

Here we introduce a new edition of *Spain in figures*, the yearly publication with which the National Institute of Statistics (INE) presents the vision that official statistics offer of our country and its environment in a clear and accessible way.

Nowadays, the creation and communication of these statistics are a public service of huge value, and they are absolutely needed to understand social, economic and demographic phenomena that happen around us and to which we belong. This work of information collection, synthesis and representation is driven by INE's public interest and their intention to disclose information coming from the institute itself and from other official national and international

In this year in which Spain will assume the presidency of the European Union (EU), an analysis of our European environment is of utmost importance. As can be seen in this issue of *Spain in figures 2023*, statistics clearly show our country's significant presence and growing contribution to the creation of this common project called Europe.

We would like to thank the effort and confidence that the informants have placed in this institution. Your collaboration is essential for statistical work and without it would not be possible to carry out our task for the benefit of all.

We hope that this publication draws the reader's attention, and please remember to visit our website **www.ine.es**, where new content can be found daily.

Elena Manzanera Díaz INE President