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Political bets are often governed by populist performance and, without a doubt, sport in Spain sells. <u>If Madrid organizes an</u> <u>Olympics,Spain a soccer world cup</u> o<u>Valencia one day of</u> <u>Formula</u> 1 everyone will be very handsome in the photos and for posterity. A real pity that lately we have never won.

Spain and Portugal promised to invest <u>up to around 2 billion euros</u> if they were the organizers of the 2018 World Cup. What is the real return on these investments? **Spain's GDP would grow by 3% according to Ángel López, General Director of the Iberian candidacy**. Of course, a figure that if true is not negligible. But what kind of growth would we have? Wouldn't it be more "business as usual" growth?: Infrastructures and bricks, which are then left empty, that unsustainable growth <u>of which we know so much</u>.

Investing in Science and Technology, in innovation, in Education, in talent, unfortunately does not provide many photographs. These are long-term bets and revenues that are returned to society and the economy, without great expense. However, today all economists and experts agree that **sustainable economic and social development is fundamentally based on these pillars**.

For the record, I am not against organizing large events, festivals and festivals. But, **for once**, I would like to see so much enthusiasm and perseverance in pursuing **a Spanish region**, **city or university to be in first place in some scientific, technological or innovation discipline**. When we see this we will do much better.

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