

## Press note

**Assessment of the ERTE extension measure for travel agencies** 

## ACAVe predicts that the measure announced today by Minister Escrivá will be key for the salvation of most Spanish Travel Agencies

February 17, 2022.- Martí Sarrate, **President of ACAVE**, the main employer in the travel agency sector in Spain, values very positively the announcement made today by the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, José Luís Escrivá, where he has guaranteed sectorial ERTEs specifically focused on travel agencies, a sector that still maintains more than a third of its employees in this scheme. Sarrate **believes that this measure will allow companies in the sector to hold out until the real reactivation of tourism activity, which has been repeatedly cut short due to the successive waves of the pandemic. 15% of Spanish travel agencies have had to close, but this measure will prevent this percentage from reaching 25% of the sector as feared.** 

In recent months, ACAVE has carried out an intense lobbying action with the Spanish Government to address the serious situation in which many companies in the sector found themselves and precisely requesting an extension of the ERTEs. These requests were forwarded to both Minister Reyes Maroto and the Secretary of State for Tourism, Fernando Valdés, as well as Minister Yolanda Díaz. In addition, it has worked together with the CEOE and the Fomento del Treball to ensure that the needs of the sector are heard.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, this key sector made up of SMEs and micro-SMEs, which two years ago accounted for around 67,000 jobs, has experienced a drop of more than 15%, which means a loss of approximately 10,000 jobs. Also, in the last year, travel agencies have seen their activity completely paralyzed, with a drop of more than 87% in turnover according to official INE data.

## **About ACAVE**

The Corporate Association of Specialized Travel Agencies (ACAVe) is the employer of state-wide travel agencies based in Catalonia. ACAVe is the most representative association in Spain with approximately 450 members and around 1,000 points of sale throughout Spain. Agencies of different types are part of the Association: holiday and corporate broadcasters, tour operators, coastal and city receptions, online and cruise agencies.

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