



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
CHEMNITZ

*Migration and Crisis – understanding migration dynamics from Mediterranean Europe in the context of economic and financial crisis (University of Chemnitz)*



**DAAD**  
Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS PALMAS  
DE GRAN CANARIA

**The role of public opinions on recent Spanish emigration**

Chemnitz 19-22 de mayo de 2015

Ramón Díaz-Hernández

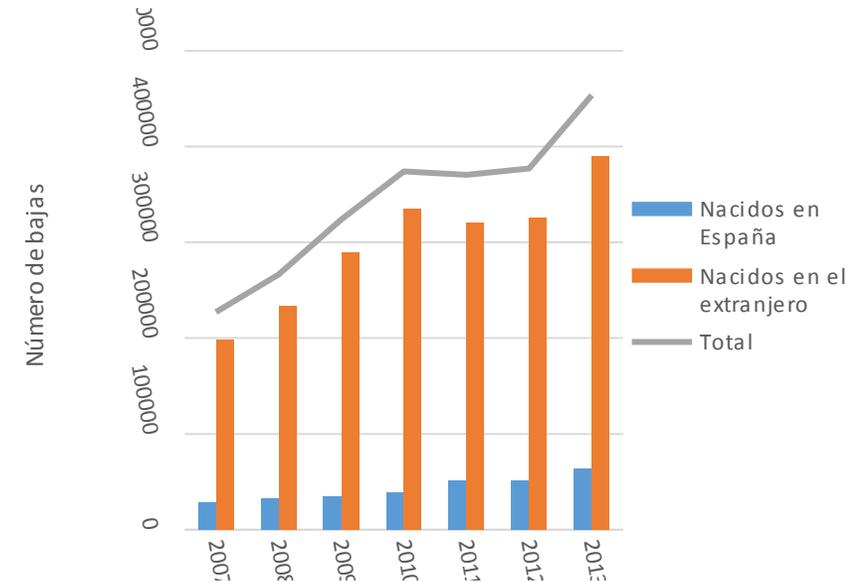
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# Introduction: crisis and emigration

- The productive structure in Spain generate a vulnerable labour market which conditions our migratory model.
- In less than a decade, as a consequence of the economic and financial crisis, Spain has gone from being one of the countries of the world with the highest rate of foreign immigration to counting on one of the more negative migratory balance in the context of European Union.
- In fact, the crisis has also given rise to an acute joblessness propelling the return of former immigrants to their countries of origin and the emigration of Spaniards towards everywhere. Specially, to other European countries and, secondly, to Latin America and the United States.

Evolution of population de-registered in Spain according to the birth country (2007-2013)



Source: Statistical of Residential Variations (INE)

# Introduction: crisis and emigration

- The lockout, the precarious work and the underemployment have contributed to the emigration of young adult Spaniards, specially between 20 and 39 years old.
- In this recent process have participated the most skilled young adults and, on the one hand, this has been interpreted as a brain drain and a lost of a valuable human capital.
- On the other hand this emigration has aroused important attention from social scientists, *mass media* and citizenship, in general, who have placed it as an important current issue.
- Social researchers have decisively faced the challenge of its scientific study, developing different procedures and study, and disseminating the results inside the academic community. At the same time, mass media has depicted some images of this phenomenon, contributing to its distorting and oversizing.



40.000 Spaniards have emigrated this year (*El País*, 17th July 2012)

# Introduction: crisis and emigration

- Although we still live the consequences of the economic crisis, after seven eventful years it is time to take stock of the scientist and media activity with regard to this process.
- It is useful to develop a provisional state of affairs to satisfy the necessities of those researchers who want to closer to the sources of study and to reflect on common or little known aspects of this phenomenon.
- This presentation try to do it from an open perspective, pursuing two different **objectives**:
  - Offering a set of scientific documents collected from different sources.
  - Submitting the treatment given by the media to this process of emigration and some key interpretations.



Spanish Secretary of State in Emigration and Immigration, Anna Terrón, in the Conference '*Presencia española en el exterior*' in Santiago de Compostela 4/02/2011.

