Presidents of the 74 CALRE's Regional Parliaments and Assemblies

Valladolid, 3th March 2017

Dear Presidents,

The European Union demographic trends up to 2050 foresee a population decrease, on which we can appreciate, increasingly clearly, effects of natality decline, decrease of young and a marked aging process.

These demographic trends notably affect regions experiencing rurality, population dispersion, insularity, peripheral regions and other factors.

This framework is accompanied by the emergence of serious demographic and territorial imbalances. Regional living conditions linked to economic conditions, determine saturation phenomena in some urban areas and depopulation in large areas of the European territory.

*Being aware of the importance of this matter for the future of the European Union project, on 25th November 2016 during the Plenary Assembly of the CALRE held in Varesse (Italy), it was approved the creation of a new **Working Group on Depopulation and Ageing** for 2017, and it was entrusted the responsibility of its coordination to the "Cortes de Castilla y León" (Spain), which I have the honor to chair.*

In the performance of this responsibility, my commitment is this Working Group encourage the assessment and the interchange of good practices on demographic trends within European regions from the contributions of the CALRE members. The main aim is to contribute to the definition of a common answer and an answer for the future which allows us to offer proposals to face the problem of the increasing ageing population and territorial depopulation in large areas of European regions.

With this commitment and with the aim to start up the CALRE's Working Group on Depopulation and Ageing as soon as possible, I am glad to invite you to take part on it.

To formalize your participation, please, fill the attached registration form before 20th March 2017.

I am looking forward to hearing from you and thank you on advance for your collaboration.

Yours Sincerely,