

Balearic Islands

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1. DEMOGRAPHY

According to data from the Population Census Review of 1 January 2007, the population of foreign nationality in the Balearic Islands was **189,437** people, representing **18.4%** of the total population of the census on that date.

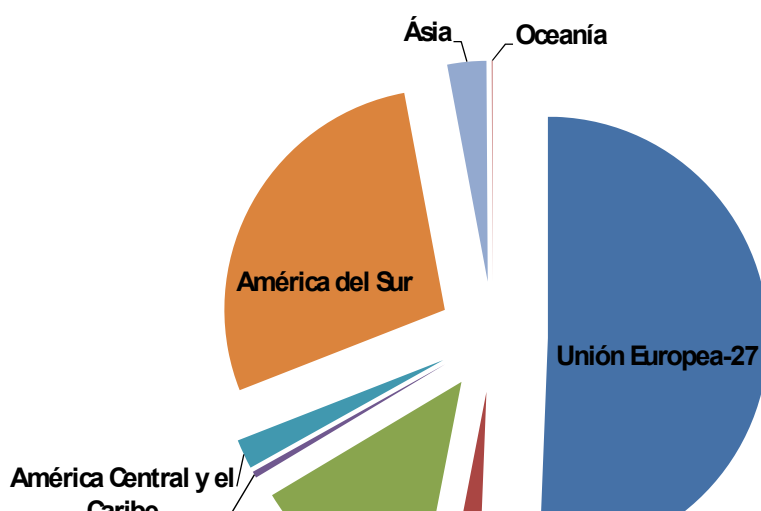
According to the assessment carried out by the author on 1 January 2006, the population of foreign nationality resident in the Balearic Islands was 240,193 people, of which 196,156 were permanent residents and 44,034 long-term temporary residents staying for over 3 months.

According to the data of the Police Department of the Ministry of the Interior, on 31 December 2006 there were 129,226 foreigners in a regulated situation. This implies, on subtracting this figure from that of the census on 1 January 2007, the existence of 60,211 people not regularized. This means that **31.78%** of foreigners are in an irregular situation and that the other **66.22%** is immigration with the required documentation.

Distribution of foreigners according to main areas of origin

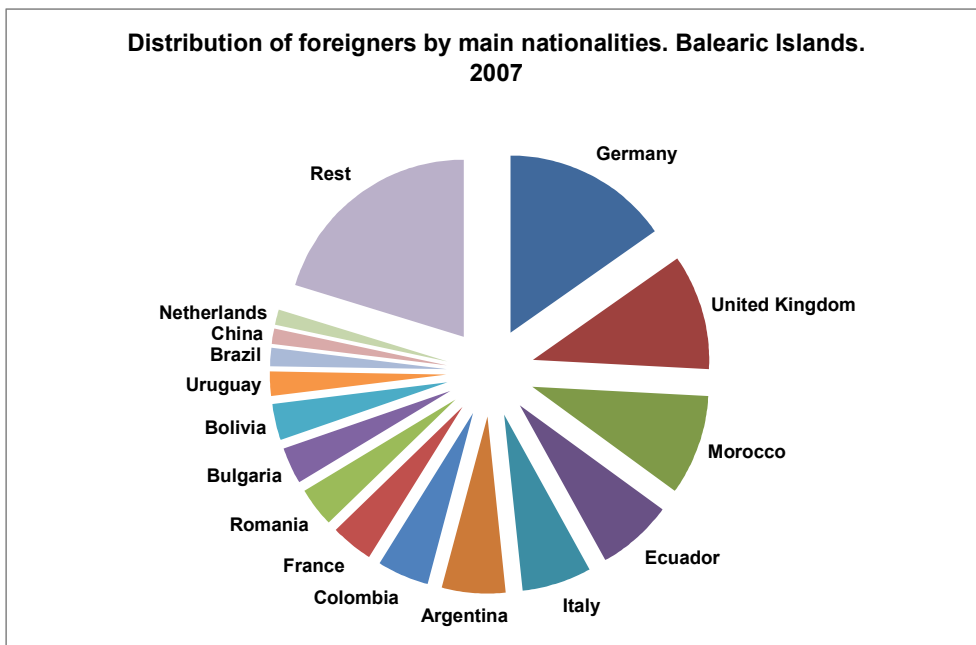
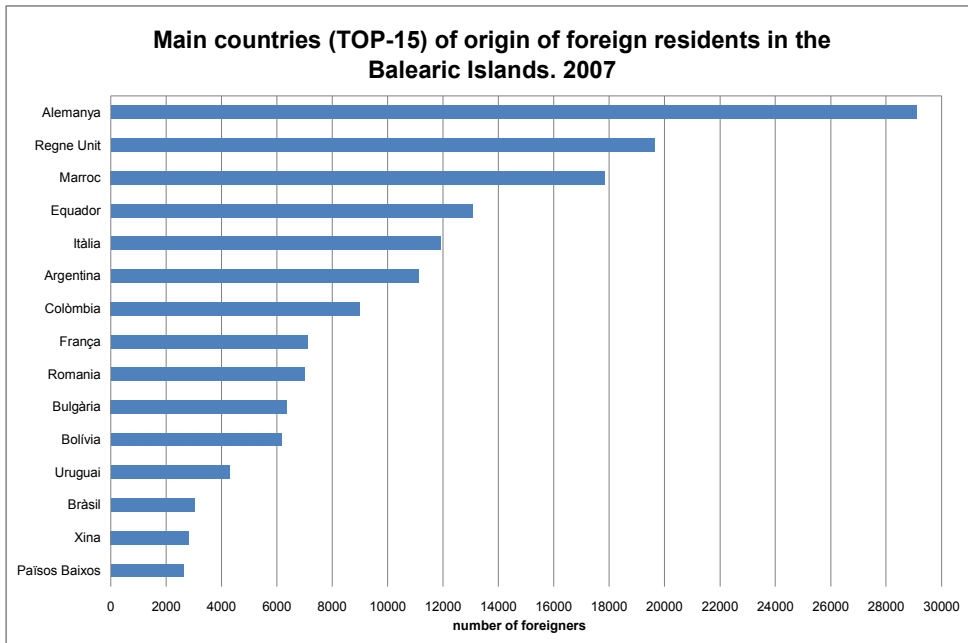
	number	%
European Union-27	95,904	50.63
Non-EU Europe	4,594	2.42
Africa	25,360	13.39
North America	904	0.48
Central America and the Caribbean	4,115	2.17
South America	52,983	27.97
Asia	5,422	2.86
Oceania	155	0.08