# The scientific study of emigration

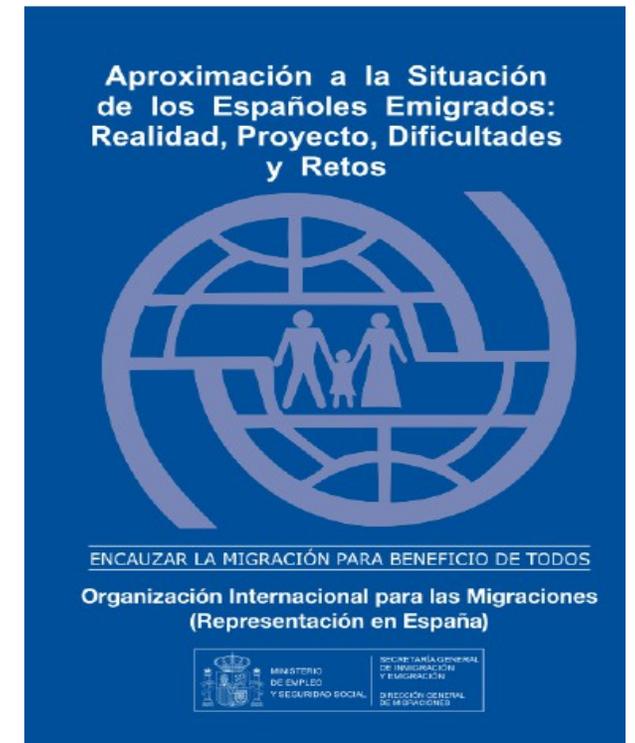
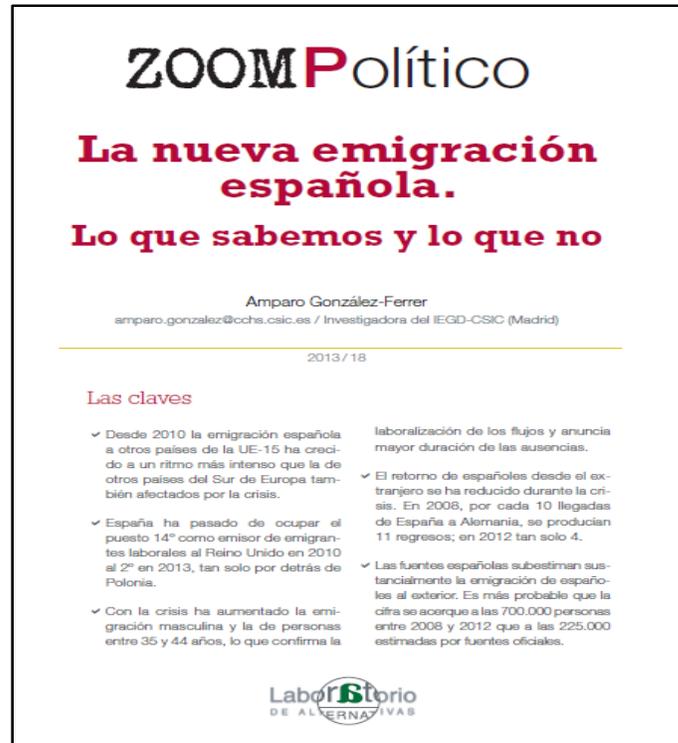
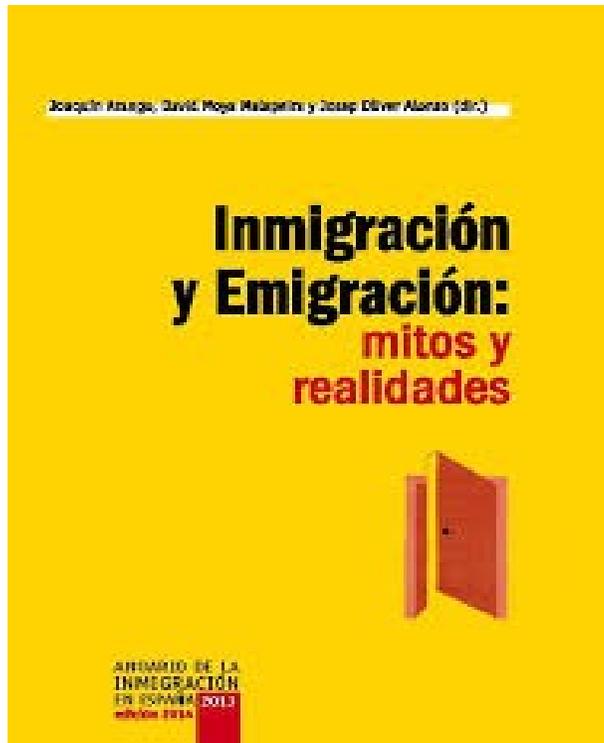
- The emigration abroad and its impact in the Spanish society has had a great consequence on social research in recent years.
- Firstly, the **meetings** about this topic has risen sharply in the last years. So, we searched the scientific publications from these different conferences, congresses, etc. pressed since 2010. This information was classified and ordered by three criteria: the date of celebration of the meetings, the topics studied and the research entities hosting these events (foundations, research institutes, public institutions...)
- Secondly, we also identified the scientific **networks** that have been created and the dissemination on line of their findings.



