private partnerships, which today represent the most successful model in tourism to get something. If we are not able to realize and concrete steps in the following forums, we will be wrong again, we will be wrong from the Administrations, people will stop believing in this potential deal-model promotion, in this tourist innovation Hurdes-Sierra de Francia, Sierra de Francia-Hurdes.

-Do you think that tourism can stop the abandonment of rural areas?

-I do not know if I'll answer the question. Today, many sectors enter under the umbrella of tourism. And I think not only to keep the population in rural areas, but also to maintain natural spaces, heritage sites, different categorizations... tourism in these provinces where depopulation is so pressing, so rampant, should be a standard-bearer as the engine generator of wealth and I do not know if as generator of growth and settlement of new people, but at least it should be a way of keeping people who now inhabit the regions.

-That may not be enough. Do not you think the rural inhabitant feels a little abandoned?

-From I am a deputy I said the ideas, the projects launched, or that we are going to launch in the future, should give pabulum people in rural areas, but not only in tourism but in any subject, in the same Spatial Planning Act, that is so fashionable in Castilla y León ... We

must realize that the province of Salamanca, and also if we extrapolate to Cáceres, has a huge dispersion, such is the number of municipalities we have in Salamanca, and throughout Castilla y León, that prospects can not be the same from an office in Valladolid and Salamanca that in rural areas, in the own territory, so our policies, not only tourist, but economic, environmental..., must be increasingly closer to rural areas.

Recently, we have been witnesses of the coherence between the way of thinking and Javier's actions. As we said at the beginning, our own magazine has echoed in previous editions of the great work done in Villanueva del Conde, the village of which he is Mayor, to get the declaration of Historic-Artistic Site, as well as the work made to create and develop Wine Route Sierra de Francia Association, promoted by several municipalities, among which Villanueva del Conde is. And they are only some examples.

We appreciate the kindness of Javier, the time we stole him, that we know he has not; we wish him great success in all the initiatives already launched and the attainment of other many ideas that can stop the abandon of rural areas and serve as a reference to other places in our country.

Text and images: Esther de Aragón

