

PRESS RELEASE

BPER BANCA TAKES NOTE OF THE RESPONSE FROM THE INTERBANK DEPOSIT PROTECTION FUND TO ITS NON-BINDING OFFER FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CARIGE

Modena - 21 December 2021. At its meeting today, the Board of Directors of BPER Banca S.p.A. (“**BPER Banca**”) took note of the content of the letter of the Interbank Deposit Protection Fund (“**FITD**”) dated 20 December 2021, whereby the Non-Binding Offer (the “**Offer**”) submitted by BPER Banca on 14 December for the acquisition of a shareholding of 88.3%¹ of the share capital of Banca CARIGE (“**CARIGE**”), including 8.3%¹ held by Cassa Centrale Banca, was deemed unacceptable. In FITD’s view, the Offer would, *inter alia*, be “subject to multiple elements that would require clarification and deep-dive analysis”.

In this connection, while emphasising that the Offer would provide a definitive solution to the issues of CARIGE for the protection of its customers, minority shareholders and all of its stakeholders, BPER Banca reiterated to the Fund its willingness to provide the clarification requested and carry out the deep-dive analysis deemed necessary, as well as to jointly verify the assumptions underlying the Offer, with all of this occurring within the context of an appropriate exclusivity agreement.

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¹ Shareholding based on Carige's current share capital.