

PRESS RELEASE

La presente comunicazione non costituisce un'offerta o un invito a sottoscrivere o acquistare titoli negli Stati Uniti, in Australia, Canada o Giappone nonché in qualsiasi altro Paese in cui tale offerta o sollecitazione sarebbe soggetta all'autorizzazione da parte di autorità locali o comunque vietata ai sensi di legge (gli "Altri Paesi"). La presente comunicazione, qualunque parte di essa o la sua distribuzione non può costituire la base di né può essere fatto affidamento su di essa rispetto a un'eventuale decisione di investimento. I titoli non sono stati e non saranno registrati negli Stati Uniti ai sensi dello United States Securities Act del 1933 (come successivamente modificato) (il "Securities Act"), o ai sensi delle leggi vigenti negli Altri Paesi. I titoli ivi indicati non possono essere offerti o venduti negli Stati Uniti, salvo che siano registrati ai sensi del Securities Act. Non possono essere predisposte o distribuite o inoltrate copie di questa comunicazione negli Stati Uniti, in Australia, Canada, Giappone o negli Altri Paesi.

This communication does not constitute an offer or an invitation to subscribe for or purchase any securities in the United States, Australia, Canada or Japan or any other jurisdiction where such an offer or solicitation would require the approval of local authorities or otherwise be unlawful (the "Other Countries"). Neither this communication nor any part of it nor the fact of its distribution may form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or investment decision in relation thereto. The securities referred to herein have not been registered and will not be registered in the United States under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or pursuant to the corresponding regulation in force in the Other Countries. The securities may not be offered or sold in the United States unless such securities are registered under the Securities Act, or an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act is available. Copies of this communication are not being made and may not be distributed or sent into the United States, Australia, Canada, Japan or in the Other Countries.

Increase in Capital: offer to the Stock Exchange of the unexercised rights closed early

Modena, 23 July 2014 - Banca popolare dell'Emilia Romagna (BPER) would like to announce that at the first session of the offer to the Stock Exchange held today all of the 756,656 rights not exercised during the option period (the "**Unexercised Rights**") relating to the subscription of 331,037 newly issued ordinary shares of BPER (the "**Shares**") coming from the increase in capital have been sold.

This means that taking up the Unexercised Rights acquired as part of the Offer to the Market and consequently the subscription of BPER Shares will have to be done, under penalty of forfeiture, no later than the end of the third trading day following the communication of the early closure, and therefore by the end of 28 July 2014.

The Unexercised Rights will be made available to the buyers through the authorised intermediaries who are members of the centralised share management system of Monte Titoli S.p.A. and may be used to subscribe for the Shares at a price of Euro 5.14 each, at a ratio of 7 Shares for every 16 Rights.

For the Offer, Citigroup Global Markets Limited, J.P. Morgan Securities plc, Mediobanca - Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. are acting as Joint Global Coordinators and Joint Bookrunners, while Barclays Bank PLC, Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited, Deutsche Bank AG London Branch, HSBC Bank plc and Société Générale S.A. are acting as Joint Bookrunners.

It is worth reiterating that the success of the capital increase is underwritten by these companies which have taken a commitment, severally and not jointly, to subscribe for a number of new Shares equivalent to the option rights that are not exercised at the end of the Offer to the Stock Exchange, up to the total value of the Offer.

The Prospectus and its Supplement will be made available in accordance with the law at BPER's head office in Via San Carlo 8/20, Modena, as well as on the Bank's website (<u>www.bper.it</u>).

BANCA POPOLARE DELL'EMILIA ROMAGNA Società cooperativa

This is a translation into English of the original in Italian. The Italian text shall prevail over the English version.

The press release is also available in the 1INFO storage device.

Investor Relations

Gilberto Borghi Tel. (+39)059/202 2194 gilberto.borghi@bper.it

www.bper.it - www.gruppobper.it

General Secretariat

Emanuele Vasirani Tel. (+39)059/202 2220 emanuele.vasirani@bper.it

External Relations Eugenio Tangerini Tel. (+39)059/202 1330 eugenio.tangerini@bper.it

Copies of this communication are not being made and may not be distributed or sent into the United States, Australia, Canada, Japan or in the Other Countries.

This is a translation into English of the original in Italian. The Italian text shall prevail over the English version.