

CENTRE DELÀS SPEECH AT THE SANTANDER STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING, 2009

Good morning Stockholders and Members of the Board of Directors. First of all, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my opinion in this meeting as a member of “Justicia y Paz”, as stockholder and citizen.

My name is Miquel González and my intervention is going to be focused on your investment policies. I will begin by listing the investments you have in military companies and next I will explain how this affects Santander bank.

Santander bank owns the 23% of MaxamCorp Holding through your hedge fund Vista Capital. This holding owns Explosivos Alaveses (Expal), among other companies. Expal only manufactures bombs and explosives and had been producing cluster bombs until a few time ago. This type of bombs is forbidden now in Spain.

In addition, Santander bank owns the 14% of CESCE, an agency that insures exports, which includes arms exports.

As stated in the “Guía de Comercio”, in april 2008 Santander bank (with some other banks) gave a €554 million loan to finance two CASA-EADS contracts with the Brazilian Air Forces. These contracts involve the sale of twelve C-295 airplanes and the upgrade of eight P-3 airplanes. This export finance operation has been one of the largest of the last few years.

To sum up, Santander bank is indirectly and directly involved in the arms production and exports. Is this coherent with your social responsible and sustainable policies?

Arms, which are created to destroy and kill, do not have either a positive social impact or help create sustainability. In fact, only the opposite is true.

Your investments in MaxamCorp Holding, owner of Explosivos Alaveses, and in CESCE are unethical and even non profitable as their contribution is very low. However, these investments represent a great risk for your bank as they can damage your corporate image.

Other banks such as Fortis, ING or BBVA have understood this risk and have set restrictive investment policies in some military companies. Why do not you follow their steps? Or, even better, why do not you lead this change and become the first bank free from arms investments?

Building a world with fewer arms, that is to say, with fewer wars, is in your hands.

Thank you for your attention.

En resumen, el Banco Santander contribuye directa e indirectamente en la producción y exportación de armamento. ¿Es esto coherente con sus políticas de compromiso social y sostenibilidad? Las armas, creadas principalmente para destruir y matar, ni tienen un efecto social positivo, ni mucho menos ayudan a crear sostenibilidad, más bien todo lo contrario.

Sus participaciones en MaxamCorp Holding, propietaria de Explosivos Alaveses, y en CESCE, son reprochables desde un punto de vista moral e incluso, injustificadas desde un punto de vista económico; su contribución es insignificante. En cambio, sí representan un gran riesgo para su banco. De este riesgo se han dado cuenta otras entidades. El banco Fortis, ING y BBVA tienen políticas restrictivas de inversión en determinadas compañías que fabrican armas. ¿Por qué no siguen ustedes sus pasos o incluso mejor, por qué no lideran ustedes este cambio y se convierten en el primer banco que tacha a la industria militar de su cartera de inversiones? Construir un mundo con menos armas, es decir, con menos guerras, está en sus manos. Muchas gracias por su atención.