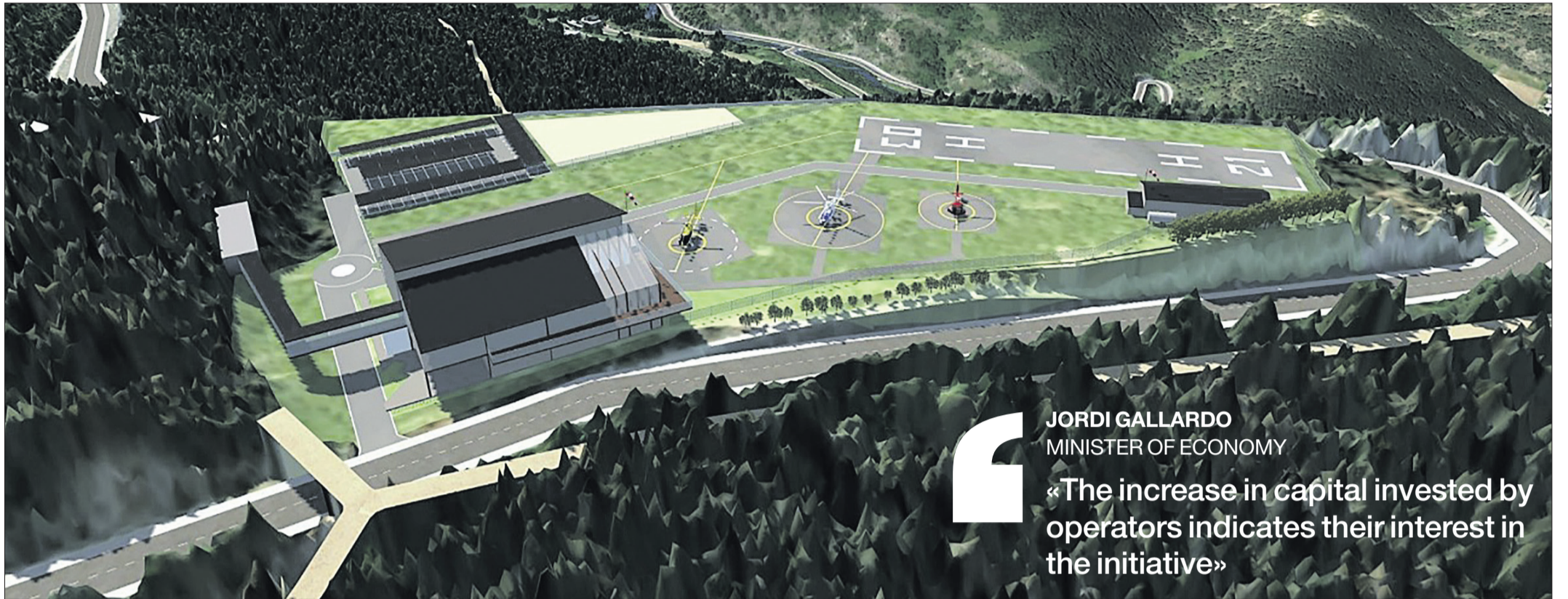


INFRASTRUCTURES

GOVERN D'ANDORRA



JORDI GALLARDO
MINISTER OF ECONOMY

«The increase in capital invested by operators indicates their interest in the initiative»

►► Render of the preliminary design of the Caubella National Heliport.

Heliport underway

The project will go ahead without the hotel complex, but it will be able to accommodate commercial premises

Works will begin before winter and will take about two years to complete

EL PERIÒDIC
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The National Heliport of Andorra is in the phase of public exhibition of information in order to receive the latest proposals in its composition and amendments to the project that may arise from the companies. This phase of the preliminary design process will last until mid-August, and, following the analysis of the set of proposals and subsequent evaluations, the final award of the infrastructure will be announced in the autumn.

This was explained by the Minister of the Presidency, Economy and Enterprise, Jordi Gallardo, emphasizing that "we will try to go as fast as possible, but if the weather prevents us from advancing the works in winter, it will have to paralyze. In this sense, the forecast of the Executive for the per-

formance of the final project revolves around two years and, in fact, has been carried out a widening of the initial investment of a total of 4.5 million of euros to approximately 9 million by the temporary union of companies (UTE) of Helinord and Heliand. Following this direction, Gallardo noted that «this capital increase denotes the motivation of the companies towards the project», as it would not have gone ahead «if the operators did not find an economic return in their forecasts».

With regard to the possible construction of a hotel complex adjacent to the vicinity of the heliport, the Government assured that the current laws do not contemplate the location of these tourist buildings in a territory of national interest. However, Gallardo left the door open to the possibility that the heliport companies could include commercial premi-

ses that are compatible with the current jurisdiction. Thus, the Executive denied that the construction of an adjacent hotel is a sine qua non condition for the operators to continue with the project. Instead, it opens a new window of business opportunity that may be related to mountain resorts.

Regarding the change in the initial budget, Gallardo stated that it is related to security reasons due to the change of location of one of the tracks «very close to the private car park». Similarly, he added that «there were some environmental issues that needed to be specified, such as the replacement of some structures with materials that are better suited to the natural space and fireproof wood.» At the same time, the head of Economy warned about the challenges facing the final project, such as the implementation

The Andorra-Madrid line is the most successful on Air Nostrum

►► Air Nostrum executives describe the trajectory of the first six months of operation of the regular line between Andorra-La Seu d'Urgell and Madrid as the most successful in its history. In this sense, the company highlights the good occupancy rates of the aircraft, which reached an average value of 52% during the month of June. In addition, they also added that most of the operations carried out have been done with the round trip mode and stressed that, despite the forecast to register more outbound flights from the Spanish capital, a similar number of journeys have been recorded from the Principality.

of Schengen policies to facilitate flights between Spain and France beyond the health field and the adaptation of drones.

Referring to the characteristics of the preliminary project, this includes a runway of 100 by 20 meters expandable and an additional area dedicated to the rescue sector and medicalized air transport. In addition, it is planned to locate three paved parking positions and an 800-square-meter hangar to park the aircraft. It will also include the approved spaces to carry out the processes required for the treatment of the crew and passengers, together with the rooms intended for the offices and warehouses relevant to the development of the professional task. Finally, it should be noted that the total area of the terminal and commercial will be about 900 square meters and will have a parking lot with a total of 60 spaces. ■

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Interview with gallery owner Carles Teixidó ▶ The Embassy opens a room

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«The maxim of my gallery is based on art, beauty and investment»

CARLOS TEIXIDÓ Gallery

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY
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Jewelry, gastronomy and art are the proposal of The Embassy for this summer 2022, by the hand of Rosa Pons, Nando Jubany and the recent incorporation of Carlos Teixidó, gallery owner from Barcelona, who yesterday inaugurated an exhibition with 50 works, which they can be visited throughout the month of July, and where they present different artists such as Antoni Tàpies, Jaume Plensa, d'Emo and Lita Cabellut. With this exhibition, it kicks off a new concept of tourist experience that aims to attract an audience that seeks to enjoy unique sensations and the pleasure of a fascinating fusion.

–Is this your first time exhibiting in Andorra?

–Yes, professionally I wanted to make a change of direction, because I really like the country. I have clients who are from here and, on the other hand, I consider that currently Barcelona, which is where I have had the gallery so far, is out of context culturally; has undergone a negative transformation in this regard, and I personally need to make a positive evolution. I had the alternative of choosing between Andorra and Madrid, where I had already been working for three years, so I finally decided on the Principality. I think today offers me more opportunities and more facilities; I think it's in a sweet moment to be able to bet on opening a new market from here. My idea is to settle there and live in the area, in fact I created Teixidó Art Gallery Andorra, a company located in The Embassy building.

–How long have you been working in the field of art?

–I have a degree in Business Management and Administration, but since the age of 15 I have been working with my family in the art sector, so I come from a tradition rooted in merchants of many years ago and which I inherited from my parents. In fact, I am the third generation. It should be noted that this is a very limited work universe in which we all know each other, which passes from parents to children and is therefore a small circle. Starting from scratch is very complicated.

–What qualities must a good gallery owner have?

–I think you also have to be a bit of an artist, therefore, you have to have a certain sensitivity to be able to capture the sensations, as well as the emotions that the authors want to convey with their works, at the same time to have a good dose of creativity, enthusiasm, desire. And most of all, you have to enjoy the work you do, develop it with passion and enthusiasm, because that's what the public perceives. In addition, of course,



▶▶ The gallery owner Carlos Teixidó.

