

# NEWS RELEASE

Verona, 9 March 2015

## **Signed deed of merger of Banca Italease S.p.A. into Banco Popolare**

We herewith inform you that today, in accordance with the resolutions passed by the Extraordinary Shareholders' meeting of Banca Italease S.p.A. and by the Board of Directors of Banco Popolare – the latter in compliance with art. 2505, paragraph 2, of the civil code and with art. 33.2, paragraph 5, of the Articles of Association – Banca Italease S.p.A. and Banco Popolare have signed the deed of merger of the subsidiary Banca Italease S.p.A. into the parent company Banco Popolare.

From a civil law perspective, the merger shall take effect on 16 March 2015, after the registration of the merger deed with the competent enterprise registries; from an accounting and fiscal point of view its effectiveness is brought forward to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015. The merger does not involve any share exchange or new share issue by Banco Popolare.

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