Meeting in Vallendar to study 'The New Emigration', November, 2014,  
(Spanish Confederation of Associations of Parents in Germany)

# The scientific study of emigration

- Besides, the issue has attracted the interest of many public and private institutions what has provoked that more than thirty books and academic reports appeared in recent years, carried out by experts from renowned.
- Lastly, it is evident that the number of papers published in academic journals is growing. We have consulted part of them.



## Research promoters: foundations, research institutes, professional organizations and public entities

Real Instituto Elcano	Fundación CIDOB	Banco de España, <i>Boletín Económico</i>	LinkedIn
Delegación española de la Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)	Centro Reina Sofía sobre Adolescencia y Juventud y la Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción	Fundación 1º de Mayo - Estudios 25 (Comisiones Obreras)	ADECCO, AGETT, KEYPROCOM y ASSEMBLEO (Asociación de Grandes Empresas de Trabajo Temporal)
Observatorio de la Juventud y el Colegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología	Instituto para la Sociedad y las Comunicaciones de Vodafone	Instituto Nacional de Estadística	Grup d'Estudis Demogràfics i de les Migracions de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Instituto de la Mujer y la Igualdad de Oportunidades (Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad)	MAPFRE	Unión General de Trabajadores	Servicio Europeo de Empleo (EURES)
Universidad Pontificia de Comillas	Grupo de Investigación <i>Sociedades y Espacios Atlánticos</i> de la Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	Coordinadora Federal del Movimiento Asociativo en la República Federal Alemana	Fundación Alternativas

# The scientific study of emigration

- First, we must highlight the variety of sources and methodologies. In this sense, statistical sources provided by the National Statistical Institute and the Regional Statistical Entities –with their successes and limitations–, have been used by the most of them.
- In particular, demographic data have been collected of sources as the Register of Spaniards Resident Abroad (PERE), the Electoral Census of Absent Residents (CERA) and the Residential Variation Statistics and other data downloaded from the Portal for Spanish Citizens in Abroad.
- Besides, most studies mentioned use primary sources and statistical data from the European Commission, Eurostat, World Bank, IOM, OECD, EURES, International Labour Organisation and Labour Mobility Observatory of the Public Employment Service.
- Some research works have used information from the countries of destination of migrants (records of work permits granted to Spanish people, inscription of Spaniards in the administrative regions of residence,...)
- Records of the Spanish consulates and embassies have been used in some cases. The different levels of reliability depending on the locations is a restriction for the use.

La emigración de los jóvenes españoles en el contexto de la crisis. Análisis y datos de un fenómeno difícil de cuantificar



→ estudios

# The scientific study of emigration

- However, the most remarkable is the fact that many of the researchers have also used complementary sources like surveys, in-depth interviews and discussion groups, with the object to analyse the profile of the young-adult Spanish emigrants and their migration experiences.
- Most of the surveys and on-line interviews have been posted on digital platforms and disseminated through social networks and have reached a high level of success, with an important number of respondents, given the fact that the emigrants concerned do an intense use of these methods of communication.
- This action highlights the importance of IT not only to develop new research procedures, searching the informants through these new media, but approaching the community of researchers immediately to the hypothesis of the different studies carried out and to the results obtained.



# The scientific study of emigration

- At this moment of the state of knowledge we consider necessary overcome the descriptive phase and deepen in the conceptual framework of this process of emigration.
- It is necessary to identify the different simultaneous migratory processes (emigration, expatriation and secondment) and deepen in the temporal or definitive character of them, emphasizing its contribution to global changes and transnational processes.
- It is indispensable to use sources of the countries of destination and compare it with the information of the country of origin. In this sense it would be appropriate to reach an agree to collaborate with the researchers of destination countries. If the local and regional perspective is introduced undoubtedly diagnostic would also be improved.
- It will be desirable as well to compare similar processes of emigration from countries as Portugal, Greece and Italy or countries out of the European Union.
- Finally, it is a good opportunity to test the impacts of new social networks in this type of human mobility.