DISTRIBUCIÓ DELS RESIDENTS ESTRANGERS A LES ILLES BALEARS GRANS ÀREES DE PROCEDÈNCIA. 2007



By major areas of origin, half of the residents of foreign nationality come from the 27 different countries which currently form part of the European Union (50.63%). They are followed in importance by the foreigners from South America (27.97%) and by those from the different countries of Africa (13.39%). The remaining areas of origin, Asia, Central America and the Caribbean, North America and Oceania, record percentages below 5% of the total foreigners registered on the 2007 census in the Balearic Islands.

The main countries of origin of the foreigners are headed by Germany, which represents 15.35% of the total foreigners. It is followed at a certain distance by the foreigners resident in the Balearics from the United Kingdom (10.35%) and from Morocco (9.41%). Fourth place is occupied by those originating from Ecuador (6.89%), while the Italians are in fifth position (6.28%), a group which surely includes Argentines with double Italian and Argentine nationality. The TOP-10 group is completed in order of importance by those on the census originating from Argentina, Colombia, France, Romania and Bulgaria.

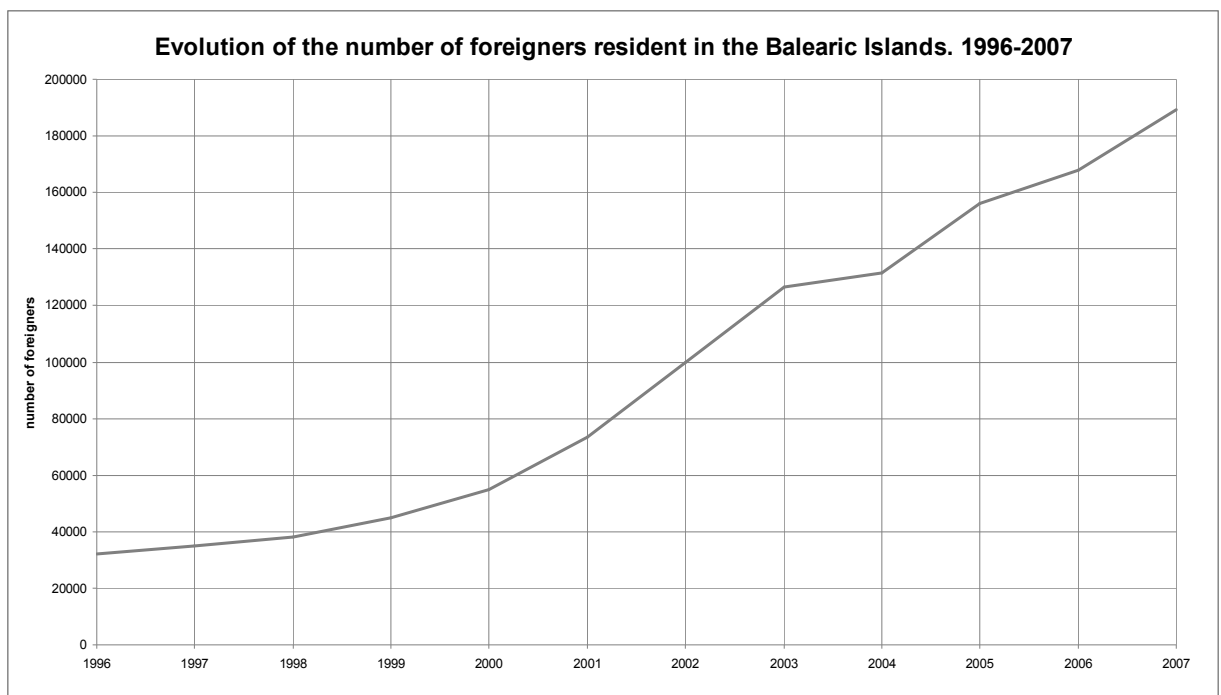


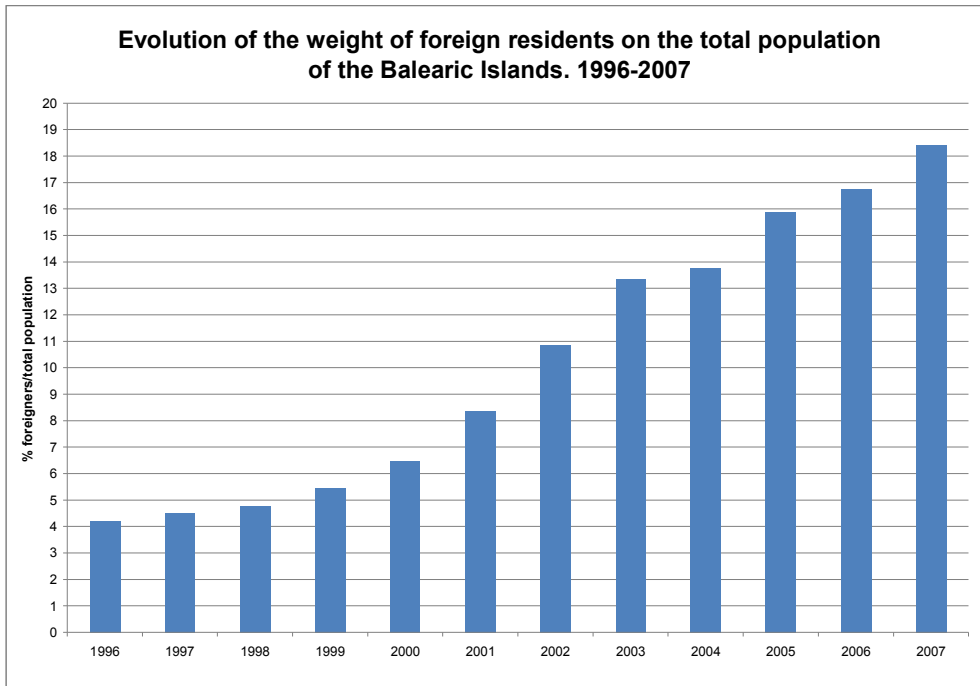
Main countries of origin of the foreign residents in the Balearics. 2007

	number	%
Germany	29094	15.36
United Kingdom	19623	10.36
Morocco	17834	9.41

Ecuador	13061	6.89
Italy	11900	6.28
Argentina	11112	5.87
Colombia	8999	4.75
France	7106	3.75
Romania	7005	3.70
Bulgaria	6356	3.36
Bolivia	6157	3.25
Uruguay	4288	2.26
Brazil	3024	1.60
China	2824	1.49
Netherlands	2619	1.38

Evolution of the percentage of immigrants in the last 20 years





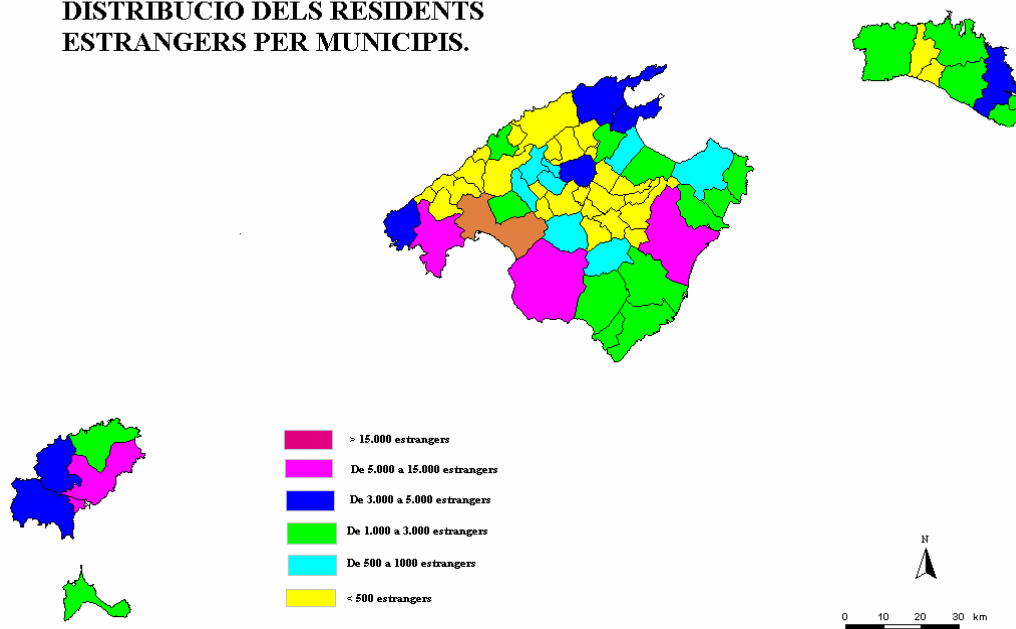
Evolution of the number of foreign residents and of their weight on the total population of the Balearic Islands (1996-2007)

	Number foreigners	% estimated out of total population
1996	32102	4.22
1997	35100	4.51
1998	38098	4.78
1999	45017	5.48
2000	54729	6.47
2001	73614	8.37
2002	99744	10.87
2003	126505	13.35
2004	131423	13.76
2005	156270	15.89
2006	167751	16.75
2007	189337	18.4

