

# HERIBERTO MARTÍNEZ OTERO

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

The League of Cooperatives of Puerto Rico is an institution with more than 75 years of history and experience representing the Puerto Rican Cooperative Movement. Over the years, the League of Cooperatives has been fundamental in promoting laws, regulations and legal frameworks in favor of achieving an orderly development of the cooperative ecosystem in Puerto Rico.

Currently, the League represents the totality of the cooperatives island wide, for both first and second level. The League is one of the few institutions of the world that has achieved such a level of representativeness within its country.

The Board of Directors of the League of Cooperatives is a strong defender of the principle of collaboration among cooperatives. This postulate sparked the conversation and a route that has led us to aspire to be part of the NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors.

We believe that there is much to learn, share and collaborate between our two cooperative worlds, the Puerto Rican and the American. Moreover, the League has been a pioneer in promoting dialogues and collaborations between regional and international cooperatives through the International Cooperative Alliance. We are convinced that this same desire for participation and interaction can serve to strengthen ties with NCBA CLUSA and its member cooperatives.

Our trajectory of over 75 years of service, as well as our collaboration with organizations of international profile, represent many advantages that we can leverage through NCBA CLUSA. For these reasons, we make ourselves available to occupy a seat on the NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors.