

a dictionary of
contemporary
SPAIN



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A

ABASCAL, NATI

Top model, former *duquesa de Feria*, she is a member of the Spanish jet set and frequently appears in gossip magazines such as HOLA.

ABC

The leading conservative independent newspaper with a circulation of 300,000 on weekdays and 700,000 on Sundays. *Blanco y Negro* is the title of its Sunday magazine. The newspaper is readily available throughout the country (which is not always the case with other newspapers). An edition is printed in SEVILLA with a circulation of 57,000. It is the newspaper most widely read by the Spanish right and by army officers. For many years it was edited by Luis María Anson; he resigned in 1997. ABC is published by *Editorial Española*.

ABERRI EGUNA

Basque National Day. It was first celebrated on 26th March 1932 in BILBAO, to commemorate the anniversary of the PNV (PARTIDO NACIONAL VASCO) party. Nowadays it is celebrated on Easter Sunday.

ABERTZALE

From the Basque *aberia* (*patria/country*) and *zale* (*amante/lover*), this word is used to describe Basque nationalists.

ABERTZALISMO

Basque nationalism.

ABORTION

Abortion is permitted in Spain in the case of rape, mental or physical danger to the mother, and of an abnormal foetus. The law liberalising abortion was passed in March 1983. Although in

principle abortion is legal in these circumstances, it can be difficult to obtain in those clinics where medical staff are opposed to the practice on moral and ethical grounds.

ABRIL MARTORELL, FERNANDO (1936–)

Spanish politician. *Ministro de Agricultura* in the government of ADOLFO SUÁREZ (1976–1977), *ministro de Economía* from 1978 to 1979 and *vicepresidente*, responsible for the economy from 1979 to 1980.

ABRIL, VICTORIA (1959–)

Film and television actress. She has worked extensively with VICENTE ARANDA, notably in *La muchacha de las bragas de oro* (1980), *Tiempo de silencio* (1986) and *Amantes* (1991). She has also appeared in a number of films directed by PEDRO ALMODÓVAR, including *¡Átame!* (1989) and *Tacones lejanos* (1991). In 1995 she appeared in the very successful *Nadie hablará de nosotros cuando hayamos muerto*, directed by AGUSTÍN DÍAZ YANES. Her latest film is *Libertarias*, directed by VICENTE ARANDA, in 1995.

ACADEMIA GENERAL MILITAR

Officer training college at ZARAGOZA, the Spanish equivalent of Sandhurst.

ACERÍA COMPACTA DE BIZKAIA

Basque steelworks. One of the very few steelmills which is investing in new plant, it will open a new mill in 1996 in Sestao (Vizcaya) with a workforce of 320 people.

ACERINOX, S.A.

This company manufactures and sells flat stainless steel products. Its factory is located in Cádiz. It also has trading subsidiaries abroad and in other regions of Spain.

ACOGIMIENTO FAMILIAR

At the same time as the rules on adoption were modified (1987), the possibility of ACOGIMIENTO FAMILIAR or long-term fostering was introduced into Spain. Families who wish to invite a child on a long-term basis into their home undertake to feed, house, clothe and educate him or her. The child is visited at six monthly

periods by the relevant authorities to ensure that s/he is cared for competently.

ACOSO SEXUAL

ACOSO SEXUAL, or sexual harassment at work, is now an offence according to legislation passed by FELIPE GONZÁLEZ' government at the end of their third term of office.

ACTUALIDAD ECONÓMICA

Weekly business magazine, founded in 1958. It specialises in financial news, economic reports and details of new companies.

ACUERDO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL

A type of social contract, to which the government, UGT and the employees' associations were all party and which covers wages, job creation, public spending, social security and industrial relations.

ACUERDO MARCO INTERCONFEDERAL

A type of 'social contract', signed in 1980 by the employers' organisations and the UGT. It dealt with wages, job conditions, job creation and industrial relations.

ACUERDO NACIONAL DE EMPLEO

A type of 'social contract', to which the government, trade unions and employers' associations were all party. It dealt with wages, social security and industrial relations.

ACUERDO SOBRE SOLUCIÓN EXTRAJUDICIAL DE CONFLICTOS LABORALES

This agreement or out-of-court settlement of industrial disputes, was signed in 1996. Disputes must go to arbitration: this process is entrusted to impartial individuals appointed by SIMA.

ADENA See: *ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA DEFENSA DE LA NATURALEZA*

ADOPTION

In the case of a Spanish child, at least one of the parents must be more than 25 years old and at least 14 years older than the child. Adoption takes place through the 'servicios de protección de menores' in the AUTONOMÍAS. It is legal to adopt children from

abroad, but the law of the country from which the child comes must be followed, as well as Spanish law. The parent must be approved by the child adoption service and the documentation authorized, translated and sent to the country of the child in question.

AEB See: *ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE LA BANCA PRIVADA*

AECI See: *AGENCIA ESPAÑOLA DE COOPERACIÓN*

AEDENAT

Organisation which works towards the protection of the environment.

AENA See: *AEROPUERTOS ESPAÑOLES Y NAVEGACIÓN AÉREA*

AEPI See: *ASOCIACIÓN DE ESCRITORES Y PERIODISTAS INDEPENDIENTES*

AEPSA See: *ACUERDO PARA EL EMPLEO Y LA PROTECCIÓN SOCIAL AGRARIOS*

AEROPUERTOS ESPAÑOLES Y NAVEGACIÓN AÉREA

Organisation responsible for the management, maintenance and development of the 40 airports in Spain. It was established in 1990 and is directly answerable to the MINISTERIO DE FOMENTO.

AES See: *ACUERDO ECÓNOMICO Y SOCIAL*

AFEITADO

An illegal practice by which the horns of bulls are shaved prior to entering the bullring. This affects the bulls' balance and allows them to be fought more easily.