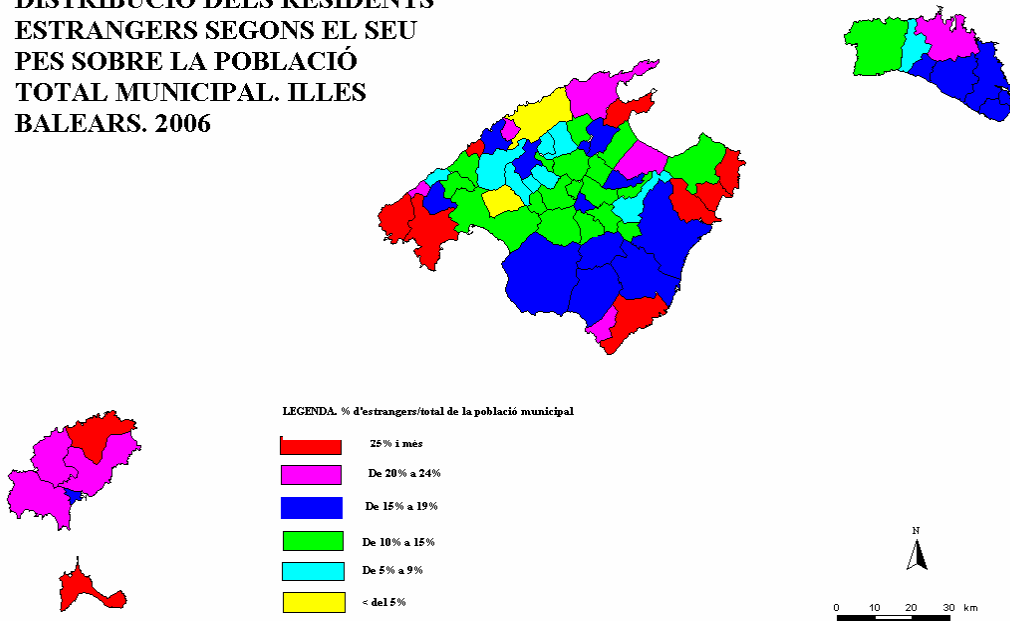
According to the 1986 census there were 23,848 foreigners, representing 3.50% of the population. In 1991 the number of foreigners was 37,820 people, representing 5.33% of the total Balearic population.

Distribution of foreigners by municipality. 2006 census

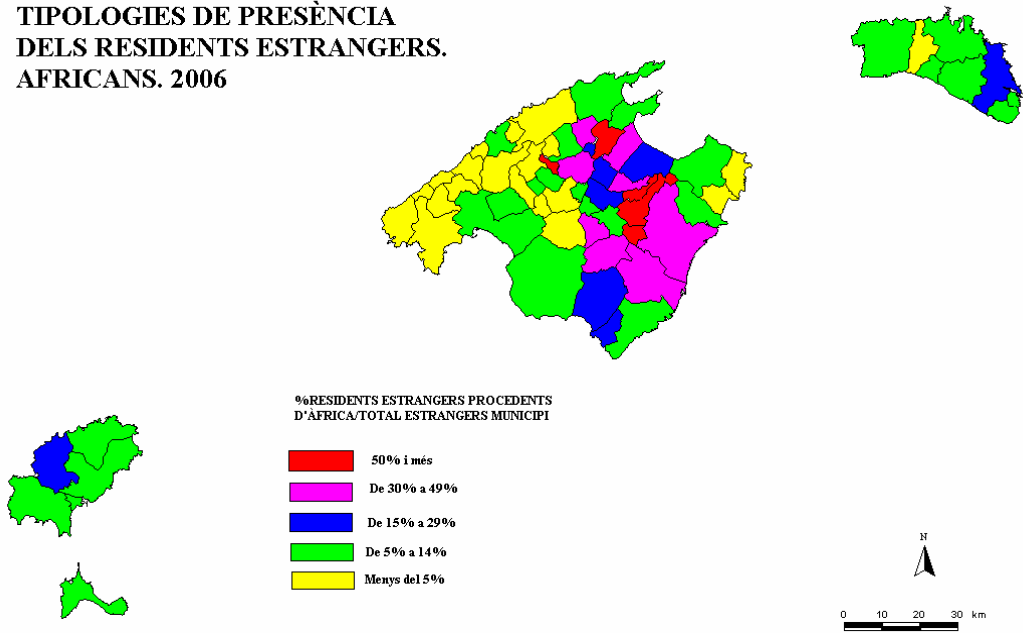
DISTRIBUCIÓ DELS RESIDENTS ESTRANGERS PER MUNICIPIS.



