

ANNOUNCEMENT

23 November 2009

**Announcement according to sec. 93 Austrian Stock Exchange Act
in connection with sec. 91 art. 1 Austrian Stock Exchange Act**

Erste Group Bank AG informs the public pursuant to § 93 Austrian Stock Exchange Act in connection with § 91 art. 1 Austrian Stock Exchange Act (Börsegesetz) that DIE ERSTE österreichische Spar-Casse Privatstiftung, Graben 21, 1010-Vienna ("Erste Stiftung") holds less than 30% of Erste Group Bank AG's share capital (i.e. 98,659,034 Erste Group Bank AG's shares; 26.1%) on 19 November, 2009.

For more information, please contact:

Erste Group, Investor Relations, Graben 21, 1010 Vienna, Austria, Fax: +43 (0) 5 0100 9 13112

Gabriele Werzer,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 11286,	E-mail: gabriele.werzer@erstegroup.com
Thomas Sommerauer,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 17326,	E-mail: thomas.sommerauer@erstegroup.com
Peter Makray,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 16878,	E-mail: peter.makray@erstegroup.com

This release is also available on our website at <http://www.erstegroup.com/investorrelations> in the news section.