AFORAMIENTO

Immunity from prosecution. Members of the government (DIPUTADOS and SENADORES) enjoy the *fuero* or privilege of not being liable to prosecution from the courts. This can only be overturned by a joint decision of the CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS. Recently, JOSÉ BARRIONUEVO, member of parliament and former

ministro del Interior, invoked this privilege in order to avoid prosecution for his alleged collaboration with GAL.

AGENCIA DE CONTRATACIÓN

Private employment agencies. These were introduced in the employment legislation of 1994. Previously, the only employment agency was the state-run INEM.

AGENCIA DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE

Environmental agency set up by the autonomous region of ANDALUCÍA. It was the first of the regions to demonstrate practical concern for the environment within its own borders.

AGENCIA ESPAÑOLA DE COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL

This agency is responsible for relations between Spain and Latin America. Its work in bringing about peace in Central America has, to date, been its most successful enterprise.

AGENCIA INDUSTRIAL DEL ESTADO

This agency was created in 1996 to control those loss-making public enterprises which formed part of the INI (INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE INDUSTRIA) holdings. These companies will either be restructured or closed. See also: INI.

AGENCIA TRIBUTARIA

Government agency responsible for tax-collection, inspection and eliminating tax-evasion. Its current director is Jesús Bermejo Ramos.

AGROMAN EMPRESA CONSTRUCTORA, S.A.

Group of companies whose construction activities include civil engineering projects (roads, railways, hydraulic works), house building and the construction of factories and industrial plants. The group also purchases and develops land.

AGRUPACIÓN

Political party founded by JOSÉ MARÍA RUIZ MATEOS.

AGRUPACIÓN DE INTERÉS ECONÓMICO

These associations exist to enable those companies who so wish,

to share facilities such as research and development or information technology. They are registered with the *Registro Mercantil*.

EL ÁGUILA

This company's principal activity is the production and sale of beer. It has factories in MADRID, VALENCIA and ZARAGOZA. The company also manufactures other beverages as well as carbon dioxide.

AGUIRRE GIL DE BIEDMA, ESPERANZA (1952-)

Lawyer, ex-senadora for Madrid and currently (1996) *ministra de Educación y Cultura*. She was *concejala* for the PP (PARTIDO POPULAR) in MADRID until 1996. Her priority during the 1996 legislature is to implement the LOGSE (LEY ORGÁNICA DE ORGANIZACIÓN GENERAL DEL SISTEMA EDUCATIVO).

AHV See: *ALTOS HORNOS DE VIZCAYA*

AI See: *ACUERDO INTERCONFEDERAL*

AIE See: *AGENCIA INDUSTRIAL DEL ESTADO*

AIE See: *AGRUPACIÓN DE INTERÉS ECONÓMICO*

AIGUES TORTES Y LAGO SAN MAURICIO

This area was declared a national park in 1955. It is situated in the Pyrenees in Lérida and is representative of the countryside of the area, which is mountainous with numerous lakes and waterfalls.

AIR EUROPA

Originally a charter airline, it is now the third largest travel company in Spain. Its retail outlet is *Viajes Halcón* and it has a fleet of 24 aeroplanes.

AJURIA ENEA

Residence of the chief minister of the Basque autonomous government. It has given its name to the PACTO DE AJURIA ENEA, an agreement signed by the Basque political parties to combat terrorism.

AL KASSAR, MUNZER

International arms dealer. He has worked for the MINISTERIO DEL INTERIOR on several occasions as an agent and intermediary.

ALASKA (1964-)

Born in Mexico, ALASKA's real name is Olvido Gara. Originally a punk singer who first rose to fame in the MOVIDA in MADRID, she became popular with the Spanish public at large through her role as Truca in the TV series *La bola de cristal*. She is now a nightclub owner.

ALBERDI, CRISTINA (1946-)

Spanish politician, born in Los Rosales, Sevilla. In 1993 she became *ministro de Asuntos Sociales* in the Socialist government of FELIPE GONZÁLEZ. She was the first woman to become a member of the CGPJ (CONSEJO GENERAL DEL PODER JUDICIAL). In her own law firm, she specialised in women's rights in the field of discrimination in the work place, divorce and abortion.

ALBERTI, RAFAEL (1902-)

Andalucían poet who belongs to the *Generación del 27*. He first became famous through his collections of verse, *Marinero en tierra* and *Sobre los ángeles*. He is known for his political and surrealist verse. Among his most famous collections of poetry are *Cal y canto* and *Oda marítima*. He has been a life-long member of the Communist party. He went into exile during the FRANCO régime but returned to Spain in 1977. He won the PREMIO CERVANTES in 1983.

ALBORCH, CARMEN (1948-)

Politician and member of the PSOE (PARTIDO SOCIALISTA OBRERO ESPAÑOL). She was a university lecturer in commercial law for many years and dean of the Faculty of Law in VALENCIA. For 5 years she headed the IVAM, the *Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno*. She is a well-known feminist who belongs to the *Asociación de Mujeres Universitarias* and the *Asamblea de Mujeres de Valencia*. She was *ministra de Cultura* in GONZÁLEZ's last government. She is currently a member of parliament for VALENCIA.

ALCALÁ DE HENARES

This university was refounded in 1977 in the city of Alcalá. Originally founded in 1499, it was a very prestigious institution until the 19th century, when it was decided to remove it to MADRID. When the need for more university places became pressing, Alcalá was chosen to house this institution once again. Its name comes from the Arabic *Al-Kala Nahar*.

ALCALDE

The Mayor of a MUNICIPIO, he is normally elected by his CONCEJALES or town councillors at the first council session after elections. He or she will have headed the party list in the elections. The position of mayor is an important one both politically and as a representative of the MUNICIPIO. Among his or her functions are: to lead the town council, to convene and chair meetings, to direct, inspect and promote municipal works, to issue edicts (BANDOS) and to head the police force.

ALCAMPO

Third largest chain of supermarkets in Spain. In 1995, it had 22 stores, 9,300 employees and a turnover of 263,400 million pesetas.

ALCÁNTARA, THEO (1941-)

Conductor, born in Cuenca in 1941. He worked first in Frankfurt and since then in the United States, latterly with the Pittsburgh Opera and the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra.

ALCÀSSER

Small town, 20 kilometres from the city of VALENCIA, where the bodies of three murdered girls were found buried in shallow graves in 1993. Various television reality shows seized on this event and made programmes designed to attract mass audiences.

See: CASO ALCÀSSER

EL ALCÁZAR

Evening newspaper, originally published in MADRID. It was extremely right-wing with a large input on and by the military. It ceased publication in 1988.

ALDAYA ETXEBURUA, JOSÉ MARÍA (1942–)

Basque entrepreneur, owner of a small haulage company, ALDAYA was kidnapped on the 8th of May, 1995, by the Basque terrorist organisation ETA and held captive for almost a year. He was freed on the 14th of April, 1996.

ALDERDI EGUNA

Basque for the 'day of the party'. It refers to the 'fiesta' or feast day of the PNV.

ALDITRANS

The company owned by JOSÉ MARÍA ALDAYA, who was kidnapped by ETA in May 1995.

ALIANZA ATLÁNTICA

Alternative name for NATO, known in Spain as OTAN (*Organización del Tratado del Atlántico Norte*).

ALIANZA NACIONAL

Extreme right-wing political party, headed by Ricardo Sáez de Ynestrillas.

ALIANZA POPULAR

This party was formed in 1976 to represent the Spanish centre right. FRAGA IRIBARNE was its leader, aided by other well-known politicians of the FRANCO years, including Fernández de la Mora, Silva Muñoz and Antonio Carro Martínez. Originally, the party was composed of seven right-wing groups in a loose coalition, most of which were led by ex-FRANCO ministers like FRAGA.

ALMARAZ

Site of a nuclear power-station which produces 10% of electricity in Spain. Inhabitants of Cáceres, the region in which it is sited, fear that there is a higher than normal incidence of cancer in the area.

ALMEIDA, CRISTINA (1944–)

Feminist lawyer, ALMEIDA has been a member of parliament for IU (IZQUIERDA UNIDA) since 1989. She first joined the PCE (PARTIDO COMUNISTA DE ESPAÑA) at the age of 19 and remained a member until 1981. She is a founder and active member of the PARTIDO

DEMOCRÁTICO DE LA NUEVA IZQUIERDA. Currently she is working as a defence lawyer in the CASO ARMY.

ALMODÓVAR, PEDRO (1949–)

Enfant terrible of the modern Spanish cinema. The author/director of films such as *Tacones lejanos* (High Heels) (1991), *Kika* (1993), *¿Qué he hecho yo para merecer esto?* (What Have I Done to Deserve This?) (1984) and *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (Women on the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown) (1988). The first of the Spanish directors apart from LUIS BUÑUEL to gain a truly international reputation, ALMODÓVAR depicts a Spain of transvestites, gays and drug addicts, but always with humour, compassion, melodrama and at breakneck speed. *La flor de mi secreto* (The Flower of my Secret) was screened in 1995, and *Carne Trémula* appeared in 1997. It is based on a novel by Ruth Rendell.

ALMUNIA, JOAQUÍN (1948–)

Basque politician, he became *secretario general* of the PSOE when FELIPE GONZÁLEZ resigned in June 1997. He is a DIPUTADO for MADRID and *presidente* of the *Grupo Parlamentario Socialista*.

ALONSO MANGLANO, EMILIO (1926–)

Director-general of CESID (CENTRO SUPERIOR DE INFORMACIÓN DE LA DEFENSA) from 1981 to 1995, when he was forced to resign due to a telephone-tapping scandal. In 1995, he was accused of telephone tapping, perversion of justice and embezzlement of public funds. He was allowed bail of one million pesetas.

ALONSO, ODÓN (1925–)

Musician and conductor. He was leader of the *Sinfónica de Radio y Televisión Española* from 1978 to 1984.

ALSA

Well-known coach company which operates between all the major cities in Spain and with many in Europe. It also has a service in China.

ALTOS CARGOS

Name commonly given to senior civil servants. They are often *cargos políticos* or political appointees.

ALTOS HORNOS DE VIZCAYA

Important steelworks, sited on the left bank of the River Nervión in BILBAO. Founded in 1902, the company is to be found at the heart of the district of Barakaldo. In its heyday, it employed more than 16,000 workers. In common with steelworks throughout the world, its future is gravely threatened and it has recently joined a conglomerate of steelmills called the *Corporación Siderúrgica*.

ÁLVAREZ CASCOS, FRANCISCO (1947-)

A former engineer, ÁLVAREZ CASCOS became *senador* for ASTURIAS in 1982. He was later a member of parliament (1986) and has been *secretario-general* of the PP since 1986. In 1996, he became *vicepresidente* of the Spanish government and *ministro de la Presidencia*.

ÁLVAREZ DEL MANZANO, JOSÉ MARÍA (1937-)

ALCALDE of MADRID since 1991 in which he stood for the PP and gained an absolute majority. His administration broke with that of earlier mayors such as TIERNO GALVÁN and JOAQUÍN LEGUINA, both of whom were socialists. Earlier ÁLVAREZ DEL MANZANO had been a member of the UCD (UNIÓN CENTRO DEMOCRÁTICO) and then of the PDP (PARTIDO DEMÓCRATA POPULAR).

AMA See: *AGENCIA DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE*

AMADOR, ÁNGELES (1950-)

Politician, currently *ministro de Sanidad*.

AMARILLISMO

Name given to the phenomenon of the sensationalist press in Spain. Spain does not really have a history of this sort of press, but with the advent of democracy, some newspapers and magazines have attempted to appeal to a mass audience by using this journalistic style.

AMEDO, JOSÉ (1946-)

Ex-subcomisario de policía, AMEDO was sentenced to 108 years imprisonment, together with his colleague, MICHEL DOMÍNGUEZ, for his role in the CASO AMEDO, (later to be known as the *Caso GAL*). They were accused of incitement to murder, illicit association, falsification of public documents, use of assumed

names and battery. In 1994, AMEDO's sentence was changed to that of *tercer grado penitenciario* in which prisoners are allowed freedom during the day but must return to prison at night.

AMENÁBAR, ALEJANDO (1973-)

Winner of one of the PREMIOS GOYA for the best film of 1996, *Tesis*. *Tesis* is AMENÁBAR's first feature film. *Abre los ojos*, his second film, was released in 1997.

AMI See: *ACUERDO MARCO INTERCONFEDERAL*

ANDALUCÍA

ANDALUCÍA occupies most of the southern part of Spain and is an autonomous region or AUTONOMÍA. Geographically, it is very varied, with a climate ranging from sub-tropical near the coast, to the mountain ranges of Granada. Its main industries are tourism and agriculture. It produces olive oil, vegetables and tropical fruits as well as cereals and tobacco. Cádiz is an important shipbuilding and fishing port and Huelva is the petrochemical centre for most of Southern Spain. Algeciras is a centre for international shipping and has a large container port, oil refinery and a major stainless steel plant. SEVILLA is the capital of the region and an important tourist centre. It is a river port set in a very fertile region, and has important lead and copper mines. See also; AUTONOMÍAS (ESTADO DE)

ANDREU, BLANCA

Poet. She has published collections such as *De una niña de provincias que se vino a vivir en un Chagall*, *Báculo de Babel* and *Elphistone*.

ANE See: *ACUERDO NACIONAL DE EMPLEO*

ANETO

Highest peak in the Pyrenees rising to 3,404 metres in the province of Huesca.

ANGLÉS ANTONIO (1965-)

Principal suspect in the ALCÀSSER case, in which three young girls were murdered. He was able to resist police arrest and fled to Lisbon and then to Dublin. Latest sightings have been in Uruguay.

ANGUITA, JULIO (1941-)

The leader of the coalition of left-wing parties, IU or IZQUIERDA UNIDA. He has been a member of parliament since 1989 and was ALCALDE of CÓRDOBA from 1979 to 1986, the only Communist mayor in Spain since the Civil War. He is the leader (*secretario-general*) of the PCE and was elected to that post in 1988.

ANOETA STADIUM

Large sports' stadium in SAN SEBASTIÁN, scene of the HB (HERRI BATASUNA) 1996 elections rally in which 30,000 people watched the Spanish and French flags being burned and witnessed a multitude of banners which demanded the return of political prisoners to the PAÍS VASCO, and the release of HB leaders from prison. Hooded individuals harangued the crowd and the stadium was invaded by teams of horses whose riders brandished the Basque flag.

ANSON, LUIS MARÍA (1934-)

Journalist and editor of ABC for many years, he is currently the *presidente* of *Televisa España*. He was elected to the REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA in 1998 where he occupies the chair for ñ.

ANTENA 3

One of three private television companies broadcasting nationally. The Spanish government invested in the company in 1995 through the TENEO group. It is one of the most popular channels with a large audience share.

ANTEPROYECTOS DE LEY

These are draft bills, usually preceded by a LIBRO BLANCO or White Paper.

ANTOÑETE (1932-)

Antonio Chenel, ANTOÑETE, was an important Spanish bullfighter. He retired in 1988.

AOIZ, FLOREN (1967-)

Spokesman (with JON IDÍGORAS) for HERRI BATASUNA, he is a member of its *Mesa Nacional* (or cabinet) and of the autonomous government in NAVARRA. He represents both the hawks and the younger generation within ETA which rejects negotiation and preaches permanent mobilisation against the Spanish state.

APARCERÍA

System of farming based on share-cropping. This system is steadily declining in importance and today counts for less than 3,5% of cultivated land.

APD See: *ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL PROGRESO DE LA DIRECCIÓN*

APE See: *ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL PROGRESO EMPRESARIAL*

APOYO A LAS MIGRACIONES INTERIORES

Under this scheme, workers who find jobs at some distance from their homes are given help with removal costs.

APRENDIZAJE

A certain number of apprenticeships are available in Spanish firms. To qualify, the apprentice must be aged between 16 and 25. At least 15% of the working day must be devoted to training. In the first year, the apprentice earns at least 70% of the minimum wage, in the second 80% and in the third, 90%.

APS See: *ATENCIÓN PRIMARIA DE SALUD*

ARAGÓN

ARAGÓN is one of the AUTONOMÍAS and is in the north-east of Spain between NAVARRA and CATALUÑA. It has a population of 1.2 million and covers an area of 47,650 square kilometres. It is an important agricultural centre with most production centred on Huesca. This area produces quality fruit such as peaches and apricots. The main industries in ARAGÓN are car production (there is an Opel assembly plant in ZARAGOZA, the manufacture of electrical goods, animal feed and automobile accessories. ZARAGOZA is the regional capital.

ARANDA, VICENTE (1926-)

An important film-maker who has worked extensively with VICTORIA ABRIL. Among his later films are several adapted from contemporary Spanish novels, such as *La muchacha de las bragas de oro* (1980), *Si te dicen que cat* (1989), *El amante bilingüe* (1993) and *Tiempo de silencio* (1986). He has also worked in television, notably on a series entitled *Los jinetes del alba* (1990) and on *El*

crimen del capitán Sánchez (1985). In 1996 he directed *Libertarias* with VICTORIA ABRIL, ANA BELÉN and Ariadna Gil, the story of three women anarchists fighting in the Spanish Civil War. His latest film, completed in 1997, is entitled *La mirada del otro* and is based on a novel by Fernando Delgado.

