

Chairman of Puertos del Estado interested in port-city integration model developed by Alicante Port Authority

- **Álvaro Rodríguez Dapena met with the chairman and management team of the Port Authority, as well as representatives of the local port community**
- **The chairman of Puertos del Estado took an interest in the broad integration strategy that aims to transform the seaport into a social and economic driving force for the city**

23/03/2022 — The chairman of Puertos del Estado, Álvaro Rodríguez Dapena, has today visited the Port of Alicante. He was accompanied by the chairman of the Port Authority, Julián López Milla.

After signing the guest book upon his arrival in Alicante, Mr Rodríguez Dapena met with the Port Authority management team. During this meeting, he was briefed on the strategic projects which are currently underway and which are turning the Port of Alicante into a model of integration with the city.

The projects include the extension of the Port Park and the renovation of the inner dock, which will provide the city with a world-class waterfront. Others are aimed at promoting the establishment of logistics and technology companies – like the investments made by the Comunitat Valenciana Digital District or the conversion of the former Panoramis shopping centre into a co-working and flexible office centre.

Mr Rodríguez Dapena stressed the importance of having the port and the city work together to achieve full integration, as well as having a port that is open to the citizens, so that they can make the port their own and be aware of its socio-economic significance.

With regard to this, Mr López Milla noted that the port is undergoing a remarkable process of evolution, the results of which are now starting to be seen and will continue with the increase in traffic and the occupation



of the port's public domain. This is evident in the consolidation of feeder traffic with Algeciras, the addition of new routes into Port of Alicante (Tangiers), the growth in container traffic, and the recovery of cruise traffic.

– A PORT COMMUNITY COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY

After the management team, the chairman of Puertos del Estado met with representatives of the local port community. The meeting emphasised the community's commitment to sustainability, especially in a port so close to the city, and the need to continue implementing sustainable management and green transition policies, both on the part of the Port Authority and the companies that operate in the port.

Other issues tackled included the expectations for growth and development of the port, as well as the current state of the logistics chain.

– VISIT TO PORT FACILITIES FOCUSED ON THE DIGITAL DISTRICT AND THE NEW BULK FREIGHT TERMINAL

The commitment to innovation also featured prominently during the day. While touring the port, both chairmen paid a visit to the facilities operated by Accenture, one of the first companies to set up in the port as part of the Digital District initiative to attract companies to Alicante, located on the ground floor of the cruise terminal.

They then visited the new bulk freight terminal, an enclosed and fully automated building which will make the port's handling of solid bulk freight more environmentally sustainable, thanks to a major private investment by the multinational Eiffage Group.

The tour ended at the container terminal run by Terminales Marítimas del Sureste (TMS), where one of the most innovative projects is being developed. It is backed by Port of Alicante under the Ports 4.0 programme.