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«I come from a tradition of merchants that I inherited from my parents. It's a universe where starting from scratch is complicated»

«In Andorra there is less competition, the pace is calmer, and this allows for more personalized advice»

«I specialize in the Paris School, and in the Spanish painters of the time who were in contact with Picasso and Cubism»

you must have knowledge of art, you must have taste, aesthetics, as well as very clear present and future market values, in order to advise customers in the best possible way.

–What do you like most about your job?

–What gives me the most satisfaction is that they congratulate me on the quality of the works I have brought, because really behind this there is a rather hard task of choice; to try to do things right; that everything has its frame, its space, its light; that the works breathe, and therefore I like that when people enter the gallery, enjoy, relax and generate a suitable climate to provoke the desire to want to acquire some of the pieces that you are admiring or contemplating and that you have aroused interest for whatever reason. Needless to say, selling is also very rewarding for me, because it means closing an entire work process from which you finally get a result.

–What do you think will be the reception in the Principality?

–I think the reception will be good, because it lacked an offer with more criteria or its own stamp to be able to help collectors make consistent purchases. On the other hand, in Andorra there is less competition, the pace is calmer, there are not so many fairs, so many auctions, and this allows me to make a

more personalized advice.

–Which artistic discipline sells best today?

–I bring painting and sculpture, the latter costs more to sell, probably because people don't really know where to place the pieces or are afraid that they will break, but personally I've always opted for sculpture, I really like it; in fact, I am a head collector and for this exhibition I have brought a piece by Josep Viladomat dating from 1948.

–Which styles are most in demand?

–I specialize in the Paris School and in all the Spanish painters who at that time were in contact with Picasso and Cubism, and abstract painting. It is a time when the colors begin to change a little, the aesthetics, the positions and the perspectives are different, there is a break with what had been done until then; that is, from the 1930s to the 1950s there is a whole pictorial revolution which is the current or movement of which I am most expert. I also have a deep knowledge of the interwar period and of avant-garde art in general.

The most requested trend depends a lot on the taste of the client and the goal he has when purchasing a work; that is, if it does so for a decorative purpose, by investment, by collection, it is therefore very relative, it cannot be generalized. Abs-

tract art gained a lot of momentum with Antoni Tàpies and Esteban Vicente, who are artists who were most in contact with American expressionists and are among the most important authors in this field.

–What is the profile of the buyer?

–It is very diverse, there are people who buy art because they like it, and others who do it to invest. For me, the ideal, and also the philosophy I apply to my gallery, is that there is a synergy of the three elements, art, beauty and investment; that is, they converge taste, as well as knowledge of art, beauty or aesthetics, and economic profitability. I also try to combine more affordable works with more sophisticated pieces; even now that I will reside in Andorra, capture national artists like Pere Moles to enhance the country's talent. On the other hand, the profile of the buyer is usually more international, I currently have customers from different countries.

–How has the sector evolved after the pandemic and the inflationary crisis?

–If you ask me from the perspective of Barcelona, which is where I had the gallery on Passeig de Gràcia, a commercially very solid area, the last five years have been a disaster: it has totally degenerated, the clientele has left, those who they bought they don't do it anymore, and you have to move a lot, go to fairs in Asia and the United States. Currently foreign investment there is not good either and therefore the situation is complicated, for this reason Andorra seemed to me a good option, I believe in the country, and I see opportunities for the future.

–Why did you choose The Embassy building to present the works in your gallery?

–The construction is like a sculpture. It is an emblematic center that represents an important symbol in the Principality, this together with the combination that can be found inside its jewelry, gastronomy and art seemed to me a business model that can have a lot of strength and consistency to when it comes to providing a different and very powerful offer that is at the same time attractive to a select audience, who want to live a pleasant, sensitive and unforgettable experience. It breathes a special charm.

–What projects do you have for the future?

–I can't reveal them too much yet; I am preparing an exhibition only of Dalí's drawing, and on the other hand what I can advance and that I would like to be able to carry out is to make an interesting retrospective every two or three months of some international artist, who considers that it can be attractive for to the public. ≡