ARARTEKO

Name of the Basque DEFENSOR DEL PUEBLO.

ARCHIPIÉLAGO DE CABRERA

National park in the BALEARES. Famous for its coastline and sea birds.

ARCHIVO HISTÓRICO NACIONAL DE SALAMANCA

Certain historical documents belonging to the GENERALITAT were seized during the Civil War and re-housed in Salamanca. In 1995 central government authorized their return, but this was refused by the authorities in Salamanca. This controversy has yet not been settled and has given rise to a general debate on where documents of national historical importance should be held.

ARCO See: *FERIA INTERNACIONAL DE ARTE CONTEMPORÁNEO*

ARDANZA, JOSÉ ANTONIO (1941-)

Spanish politician and mayor of Mondragón in 1979. He has been the member of parliament for Guipúzcoa since 1983. President (OR LEHENDAKARI) of the Basque autonomous government since 1985 when he succeeded CARLOS GARAIKOETXEA. He won the 1989, 1990 and 1994 elections on the PNV ticket and currently governs in a coalition with the socialists.

ÁREA DE SALUD

District health authority. Typically it serves a population of between 200,000 and 250,000 people and has one *Centro de Salud* (that is, a general hospital and other medical facilities).

ÁREA METROPOLITANA

A government department which covers a metropolitan area and may represent several MUNICIPIOS within the conurbation. There are examples in the BARCELONA, VALENCIA and ZARAGOZA regions.

ÁREAS

These are departments within a *DIPUTACIÓN* and as such are responsible for sectors such as education, culture, traffic and social welfare.

ARECES, RAMÓN (1905–1989)

Spanish business-man who founded *EL CORTE INGLÉS*. He started his career in Cuba as a shop-assistant in a department store. On his return to Spain, he set up a small clothes shop which he called *EL CORTE INGLÉS*. It has since become the largest retail chain in Spain and has diversified into supermarkets and real estate. At his death, a foundation (the *Fundación RAMÓN ARECES*) was created to administer his business empire. The foundation also sponsors many cultural events.

ARGENTARIA

Large financial holding company, originally created in 1991 by amalgamating the state's banking interests such as the *BANCO EXTERIOR DE ESPAÑA*, the *Caja Postal de Ahorros* and banks belonging to the former *Instituto de Crédito Oficial*. The first stage of privatization began in 1996 when the government's stake in the company was reduced to 25%.

ARGUIÑANO, KARLOS

Famous television cook from Zarautz in the Basque country, he has a daily cookery programme on RTVE. He has compiled several books of recipes and has a popular restaurant in his home town.

ARIAS IMANOL (1956–)

Actor brought up in the *PAÍS VASCO*. His first important role was in *Cecilia* (1981), directed by Humberto Solás in Cuba. He has worked with VICENTE ARANDA in *Tiempo de silencio* (1986) and in a series of films about *El Lute*, a modern-day rogue who has almost become a Spanish folk hero. ARIAS achieved great popularity through the television series made with Pedro Masó, *Anillos de oro* (1983) and *Brigada central* (1989) and also *Mi querido maestro* in 1997.

ARIAS NAVARRO, CARLOS (1908–89)

First civilian prime minister since the Civil War, ARIAS NAVARRO was appointed to the post by FRANCO after the death of CARRERO BLANCO in 1974. He resigned in 1976. He stood for *senador* for the PP in 1977, but was not elected: he was considered incapable of adapting to the new democratic régime by the electorate.

ARMADA, ALFONSO (1920–)

ARMADA was condemned to 30 years imprisonment for his role in the attempted coup d'état of the 23 DE FEBRERO, 1981. He was released in 1988. At the time he was arrested, he held an important post as *segundo jefe del Estado Mayor del ejército*. He was a former military instructor and had been personal secretary to the King.

ARMERO, JOSÉ (1927–95)

The intermediary between the government of ADOLFO SUÁREZ and SANTIAGO CARRILLO, leader of the Communist Party in Spain. He was instrumental in the legalisation of the party and it was in his house in Pozuelo that the first interview took place between ADOLFO SUÁREZ and the Communist leader.

ARRABAL TERÁN, FERNANDO (1932–)

Playwright and novelist, born in MELILLA (North Africa). Has written almost exclusively in French. Among ARRABAL'S most important plays are *El cementerio de automóviles* and *Ceremonia por un negro asesinado*. He received the PREMIO NADAL in 1983 for his novel *La Torre herida por el rayo*. In 1987 he received the gold medal of the *Academia de Bellas Artes*. He calls his type of theatre '*teatro pánico*'.

ARRENDAMIENTO

System of land rental by which the farmer pays the land-owner a rent in either cash or kind. This type of tenure accounts for 14% of cultivated land in Spain.

ARRESTO MENOR

Minor offences subject to a maximum prison term of three years.

ARRESTOS DE FIN DE SEMANA

In accordance with the 1995 CÓDIGO PENAL, full-time imprisonment may be substituted by weekend imprisonment (for terms of

up to two years, at the rate of two weekends per week of imprisonment).

ARROYO, EDUARDO (1937–)

Painter in the pop tradition. He spent several years in exile as a result of satirical works on subjects such as FRANCO, Salazar and Mussolini, which he showed in the Third Paris Biennial in 1963.

ARZAK, JUAN MARIA (1938–)

Internationally famous restaurateur and chef. His restaurant in SAN SEBASTIÁN is considered to be one of the best in Spain. He was elected *Caballero de la orden de las artes y las letras*. He writes for EL PAÍS in the Sunday supplement and also presents a radio programme entitled *A vivir, que son dos días*, for CADENA SER.

