



MATERIAL FACT

Banco Santander, S.A. ("**Banco Santander**" or the "**Bank**") informs that it is envisaged to implement the "Santander Dividendo Elección" scheme (the "**SDE Scheme**"), on the dates on which the second interim dividend is traditionally paid (October / November). Thus, subject to the prior resolution of the executive committee of Banco Santander, shareholders shall have the possibility to choose whether to receive cash or new shares on such dates. The envisaged timeline for the implementation of the SDE Scheme is as follows:

- 16 October 2018. Execution of the capital increase. Communication of the number of rights needed to receive one share and of the final price of the right-purchase commitment¹. Such price will be determined considering the stock price of the Santander share on 9,10,11,12 and 15 October.
- 17 October 2018 (23:59 hours CET). Reference date to participate in the SDE Scheme (last trading date). Those shareholders who have acquired their shares in the Bank until this date (inclusive), and who appear as shareholders in the registries of Iberclear at 23:59 hours CET on 19 October 2018, will be entitled to participate in the SDE Scheme.
- 18 October 2018. Commencement of the rights trading period. Santander shares start trading ex-coupon (ex-date).
- 29 October 2018. Last date to request remuneration in cash (sale of rights to Grupo Santander).
- 1 November 2018. End of the trading period of the rights. Acquisition of rights by Grupo Santander from those shareholders who have requested cash.
- 5 November 2018. Payment of cash to shareholders who have so requested.
- 14 November 2018. Commencement of the ordinary trading of the new shares in the Spanish Stock Exchanges, subject to the granting of the relevant authorizations². Shareholders who have opted for new shares have them delivered.

¹ The option to receive cash throughout the sale of rights to Grupo Santander will only be available with regard to the rights allotted to those who have acquired their shares in Banco Santander until the relevant reference date (last trading date) (inclusive), and who appear as shareholders in the registries of the Sociedad de Gestión de los Sistemas de Registro, Compensación y Liquidación de Valores, S.A.U. (Iberclear) at 23:59 hours CET on 19 October 2018. This option will not be available with regard to rights acquired on market.

² Estimated date. Admission to listing of the new shares in the foreign stock exchanges where the Bank is listed from time to time shall also be requested.

Please note that the deadlines for Polish investors may differ from the ones specified in the presented timeline. The Bank will communicate to the public by way of a current report the specific dates applicable to Polish investors once they are agreed between Euroclear Bank and the Polish National Depository of Securities (*Krajowy Depozyt Papierów Wartościowych*).

Subject to the aforementioned resolution of the executive committee, it is deemed that the gross price at which Grupo Santander shall irrevocably commit to purchase rights, which will be calculated pursuant to the formula approved by the ordinary general shareholders' meeting, will be approximately 0.035 Euros per right.

Boadilla del Monte (Madrid), July 16, 2018