where he held positions as vice-chairman of Iberiabank, head of Banco Sabadell in America and Managing Director of Banco Santander International.**

Madrid, October 20, 2021 - Fernando Pérez-Hickman has joined Azora as a Senior Partner to lead the firm's expansion into the United States, through the newly created AZORA EXAN.

The incorporation of Pérez-Hickman, who has nearly 25 years of experience in M&A and executive positions at leading international financial institutions, is consistent with Azora's international expansion strategy, which currently includes investments in Belgium, Portugal, Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom and Switzerland, among other countries, in addition to Spain and the United States.

AZORA EXAN has an ambitious growth plan in the office, residential, hospitality and senior living segments, and is expected to initiate new investments in the hospitality and residential segments, in the near future.

Fernando Pérez-Hickman, who holds a degree in Business Administration from the University of Alicante and an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management, was most recently the vice-chairman of Iberiabank. Prior to this, he was the head of Banco Sabadell in the Americas and oversaw the bank's expansion in this market, driving the growth of its business volume from \$1 billion to \$20 billion dollars, both organically and through seven acquisitions. He also led the sale of Sabadell United Bank to Iberiabank.



In addition to this experience, he was Managing Director of Banco Santander International for nearly 10 years, during which time he supervised all the international banks integrated in the Santander Private Banking Division located in Miami, Bahamas, Geneva and London. Under his tenure, assets under management grew from \$10 billion to more than \$30 billion. Prior to joining Banco Santander, he worked at McKinsey & Company in Madrid, Lisbon and Cleveland. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Nicklaus Children's Health System and was previously chairman of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Azora is one of the leading independent asset managers in Spain with a unique focus on real estate and energy. The firm currently has over €4.3 billion in assets under management. Azora has traditionally focused on residential, hotels, offices, and renewable energy, and is currently developing new investment themes in logistics, senior living, agribusiness and infrastructure.

The firm is characterised by the creation of value through active management, identifying complex opportunities and creating new business models based on megatrends. To do so, it has a team of more than 200 professionals with an excellent investment track record, to which Pérez-Hickman will now add his outstanding international experience in management, investment and growth.

For more information:

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About Azora

Azora Group ("Azora") is a leading independent asset manager based in Spain, which has raised over 4 billion euros in capital since its inception in 2003 and currently manages to 4.3 billion euros of assets under management.

Its platform has more than 200 professionals with extensive experience across the entire real estate cycle, including sourcing, structuring and investing, new developments and repositioning, asset management, leasing and sale of individual assets or portfolios.



Azora has traditionally focused on residential, hotels, offices and renewable energy, and is currently developing new investment verticals in logistics, seniors housing, agribusiness and infrastructure. Azora currently manages one of the largest portfolios of residential rental units, with over 14,000 homes, and has recently launched one of the largest pan-European tourist accommodation funds with an investment capacity of over 1.8 billion euros.