ARZALLUS, XABIER (1932–)

Basque politician, currently presidente of the PNV. Formerly a Jesuit priest, he first joined the PNV while living in Germany in the sixties. He was a member of parliament for Guipúzcoa in 1977 and 1979.

AS

One of the leading sports newspapers, with a circulation figure of 163,000 during the week and 214,000 for its weekly edition.

ASAMBLEA FEDERAL

Supreme body of the IZQUIERDA UNIDA and equivalent to the CONGRESO FEDERAL of the PSOE. Among its functions are: analysis and debate, approval of the programme for government at national and European level, decisions on party strategy and election of members to the *Consejo Político Federal* which is the main governing body of the party between assemblies.

ASAMBLEA REGIONAL

Each AUTONOMÍA has an assembly, elected by the inhabitants of the region according to a system of proportional representation. The ASAMBLEA works according to the central government model, apart from the fact that there is no upper chamber. Some ASAMBLEAS are much bigger than others, depending on the number of inhabitants per AUTONOMÍA.

ASEC See: *ACUERDO SOBRE SOLUCIÓN EXTRAJUDICIAL DE CONFLICTOS LABORALES*

ASENSIO, ANTONIO (1947-)

President of the *Grupo ZETA*, a conglomerate of newspapers and magazines, and head of the private television channel *ANTENA 3* since 1992. He founded the magazine *INTERVIÚ*.

ASISTENCIA SANITARIA

Those Spaniards and their dependents who have contributed to the *SEGURIDAD SOCIAL* have the right to free health care. Up till 1996, prescriptions were free. One may choose any doctor within one's own health district, providing that doctor's list is not full.

ASOCIACIÓN DE ESCRITORES Y PERIODISTAS INDEPENDIENTES

This professional association for writers and journalists was founded in 1994.

ASOCIACIÓN DE VÍCTIMAS DEL TERRORISMO

Association founded to give help and advice to all those who have suffered from terrorist attacks in Spain. In 1997 they denounced companies and organisations who placed advertisements in the daily newspaper *EGIN*, alleging that such advertising revenue helps swell the coffers of the Basque terrorist organisation *ETA*.

ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE LA BANCA PRIVADA

This association represents the banking sector and publishes monthly and annual statistics. It is a powerful lobby within Spain although its interests are now economic rather than political.

ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL PROGRESO DE LA DIRECCIÓN

This body has 3,000 members and organises conferences, training events and seminars on management issues.

ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL PROGRESO EMPRESARIAL

An organisation allied to the *CÍRCULO DE EMPRESARIOS*, which provides management education and training.

ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA DEFENSA DE LA NATURALEZA

First environmental group to be set up in Spain and headed, in the early days, by the TV journalist Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente. It is a branch of the World Wildlife Fund.

ASOCIADO

In the university system, a part-time lecturer who is usually a practitioner in his or her specialised field.

ASTILLEROS

State shipbuilding company. In 1995 INI proposed that its work force be cut by 60%, which was the occasion of violent conflict throughout the summer. A compromise solution was reached in October of that year.

ASTURIAS

ASTURIAS is one of Spain's autonomous regions. It has a population of 1.1 million and covers an area of 10,565 square kilometres. ASTURIAS is in the north of Spain, bordering to the west on GALICIA and to the east on CANTABRIA. Its main agricultural products are apples (cider is an important bi-product), milk and potatoes. The triangle comprising the three cities of Avilés, Gijón and Oviedo is heavily industrialised. Traditionally a coal-mining area, Asturias produces 53% of Spain's coal, but as elsewhere, this industry is in crisis and the area has suffered much industrial unrest. ASTURIAS also accounts for 32% of national steel production. As with plants in other regions, the steel industry has suffered a painful process of modernisation and restructuring. Oviedo is the regional capital.

ASUNCIÓN, ANTONI

Former *Ministro de Interior* in the GONZÁLEZ government.

ATAPUERCA (BURGOS)

In 1995, the remains of a boy, young man and two other adults were found in ATAPUERCA. They are alleged to be the oldest in Europe.

ATENCIÓN PRIMARIA DE SALUD

Primary health care: this term refers to health provision in ambu-

latorios or health centres and to that given by the general practitioner.

ATENEO

This Madrid club was founded in 1820 and was frequented by literary figures such as Miguel de Unamuno and politicians such as Primo de Rivera and Azaña. It is well known for its library and its cultural activities of a literary nature. Similar institutions exist in other cities: the ATENEO in SEVILLA is particularly well-known.

ATHLÉTIC

BILBAO football club, founded in 1898 and the second oldest in Spain. It is one of the so-called 'historic' clubs, along with REAL MADRID and BARÇA.

ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

Madrid's second football team and arch rival of REAL MADRID. Its home is the Vicente Calderón stadium and its colours are red and white. Its president is JESÚS GIL Y GIL.

ATOCHA

One of the oldest and most beautiful railway stations in Madrid. It serves stations to the south. The AVE or high-speed train departs from here for SEVILLA.

ATS See: *AYUDANTE TÉCNICO SANITARIO*

ATXAGA, BERNARDO (1951-)

This Basque writer and poet won the *Premio Nacional de la Literatura* in 1989 for a collection of short stories in Basque, *Obabakoak*, whose translation into Spanish became a best-seller. He has since written *El hombre solo* (1993) and *Esos cielos* (1996).

AUDIENCIA NACIONAL

The High Court. This court investigates and pronounces on offences which concern national rather than community interests. Such offences include treachery, forgery, fraud which affects residents in more than one AUTONOMÍA and offences committed outside Spain. It also has powers of extradition.

AUDIENCIA PROVINCIAL

These provincial courts hear oral public proceedings, in single instance, of major offences. They also deal with appeals against decisions, sentences and judgements of lower courts. They are concerned only with civil and criminal matters.

AUDIENCIA TERRITORIAL

Prior to 1980, these were regional courts. They have been replaced by TRIBUNALES SUPERIORES DE JUSTICIA.

