

**- Press release – 17 March 2022 -**

### ***Independent Retail Europe elects its new Board of Directors 2022-2025***

Independent retail Europe is pleased to announce the re-election at its General Assembly today of Thomas Nonn as its President.

The General Assembly unanimously elected its new Board of Directors for the period 2022-2025. Thomas Nonn, Vice-President for Independent Retailers and Cooperatives from REWE Group (Germany), was confirmed for a second mandate as President. The members of the association reiterated their trust in his leadership of the association and thanked him for his commitment over the past years.

**Independent Retail Europe President, Thomas Nonn**, commented: *“Independent retail is an important economic pillar, from which society and consumers both benefit. At EU level, Independent Retail Europe acts as an experienced and influential voice that proactively ensures that our interests and the interests of our organizations are heard. I am looking forward to furthering this successful work together with the Board of Directors and the Director General in the next 3 years of my presidency.”*

**Independent Retail Europe Director General, Else Groen**, said: *“It has been a pleasure to work with Thomas over the past years and I am pleased that we can continue our good cooperation. Thomas’ active commitment helps the association face the current challenges of the sector. This new mandate starts off with an extremely heavy regulatory agenda and a war situation in Ukraine, but we’re up to the challenge again.”*

Were also elected on the Board:

#### **PRESIDENT**

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1. Mr Thomas NONN - *REWE Group (DE)*

#### **VICE-PRESIDENTS**

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2. Mr Sébastien BAUMANN - *IIC Intersport International Corporation (CH / EU)*
3. Ms Elisabeth DUE - *ICA-handlarnas Förbund (SE)*
4. Dr. Hubertus NÖLTING - *EDEKA Verband kaufmännischer Genossenschaften e.V. (DE)*
5. Mr Frédéric THUILLIER - *Groupement des Mousquetaires (FR)*

#### **OTHER MEMBERS**

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6. Ms Alexandra BOUTHELIER - *FCA - Fédération du commerce coopératif et associé (FR)*
7. Mr Piero CARDILE - *CONAD (IT)*
8. Mr Philippe GRUYTERS - *EMD - European Marketing Distribution (CH / EU)*
9. Mr Lasse LUUKKAINEN - *KESKO Corporation (FI)*
10. Mr Dominique SCHELCHER - *Coopérative U Enseigne (FR)*
11. Mr Jens STROEMNES - *Expert International (CH / EU)*
12. Mr Markus TKOTZ - *MARKANT AG - (CH / EU)*
13. Dr. Ludwig VELTMANN - *DER MITTELSTANDSVERBUND-ZGV e.V. (DE)*
14. Mr Tobias WASMUHT - *SPAR International (NL / EU)*

**For questions or further information, please contact**

Independent Retail Europe

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**Independent Retail Europe**

Established in 1963, **Independent Retail Europe** (formerly UGAL – the Union of groups of independent retailers of Europe) is the European association that acts as an umbrella organisation for groups of independent retailers in the food and non-food sectors.

Independent Retail Europe represents retail groups characterised by the provision of a support network to independent SME retail entrepreneurs; joint purchasing of goods and services to attain efficiencies and economies of scale, as well as respect for the independent character of the individual retailer.

Our members are groups of independent retailers, associations representing them as well as wider service organizations built to support independent retailers.

Independent Retail Europe represents 23 groups and their over 403.900 independent retailers, who manage more than 759.000 sales outlets, with a combined retail turnover of more than 1,314 billion euros and generating a combined wholesale turnover of 484 billion euros. This represents a total employment of more than 6.620.000 persons.

Find more information on [our website](#), on [Twitter](#), and on [LinkedIn](#).