Universidad Europea  
LAUREATE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

**SEMINARIO ACADÉMICO**

Grupo de Investigación: Diversidad e Innovación Social | Dra. Fátima Gómez | Dra. Rocío Molés | Prof. María José Santacruz | Prof. Leticia Flores-Estrada

FACULTAD DE CIENCIAS SOCIALES

Sobre el **Proyecto de Investigación:**

La tercera fase del Sistema Migratorio Europeo.  
**JÓVENES ESPAÑOLES EN ALEMANIA:**  
DINÁMICAS DE ACCESO AL MERCADO LABORAL  
Y CONSTRUCCIÓN DE REDES MIGRATORIAS.

**9:00h - 9:30h** **APERTURA**  
D. Sergio Calvo, Director de la Escuela de Doctorado e Investigación de la UE.  
Dña. Yolanda Gómez Echevarría, Subdirectora General de Emigración, Dirección General de Migraciones.

**9:30h - 11:00h** **PARTE I: EL "SISTEMA MIGRATORIO EUROPEO": EMIGRACIÓN ECONÓMICA O MOVILIDAD LABORAL**  
Presentación: Dra. Rocío Molés, Profesora de la UE e Investigadora Principal.

**9:30h - 10:30h** D. Lorenzo Cachán, Catedrático de Sociología e Investigador Grupo de Estudios sobre Migraciones Internacionales. UCM.

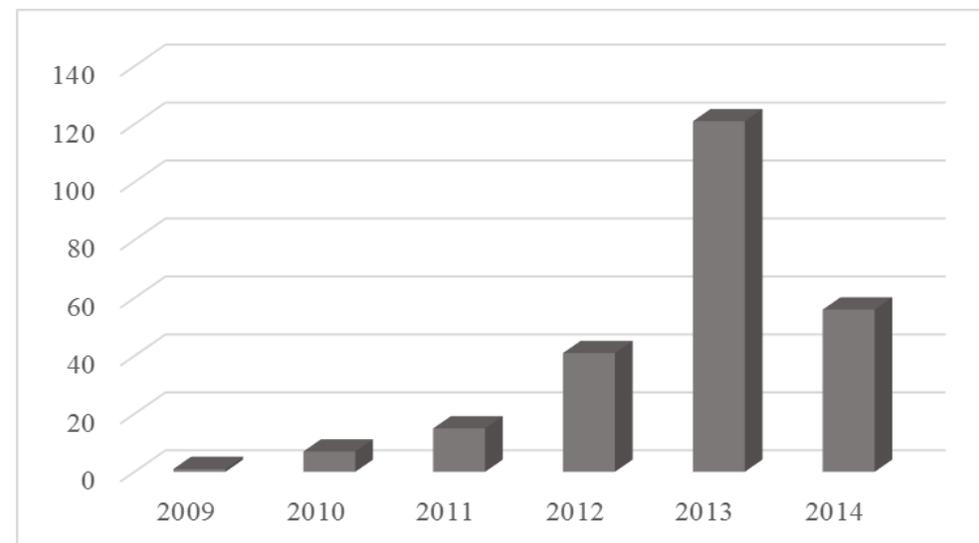
**10:30h - 11:00h** D. Ángel de Goya Castroverde, Consejero de Empleo y Seguridad Social, Embajada de España en Berlín.

**C O F F E E - B R E A K**

**11:30h - 13:30h** **PARTE II: JÓVENES ESPAÑOLES EN ALEMANIA: DINÁMICAS DE ACCESO AL MERCADO LABORAL Y CONSTRUCCIÓN DE REDES MIGRATORIAS**  
Apertura: Dña. Ana María Ovjeiro, Directora del CEI Valores y Sociedad Global. UE.