AUTOESCUELA

Driving schools which provide practical and theoretical instruction for the driving test.

AUTONOMÍAS (ESTADO DE)

Spain's ESTADO DE AUTONOMÍAS is the organisation of the state according to a federal system, in which all 17 regions of the country are self-governing. The 17 regions are: ANDALUCÍA, ARAGÓN, CANARIAS, CANTABRIA, CASTILLA Y LEÓN, CASTILLA-LA MANCHA, CATALUÑA, EXTREMADURA, GALICIA, BALEARES, MADRID, MURCIA, NAVARRA, PAÍS VASCO, ASTURIAS, LA RIOJA and LA COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA. The two North African enclaves of CEUTA and MELILLA have an ambiguous status: debate still continues as to how much independence they should be accorded.

Not all regional administrations have the same range of powers. The historical autonomous regions (that is, those which were independent in the past) are CATALUÑA, EL PAÍS VASCO and GALICIA; they enjoy more independence than the others. It is hoped, however, that in the future all regions will have the same degree of autonomy. The responsibilities of government departments such as Education, INSERSO (INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES) and Employment have been devolved to the autonomous regions. CATALUÑA and the PAÍS VASCO have their own police forces. NAVARRA and the PAÍS VASCO also have the power to raise their own taxes and thus pay for services received from central government. This federal system was put into place by ADOLFO SUÁREZ in 1978 just after the death of FRANCO. Although it works well in general, it must be said that the system is heavy in administrative costs. For instance, in 1991, the autonomous regions

were responsible for 19% of overall spending, but employed 31% of Spain's civil servants.

AUTOPISTA DE LEIZARÁN

Motorway to be built in the PAÍS VASCO and bitterly opposed by left-wing nationalists. It has been the object of numerous acts of sabotage and fire-bombing.

AUTOPISTAS

The Spanish motorway system has been subject to massive expansion in recent years. All motorways are prefixed by the letter A. Some charge a toll – from 225 pesetas from SAN SEBASTIÁN to the French frontier (A8), to 6,940 ptas from BARCELONA to Alicante (A7).

AUTOPISTAS CONCESIONARIA ESPAÑOLA, S.A.

This company promotes and maintains the following regional motorways: La Jonquera-BARCELONA-Tarragona, ZARAGOZA-Mediterránea, and Mongat-Malgrat.

AUTOPISTAS DEL MARE NOSTRUM, S.A.

This company is the state concessionaire for the Tarragona-VALENCIA, VALENCIA-Alicante and SEVILLA-Cádiz motorways. It constructs and maintains the motorways, and operates the tolls.

AVE

The AVE (*Alta Velocidad Española*) is the name of the Spanish high speed train, akin to the French TGV and the Japanese bullet train. The name is doubly significant: besides the literal translation of the acronym (Spanish high speed) AVE also means bird. Currently, there are only two lines, one linking MADRID with SEVILLA and another from MADRID to Huelva via Cádiz. The choice of this line rather than one going north to BARCELONA and France was due to two factors. Firstly, the desire to improve communications with the poorer regions to the south, and secondly, to have a prestigious link with EXPO 92 in SEVILLA. The AVE has cut the length of the journey from MADRID to SEVILLA from six and a quarter hours to two and a half. The line will be extended in the future to cover the MADRID-BARCELONA-French frontier route thus creating a North-South high speed railway link. The AVE has

the international gauge of 1,435 mm rather than the Spanish gauge of 1,668 mm. See also: RENFE.

AVT See: *ASOCIACIÓN DE VÍCTIMAS DEL TERRORISMO*

AVUI

One of the most important CATALÁN newspapers, entirely written in CATALÁN and published in BARCELONA. Along with EL PAÍS, it was the first newspaper to appear after FRANCO's death. It has a circulation of 30,000.

AYUDANTE

In the university system, a junior lecturer, usually a post-graduate student completing a higher degree.

AYUDANTE TÉCNICO SANITARIO

Male or female nurse, usually working in a hospital.

AYUNTAMIENTO

The Town Hall or AYUNTAMIENTO is responsible for its local MUNICIPIO. It is controlled by the ALCALDE or Mayor, together with his CONCEJALES or town councillors.

AZCONA, RAFAEL (1926–)

Journalist and script-writer. His most fruitful collaborations have been with LUIS BERLANGA, with whom he worked on the scripts of films such as *La escopeta nacional* (1977) and with CARLOS SAURA. He has written over 100 film scripts in the past 35 years.

AZNAR, JOSÉ MARÍA (1953–)

Leader of the right-wing PP (PARTIDO POPULAR) since January 1989, when he succeeded MANUEL FRAGA. He was a member of parliament for the AP (ALIANZA POPULAR) from 1982 to 1989 and *presidente* of the autonomous region of CASTILLA Y LEÓN from 1987 to 1989. He was the PP candidate for the presidency in 1989 and 1993. AZNAR was the object of an assassination attempt by ETA in April 1995. In 1996, the PARTIDO POPULAR won the general elections and AZNAR became prime minister (PRESIDENTE DEL GOBIERNO) of Spain.

AZOR

AZOR ('goshawk') is the name of the yacht used by both General FRANCO and FELIPE GONZÁLEZ.

B

BACALAO

Music with a rhythmic beat which originated in the clubs and discothèques outside VALENCIA, equivalent to the British 'techno' or 'house' music. It is very popular in other clubs on the edges of large towns and cities. The motorways which are lined with discothèques of this sort are called *la ruta del BACALAO*.