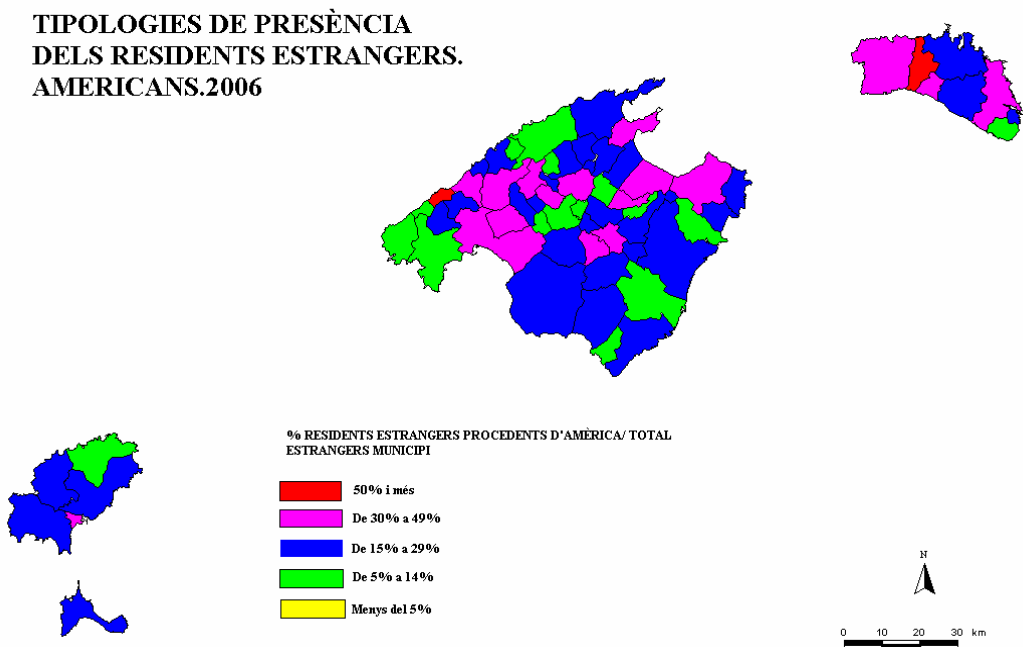
**DISTRIBUCIÓ DELS RESIDENTS
ESTRANGERS SEGONS EL SEU
PES SOBRE LA POBLACIÓ
TOTAL MUNICIPAL. ILLES
BALEARS. 2006**



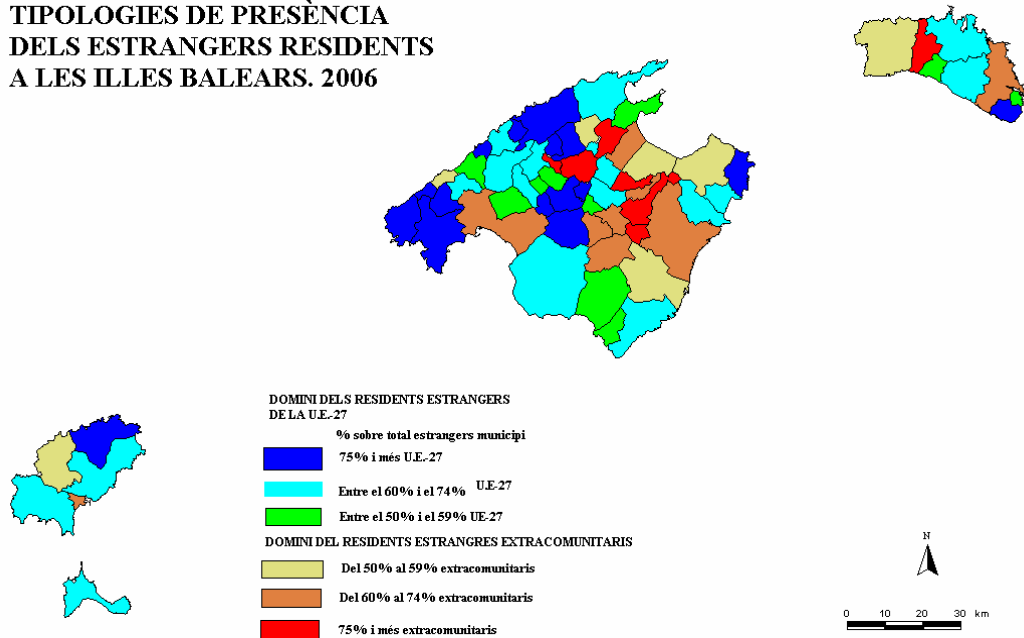
**TIPOLOGIES DE PRESENCIA
DELS RESIDENTS ESTRANGERS.
AFRICANS. 2006**



**TIPOLOGIES DE PRESENCIA
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AMERICANS.2006**



**TIPOLOGIES DE PRESENCIA
DELS ESTRANGERS RESIDENTS
A LES ILLES BALEARS. 2006**



2. INTEGRATION POLICIES

Legal categories

There are three main categories of foreigners: those registered on the census, residents and those who are in an irregular situation.

Rights and obligations

Organic Law 8/2000 governs the exercising and enjoyment of the rights and freedoms of foreign immigrants in Spain, including – among others – the principle of non-discrimination, the right to maintain and conserve the documentation proving the personal identity of the foreigner (Art. 4), the right to freedom of movement (Art. 5), the right to public participation (Art. 6), the right to education (Art. 9), the right to work and to Social Security (Art. 10 and 14), the right to healthcare (Art. 12), housing

aid (Art. 13), the right to good administration, and the right to effective judicial protection.

