# Spain: procent challenges

## **Spain:** present challenges and past perspectives

What can the archives show us about climate change, health, and migration?

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PENDENRA

A Street in Urgel (Spain), Santa Maria de las Canonigos. F. H. Deverell, *RGS Images Online*, 1886. Source: *Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)* 

## The impact of climate change

Spain is witnessing an increase in temperatures in its major cities. Moreover, excessive and extended summers threaten the region with heatwaves, increased rainfall intensity, wildfires, and other extreme weather events that impact its agricultural sector. In late 2024, torrential rainfall led to a series of disastrous flash floods, underscoring the pressing need to address climate challenges.

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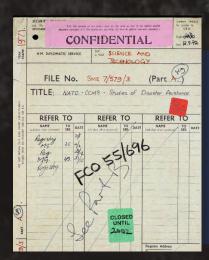
#### OLIVE CROP OF SPAIN.

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fruit in their travel or residence abroa	d.

The alives produced in the district of Cordovs are mostly used for t annihiltance of oil, a very small percentage of which is exported, the domic demand keeping pace with the supply. The total exports of olive of Warm winters are affecting olive crop yields, resulting in poor harvests and increased consumer costs. Miscellaneous reports from 1859-1906 discuss the important role of Cadiz, Spain, known for its olive groves, and discuss historical crop shortages.

Italy, Spain etc: Miscellaneous. *Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Miscellaneous Reports Collection*, 1859-1906. *Source: Environmental Science and History archive* 



In 1970, a NATO committee commented on upcoming plans to discuss flood mitigation. Part of the proposed agenda included operational techniques tested within the meteorlogical service, like predicting snowmelt and wind forecasts.

NATO Committee on Challenges of Modern Society (CCMS): studies of disaster relief, *R. P. Flower, Umberto Vattani, et al., the National Archives (...),* 1970. Source: *Environmental Science and History archive* 

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The Blue Basin - Trinidad. *RGS Images Online*, 1920. Source: *Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)* 

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## The state of <mark>health</mark>

Spain leads the European Union in life expectancy, averaging 83.2 years. However, the country faces mental health challenges which have spurred the development of the Mental Health Action Plan 2022-2024, enhancing access to care and community-based support. Additionally, recent legal reforms reflect Spain's commitment to sexual and reproductive rights, providing increased protections and resources.

#### WHAT RESOURCES CAN RESEARCHERS FIND ON WIL DIGITAL ARCHIVES?

THE INTERNATIONAL QUARANTINE CONFERENCE OF PARIS IN 1851-2, WITH REMARKS' BY OAVIN MILROY, MD, PELLOW MORAL COLLING WITHOUS, FRE.

In the approximation of the French Republican Government, it was approd among the different States which had coust possessions in, or close to, the Mediceranaux, that an international Conference on the subject of quantum to be hold in Bart. Heinan, Austrin, Rausia, Sardinia, Toreany, the Papal States, Neples, Turbey, Greece, Spain, and Petragal-t The omision from such an inquiry of the United States, which could have afforded the most valuable information on some leading points, was, Thuk, much to be regretted.





December 6, 2001 DR, ROLF TARRACH, PRESIDENT CONSEGN SUPPORTOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS Administración Central: o Serrans, 112 28066 XAORID SPAUN

Dear Dr. Tarrach

I am enclosing my latter to Reina Sofia, Queen of Spain, asking her to intervene with President Fidel Castro of Cuba on behalf of imprisoned physician Dr. Oscar Biscet.

Thank you for kindly agreeing to hand deliver this letter to Her Majesty. You input is of great value to The New York Academy of Sciences and to all Human Rights organizations throughout the world. It sets a commendable example of the worldwide cooperation of scientists on human rights issues.

#### Jouph L. Bothwan

Dr. Joseph L. Birman, Distinguished Professor of Physics City College-CUNY Chirman of the Human Rights Committe New York Academy of Sciences.

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Sea and river ports have historically been hot spots for spreading disease, as discussed in a monograph from The International Quarantine Conference of Paris in 1851. Delegates from Spain noted the status of the spread of Cholera.

IThe International Quarantine Conference of Paris, with Remarks, *Gavin Milroy*, 1859. Source: *Royal College of Physicians archive.* 

auco, a Janco

Letters to Reina Sofia, queen of Spain, urged for her intervention in a human rights case concerning Cuban physician Oscar Elias Biscet, imprisoned by Fidel Castro. Biscet participated in the study of Rivanol, a contraceptive drug, and was banned from practice after claiming it was being used to keep Cuba's birth rate low

Biscet, Oscar Elias (Cuba), Dr. Joseph L. Birman, Joseph L. Birman, et al., Records of the Committee on the Human Rights of Scientists, 1999-2001. Source: The New York Academy of Sciences.

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Reply from La Coruna (Corunna) Spain, Official Proceedings Of The Royal College Of Physicians Of London, 1829. Source: The Royal College of Physicians

## The evolution of migration

Spain is one of the top destinations for immigration, ranked fourth on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) list for countries with the highest rate of permanent migrants. While the largest immigrant groups hail from Morocco, Columbia, and Venezuela, in 2024 Spain offered temporary protection to over 200,000 citizens fleeing the war in Ukraine.

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An 1898 atlas outlines the global population of the time, breaking the stats down by region. Spain was noted as having a population of 2,444,816 citizens, or 6 inhabitants per square mile.

The Citizen's Atlas of the World containing 120 pages of maps and plans with a descriptive gazeteer and geographical statistics Atlases, World, [1898]. Source: Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

#### Nation, state and identity at international borders

Thomas M. Wilson and Hastings Donnan

According to some scholars, we are living in a world where state borders are increasingly obsolete. This view holds that international borders are becoming so porous that they no longer fulfil their historical role as barriers to the morement of goods, ides and people, and as markers of the extent and power of the state. This withering away of the strength and importance of international borders is linked to the predicted demise of the nation-state as the pre-emissent political structure of modernity. The threatened passing of the state, in turn, heralds the weakening of most of the world's existing political, social and cultural structures and associations. As a result, the role of individuals in these individual political structures in the of the mere politics of identity, in which the definitions of entires of the new politics of identity, in which the definitions and the of the new politics of identity, in which the definition and an exist of the sequence, such as gender, sexuality, ethnicity and race, among others, for control of the popular stephories processes are supposedly accelerating, continually shifting to fastional and international politics, creating new and important or largeories of transationality and in accessing the significance and poliferior of images and a host of other messages about the relevance of the world cultures in the everyold these of us along stafe-orderar proparition functions data to other messages about the relevance proparition function and international politics, and power in the contemporary world. On its own, the study of the new politics of space and place interpretities functions in the correly study of the new politics of and politic-world. On its own, the study of the new politics of space and place, interpretities alternational international politics, and power in the contemporary world. On its own, the study of the new politics of space and place, interpretities alternational international international sto and power in the contemporary world. On its own, the stud

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Who are the Basque borderlanders? How was migration characterized on the Mediterranean shores of Spain in the 20th century? These questions are answered by Thomas M. Wilson and Hastings Donnan as they discuss the state of porous borders and how they impact identity.

Border Identities Nation and State at International Frontiers, Thomas M. Wilson, Hastings Donnan, (...) Collection, n.d. Source: The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland

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Spain and Portugal. Map, [1922]. Source: Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)

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