BACHILLERATO UNIFICADO Y POLIVALENTE

This course (known as BUP) is designed for students from 15 to 17 and prepares them for University entrance or for vocational training. BUP consists of three year-long courses and is academic in character. In the third year, students may choose between Arts or Sciences or opt for a combination of the two. Assessment is continuous but there is a final examination held in June and September. Students are allowed to proceed to the next class if they fail no more than two subjects. This system, introduced in 1970 under the LGE (*Ley General de Educación*) is gradually being replaced by a new one. See also: LOGSE

BAJO ULLOA, JUANMA (1967-)

A young film-maker whose first film *Alas de mariposa* won considerable acclaim at the FESTIVAL DE SAN SEBASTIÁN. He also directed *La madre muerta* and *Tierra* (1996).

BALCELLS, CARMEN (1936-)

Doyenne of literary agents and based in BARCELONA, CARMEN BALCELLS handles authors such as Gabriel García Márquez, Mario Vargas Llosa, JUAN MARSÉ and MANUEL VÁZQUEZ MONTALBÁN.

BALLESTEROS, SEVERIANO (1957-)

BALLESTEROS was born in Pedrera (CANTABRIA) and has been a golf professional since 1974. Known the world over as 'Sevy', he has won three British Opens (1979, 1984, 1988) and the US Masters

twice (1980 and 1983). He was the first man to win 50 European golf tournaments. He served as a role model for many young Spanish golfers such as OLAZÁBAL.

BALSERO

Name given to those who attempt to enter Spain illegally by crossing the straits of Gibraltar from North Africa to Spain. The name comes from the Spanish for 'raft' and refers to the dangerous craft in which immigrants seek to travel to Europe. They are also known as *espaldas mojadas* or wet-backs. See also: PATERA

BANCA CATALANA

Bank, based in CATALUÑA and BALEARES, of which 96% of the capital is held by the BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA (BBV).

BANCO AZUL

The seats of those DIPUTADOS whose party is in government. They are upholstered in blue, hence the expression, 'blue bench'.

BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA, S.A.

This bank is engaged in all major aspects of banking and is extremely active in South America, with offices in Argentina, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil and Mexico. It was formed in 1989 as a result of the merger between the *Banco Bilbao* and the *Banco Vizcaya*.

BANCO CENTRAL HISPANO

This bank has over 4,000 branches throughout Spain as well as branches in Germany, Belgium, France, Gibraltar, Italy, the UK and in South America. It was formed as a result of a merger between the *Banco Central* and the *Banco Hispanoamericano* in 1991.

BANCO DE ESPAÑA

This bank was awarded exclusive rights of issue in 1874, was nationalized in 1962 and is currently completely independent from government control. It is the nation's central bank and is subject to the *Ley de Autonomía del Banco de España*. It is responsible for managing foreign currency reserves and exchange rate policy: it oversees the work of the clearing banks and may impose sanctions on those which do not comply with its

requests. It also issues notes and coins and is the official bank of the state and of the autonomous regions.

BANCO DE FOMENTO

This bank merged in 1995 with *Hispamer*, to form *Hispamer Banco Finanzas*.

BANCO DE LA PEQUEÑA Y MEDIANA EMPRESA

This bank finances small and medium businesses or PYMES (PEQUEÑAS Y MEDIANAS EMPRESAS).

BANCO DE SANTANDER

Large clearing bank, which works closely with the Royal Bank of Scotland and the North American bank, First Fidelity. It has a joint venture with the insurance company *Geminis*. One of the big four Spanish clearing banks, it has 341 branches abroad (many of which are in South America) and 1,481 in Spain.

BANCO DEL COMERCIO

Formerly the *Banco de Financiación Industrial (Indubán)*, this bank now finances and undertakes industrial promotions.

BANCO EXTERIOR DE ESPAÑA

This bank operates as a private bank but differs from other banks operating in Spain in that it is particularly orientated towards foreign trade transactions and specifically to export credit transactions. It is now part of the ARGENTARIA group.

BANCO GALLEGO

Formerly known as the *Banco de Crédito e Inversiones*, this bank changed its name in 1988.

BANCO INDUSTRIAL DE BILBAO

This bank finances medium-term investments and industrial participants. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of the BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA.

BANCO POPULAR ESPAÑOL

This bank is involved in all types of banking business and ancillary services. It has branches throughout Spain and also in Germany, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, the UK,

Switzerland and Venezuela. It is controlled by members of the OPUS DEI. It is the smallest of the big four Spanish clearing banks.

BANCO SABADELL

A medium sized clearing bank dealing with individual clients and small and medium sized businesses. It has a network of more than 400 branches throughout Spain.

BANCO ZARAGOZANO

This bank operates through a network of 349 branches and agencies nationwide. It is also involved in leasing, mortgage granting, factoring, capital and money markets, insurance, real estate administration and investment management.

BANDERA

The colours of the Spanish flag are red (at the top), yellow (double width) and red.

BANDERAS, ANTONIO (DOMÍNGUEZ BANDERAS, JOSÉ ANTONIO) (1961–)

ANTONIO BANDERAS began his career with the Spanish National Theatre before moving into the cinema, first with PEDRO ALMODÓVAR and then in Hollywood. He appeared in ALMODÓVAR's *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* and *Átame*, and made his American debut in *Mambo Kings*, after which he appeared in a number of films, including *Philadelphia*, *Miami Rhapsody*, and *The House of Spirits*. He also starred in *Assassins* opposite Sylvester Stallone, and in *Two Much* with Melanie Griffith. Perhaps his most famous role has been as the narrator *Ché* in the recent film *Evita*, with Madonna. He is considered by some to be the '90s equivalent of Rudolf Valentino.

BANDOS

Edicts issued by the ALCALDE of a town or city on relatively minor matters. The ALCALDE may do this without consulting his councillors.

BANDRÉS, JUAN MARÍA (1932–)

Basque politician, he has been a SENADOR, DIPUTADO and EURODIPUTADO. He was the founder and leader of EUSKADIKO EZKERRA, which was eventually absorbed into the PSOE. During the