Table summarizing the rights recognized by Organic Law 8/2000, by the Enforcement Regulation and by the aliens' regulation in force

Rights	All	On census	Residents
Public participation	No	No	Yes, according to reciprocity criteria
Demonstration and association	No	No	Yes
Education	Yes (compulsory)	Yes (compulsory)	Yes (compulsory)
Access to work in the Public administration	No	No	Yes
Freedom to join a union and strike	No	No	Yes
Healthcare	Limited to: Under 18s, pregnant, in cases of emergency (<1,009,680 PTA/year) to anyone	Yes, access to national health card without resources Doc.: cert. census, passport, Tax return	Yes
Housing aid	No	No	Yes
Social Security and Social services	Yes: basic social services and benefits	Yes: basic social services and benefits	Yes: general and specific SS benefits & services
Family reunification	No	No	Yes
Free legal assistance	Yes, in cases of denial of entry, deportation or compulsory removal & asylum procedures	Yes, in cases of denial of entry, deportation or compulsory removal & asylum procedures	

Finally, it should be mentioned that there are no legal differences between the immigrants of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands and those of the rest of the State.

Levels of Power

	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL
fix quotas	X		
control flows	X		
residence permit	X		
work permit	X		

There are currently disputes between the different administrations because immigration powers in the Balearic Islands are only complementary in relation to reception, social welfare and insertion of the migrant.

Services offered by administrations

	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL
Socio-economic	X	X	X
Financial	X		
Labour	X		
Linguistic	X	X	X
Religious			X
Political	X	X	X
Legal advice	X	X	X

Immigrants tend to be concerned basically about the insertion and/or reception programmes developed by the local and/or autonomous organizations. How much they make use of them varies depending on the places of origin and knowledge of the languages of the places. In the Balearic Islands immigrants from the different Latin American countries use them more than Africans and/or Asians.

Language and culture courses

There are different Catalan culture and language courses on the Islands, although the number of participants is low in percentage terms, as in general they tend to have problems of timetables and free time and also more interest in learning Spanish than Catalan.

Even so, it is a fact that a majority of foreign immigrants is interested in knowing the culture of the islands. This is declared by 91.6% of those coming from the South and 96.2% of those from the North. On the other hand, a large majority of foreign immigrants, three out of four from the North and one out of two from the South, know festivals and traditions typical of the island on which they live.

Civic involvement

There are currently many associations of immigrants which carry out especially reception and training activities, although they are often very dispersed and with not very clear objectives. Others offer legal advice and training (for example, CITE of CC.OO.) and welfare (such as, for example, CARITAS).

As for social life, foreign immigrants tend to meet other immigrants frequently. The street, the square, cafés and shops are the most usual meeting places. It should be noted that foreign immigrants have not broken their links with their country of origin and have contact with friends and relatives above all by phone, the Internet and mail. As regards the interaction with natives, the district, the work place and leisure and fun time are the preferential places and times when foreign immigrants have contact with the receiving society.

Immigrant vote

Not for immigrants of foreign nationality. The CAIB is governed by the legislation of the Spanish state.

3. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

Economic impact

For the year 2002, the main motivation for foreign migration to the island was mainly of an economic nature, as declared by 83% and 48% of the immigrants from the countries of the South and of the North, respectively. Likewise, there was a residential motivation for 52% of immigrants from the North. It should be observed that the two profiles, South and North, correspond to two different types of origin: poor countries and rich countries.

From the South, only 65% of immigrants have improved their income, although 32% do not exceed the level of the minimum wage. Almost the same percentage of people, 33.7%, declare that they do not have any kind of contract. It is also observed that, at the time of the survey, the months of June and July, approximately 20% of the people polled were not working, precisely in the high season when the unemployment rate in the islands was around 4.3%. Even so, over two thirds of immigrants send remittances of money to their countries and almost 16% send them in kind, basically textiles. It is also gathered that over 51% of immigrants do not pay tax. A similar percentage, 51.5%,

does not reply to the question of whether they pay Social Security. Even so, the great majority, 85%, want to stay permanently. A fifth has lived on the islands for over five years and only 14.3% intend to bring their family.

The picture in the North is noticeably different. 67% are wage earners and 30% correspond to business or professional immigration. Only 13% of labour immigration has income below six hundred euros a month. And almost 1.5% declare that they do not have any kind of contract. 3.8% of the people consulted say that they do not have work. It should be indicated that the sample of this group was taken during the months of December and January, a time when the unemployment rate of the community was 9%. It is observed that only 5% of labour immigrants send remittances of money to their countries. Business investments in the islands have mainly (67%) been motivated by favourable market expectations.

Almost 83% pay tax, while only 51% are registered with the Social Security. The residential foreign immigration from the North is worthy of a separate comment, as 69% say they have income of between 1,000 and 3,000 euros and over a third receive transfers from their countries of origin. Overall, 63% of immigrants from the North have invested in property in the Balearics. To this it should be added that 71% of those consulted want to stay here for ever, that almost 79% has lived in the islands for over five years and that the great majority of immigrants who have property want to keep it.

The labour market in the Balearics is strongly influenced by foreign immigration. Its participation in the total registration with the Social Security rose from 6.64% in 1999 to 9.96% in 2002. During this year, for the first time, the registrations of foreigners allowed the growth in the total registrations in the islands to be positive. Also, for the first time during this year, the registrations of immigrants from the South equalled the registrations of immigrants from the North. There is a hypothesis, which it has not been possible to confirm, that there was considerable inter-provincial mobility of foreign immigrant workers, according to the information obtained for 1999 (the only year available), which represented a net departure of these workers to other areas of the State equivalent to 3.86% of foreign registrations with the Social Security. In this respect and as regards the period 2000-2002, the May-October seasonal effect observed is much more marked for the foreign immigrants registered than for the overall registrations.

