@Retention: This annotation annotates other annotations and it is used to indicate how to store the marked annotation. This annotation is a kind of Meta annotation, since it is marking an annotation and informing about its nature. Possible values are:

- SOURCE: Indicates that this annotation is ignored by compiler and JVM (no available at run time) and it is only retained in the source.
- · CLASS: Indicates that the annotation is going to be retained by the compiler but ignored by the JVM and because of this, not going to be available at run time.
- · RUNTIME: Means that the annotation is going to be retained by the Java Virtual Machine and can be used in runtime via reflection.

@Target: This one restricts the elements that an annotation can be applied to. Only one type is possible. Here is a list of available types:

- · ANNOTATION_TYPE means that the annotation can be applied to other annotation.
- CONSTRUCTOR can be applied to a constructor.
- FIELD can be applied to a field or property.
- · LOCAL_VARIABLE can be applied to a local variable.
- · METHOD can be applied to a method-level annotation.
- PACKAGE can be applied to a package declaration.
- · PARAMETER can be applied to the parameters of a method.
- · TYPE can be applied to any element of a class.

@Documented: The annotated elements are going to be documented using the Javadoc tool. Per default annotations are not documented. This annotation can be applied to other annotation.