Contracts for foreign workers have also increased from 7.86% of the total in 1998 to 18.8% in 2002. It should be observed that the total contracts registered in the Balearics

for all workers already show negative growth during the last two years. The totals for contracts and registrations present, over the last four years (1999-2002), signs of a slowdown in their growth, and contracts even show negative evolution for the years 2001 and 2002. These magnitudes referring to foreign workers, although having very significant increases, experience a moderation in their growth.

The estimation of the economic balance sheet which represents the economic repercussion of foreign immigration, from a strictly public viewpoint and referring to 2001, allows us to consider that in the Balearics the total migratory flows give rise to a clear surplus which can be valued as 39% of the revenues collected. This surplus could increase if the legal situation of foreign workers was normalized. It is also necessary to consider the hypothesis, in so far as the return of foreign workers to their countries of origin or to other countries is confirmed, that the contributions made to the Social Security will not have the equivalent provision of their pensions in the future.

Self-employment

Self-employment forms part of many of the labour and social integration programmes of the Balearic Islands. We do, however, consider that there are few initiatives and that they are limited to microcredit programmes, as the financial and/or banking institutions are distrustful of granting credits to immigrants.

Informal economy

To combat it, immigrants first need to be given information. To resolve the legal situation. Second, to solve the problem of communication and language. Third, to give adequate professional training adapted to the needs of the region. Fourth, labour and social integration initiatives and the resolution of housing problems. Fifth, after the reception and monitoring phase, move on to the general services of the population. Current public policies are insignificant overall, due to the lack of human and financial resources to satisfactorily resolve the current situation of the Balearic Islands.

Poverty, unemployment, marginal groups

If we refer to income below 50% of average wages in the Balearic Islands, it can be stated that 20% of foreigners are in a situation of relative poverty. Unemployment is above 10 per cent in unskilled foreigners with labour motivation.

As regards delinquency, the statistical data on crime and arrests refer to the offences committed by foreigners in general, and not by immigrants in particular. Moreover, the data are dependent both on the methodologies used and, regarding the immediate situation, on other factors and circumstances which can modify them considerably. Although there are reasons not to give decisive significance to the prison population, we must highlight the constant and accelerated increase in the number of foreigners imprisoned on the islands. Thus, in 2002 in Palma prison, foreign inmates represented 19.5% of the total, while in Ibiza they were 41%.

There is also a growing perception in the society of the islands that immigration is the cause of insecurity and delinquency, although this social perception does not affect all foreign immigrants but rather only refers to those from the South. This perception is supported by two objective facts occurring at the same time: the increase in insecurity and the increase in the number of immigrants arriving in the Balearics.

It is, however, unjust and risky, for the integration and coexistence of the newcomers, to feed the indiscriminate perception, without reservations, that immigration, delinquency and insecurity are related. With this issue, as with any other, which refers, among others, to people and to personal attitudes, generalizations do not have any sense, but rather we should underline the importance of the fact that mafias and organized groups of delinquents have taken advantage – and continue to take advantage – of the arrival of foreign immigrants on the islands in order to enter and operate here in a criminal manner.

One last consideration: immigrants without their papers in order are not criminals. Although the laws in force consider them to be in an illegal situation just because they do not have the documentation required, the worst that they are committing is an administrative offence.

Access to financial institutions

No, it depends on the guarantees and the circumstances of the applicant. There is more trust in Americans than in Africans. It also depends on their purchasing power.

Real estate and housing

There is mistrust toward tenants and there are therefore many situations of overcrowding.

Schooling

The situation is not yet clear as the main wave of foreign migrants to the Balearic Islands is still recent. And the educational authorities respond as best they can. It should be taken into account that there are over 20,000 foreign pupils in non-university education.

The foreign pupil, both from the North and from the South, mainly prefers the public school, where over 80% are enrolled. As for integration into the educational system, more than 45% of pupils from the South have suffered from difficulties on beginning their schooling, while the proportion goes down considerably, to 15%, for the pupils from the North.

A difficulty shared by both groups arises from the language used in the education system, Catalan. Those from the South moreover often have as difficulties the fact that they start school once the academic year has already begun, the different educational level (22.5% of children arriving on the islands from the South have never been to school before) and rejection by their schoolmates. Even so, the difficulties indicated disappear almost completely after one year of schooling and 92% of immigrants declare that their children are satisfied and integrated in the school.

If we focus on the data, during the academic year 2002/2003, 9.29% of the total pupils enrolled in non-university teaching centres of the Balearics were foreign. At the end of that same year, in the Balearics, a quarter of the foreign pupils came from the EU, over 43% came from Latin America, while 17% were from Africa, above all the Maghreb. There is likewise a continuous increase in the pupils from the countries of the East.

By islands, Majorca has over three quarters of the foreign pupils enrolled in the non-university teaching centres of the islands. Ibiza has 13.9%, followed by Minorca with

8.7%. Formentera has 0.9% of all the foreign pupils enrolled. Fifteen municipalities of Majorca account for two thirds of foreign pupils enrolled on the islands, and 87% of those who were enrolled on the biggest island in 2002/2003. In Minorca, Ciutadella has more than quadrupled the number of foreign pupils, and Maó has more than trebled its number in the last four years. Ibiza has multiplied the number of foreign pupils enrolled in the schools of the municipality of the capital by 3.8.

This situation depicts a plural and diversified educational scene. Without taking into account our two official languages, we have pupils who speak 82 mother tongues and who come from 160 nationalities, although the six most important represent 68.7% of all foreign pupils.

4. XENOPHOBIA

The overall assessment of the results of the survey carried out allow us to state that the Balearic population shows attitudes of understanding, tolerance and solidarity toward the groups of foreign immigrants. It can be considered that the population of the islands is relatively sensitized to the problems concerning the phenomenon of foreign immigration. It should be pointed out that most of the answers to the questions of the survey make us feel that in general they are referring to the immigration by foreigners from less developed countries which make up the migration in the South-North direction. We believe that there are differentiated attitudes depending on the origin of the groups and that whenever people think about the foreign immigration phenomenon they think of the South. We consider that the positive attitudes toward foreign immigration are clear from the answers stating the opinion that immigrants need help and attitudes of solidarity, at the same time as a high percentage of those polled believes that the new immigrants are normal and ordinary people. This perception implies a certain progression in the process of normalization in relation to the presence of these newcomers. It can thus be stated that the more immigration there is, the less xenophobia there will be, especially if the knowledge and direct relations of the resident population vis-à-vis the new arrivals gradually increase.

Those who express attitudes which we can consider to be the most xenophobic are those segments of the population who identify the groups of foreign immigrants or part of them as the originators of all the new problematic situations now being experienced by the Balearic Islands (increase in delinquency and in poverty, economic problems, problems of confrontation of cultures, increase in the number of foreigners in schools,

incidence on the demand for healthcare services, ...). A large part of these residents mentions the excessive number of new foreign immigrants and links the increase in their presence to hypothetical situations of competition for jobs (cheaper labour implying situations in which resident labour is replaced by foreign labour), the increase in the sale of drugs and/or the lack of safety on the streets. In short, they transmit a feeling of invasion represented by competition for the use of public spaces, the jobs market, social services and/or upward social mobility.

Xenophobic parties or movements

So far no party has appeared. There does appear to be a small movement of gangs of youths, although they do not have significant action.

Hate factors

Customs and public order. Different ways of understanding public spaces. Confrontation of customs, especially with emigrants who are believers and/or those of Muslim origin.

Mass media

They act in accordance with interests and news items. They are generally tolerant.

Conflict episodes

With the exception of very specific conflicts, to date there have not been outbreaks or episodes of violence.

5. ISSUES FOR DEBATE

There is a debate, generally linked to the right to control the migratory influx, and for this influx to be controlled by the autonomous community.

Historical evolution

In general they tend to avoid conflict and they seek a labour situation which allows survival and the necessary and basic services to be covered. Initially there have not been conflicts on the islands because the formal and informal labour markets have

allowed the majority of the newcomers to work. The question is whether a dynamics of stagnation is beginning and whether problems of competition will arise.

Areas of origin and identity

Yes, basically between groups from the same countries, but there are also situations of confrontation between people from the same country. There are differentiations between those from Africa and those from Latin America. And there are currently differentiations between the latter and the newcomers from the former countries of Eastern Europe, more appreciated for their dedication to work.

There have been processes of economic integration. Those who have consolidated their labour situation have carried out processes of family reunification and through them of social insertion in the society of the islands. We cannot yet talk about a model, as a large part of the migrants are in the initial phase, which is the phase of individual immigration. We will have to see whether they remain in the Balearics over the coming years and whether they begin processes of family reunification or form mixed couples. It should be pointed out that the number of weddings in which at least one of the spouses is foreign represented 33% of the total weddings held in 2006.

Relevant issues

When different identities coincide in the same society, there is inevitably a phenomenon of cultural confrontation, which is often conflictive and painful. History teaches us how our ancestors reacted in the face of the *different* people who invaded, conquered, occupied and subjugated them. Whether we have a conflictive or enriching future depends on the attitudes we have from now on toward the foreign immigrants who are arriving.

Our collective future is conditional on the decisions that we take now on how we want to live: whether the different groups which coexist on the islands ignore each other or live in an open and participatory manner. No-one should forget that we are a people of

diverse fabric, in the process of being made, as are all peoples. We should sort it out together, with each of us making a contribution.

We should never forget that our collective identity, despite the fact that it is ours, is no better than any other. It is the result of many interventions, of the footprint of many peoples, of many belongings.

When it comes to considering our reciprocal integration with the newcomers, we should bear in mind some basic presuppositions: our ability to value what we are and to involve them in a shared project; the ability to put ourselves in their place, to understand the difficulties that they have to overcome, and to have the appropriate measures to be able to meet their fundamental rights with normality.

Even so, integration and coexistence with those who are different will never be a simple or easy process, but rather complex and often conflictive.

Whether we like it or not, the newcomers are part of our present. This is why we must build the future with them. Without forgetting, rejecting or underestimating the past, which made us what we are today. We should become involved in building a new social reality together, without being afraid of the transformations that our people will have to accept.