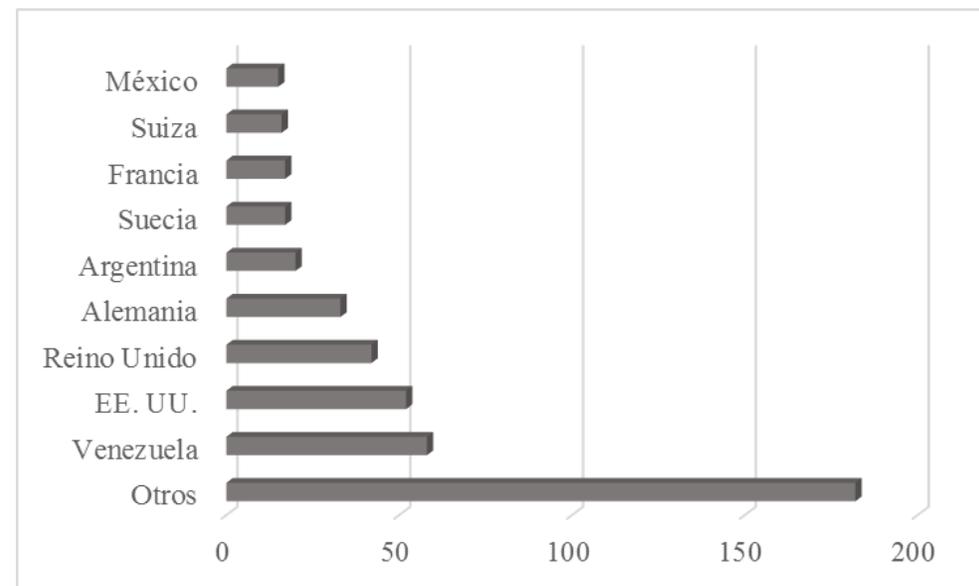
# Recent emigration in the media

- We made the collecting of information through the web pages of the largest circulation **newspapers** in Spain. National, local and online newspapers have devoted a prominent space to news, interviews, etc. about the recent emigration of Spaniards.
- Ej. El País, from 2009 to 2015, has published 246 articles with this topic.
- *The Confidential, along with three other means of Southern Europe (P3 / Public Accountant –Portugal-, Il Fatto Quotidiano –Italy- and Radio Bubble –Greece-), raised the mapping of the emigrants between 20 and 40 years of these four countries (# GeneraciónE: who are they and where young expatriates of Southern Europe go to?)*
- *La Opinión de Tenerife opened a website to map the Diaspora: <http://canariosenelmundo.laopinion.es/mapa.php>. 452 people disseminated by 74 countries had registered on February, the 1st, 2015.*



Number of articles and reports published in El País (2009-2014)

Source: *El País*. Collected by the authors



The new Canarian Diaspora according to *La Opinión* de Tenerife

Source: *La Opinión*. Collected by the authors

# Recent emigration in the media

- Broadcasters of national and local radio have paid great attention to this social phenomenon, including experiences of migrants in many programs.
- We selected the podcasts of the **radio** with the most number of listeners and they were classified according to its nature (interviews, informative programs, debates, reportages, etc.).
- In 2013, in its daily schedule, Cadena Ser (radio leader in Spain) dedicated a space called *Journal of the crisis* besides numerous interviews, commentaries, debates, discussions and reports; in this space many young people leaving Spain tell or write mini-stories that are broadcasted on the program *Hoy por Hoy*.
- ABC Punto Radio, Radio Nacional de España, Cadena COPE, Onda Cero and other national and local radio stations have made special programs using the same formula of stories through interviews.



Radio program "Funk Radio" aimed at Spanish-speaking immigrants living in Germany (Spanish Confederation of Associations of Parents in Germany)

# Recent emigration in the media

- **Television** is the medium that has spread more information regarding Spanish emigration. We used the web pages of the Spanish public TV networks (at state and regional level) with the object to rescue the programs dealing with this issue.
- A carefree and joyful approach to tell the immigrant experience is used.
- National and local Tv channels have adopted the same format and the same title: Spanish around the world, the Andalusians people around the world, Canarian people around the World, Valencian people around the World, etc.
- *Spanish around the World* is undisputed leader. The program is broadcasted every Tuesday since 2009. It lasts 45 minutes and its average audience is of 3,000,000 viewers.
- In each program, 6 Spaniards who live in different cities are interviewed, showing their migrant experience. Until 27th January 2015, 1,300 Spaniards residing in 195 different destinations have gone through the small screen.

Spanish around the World, Kyoto. 10th may 2009



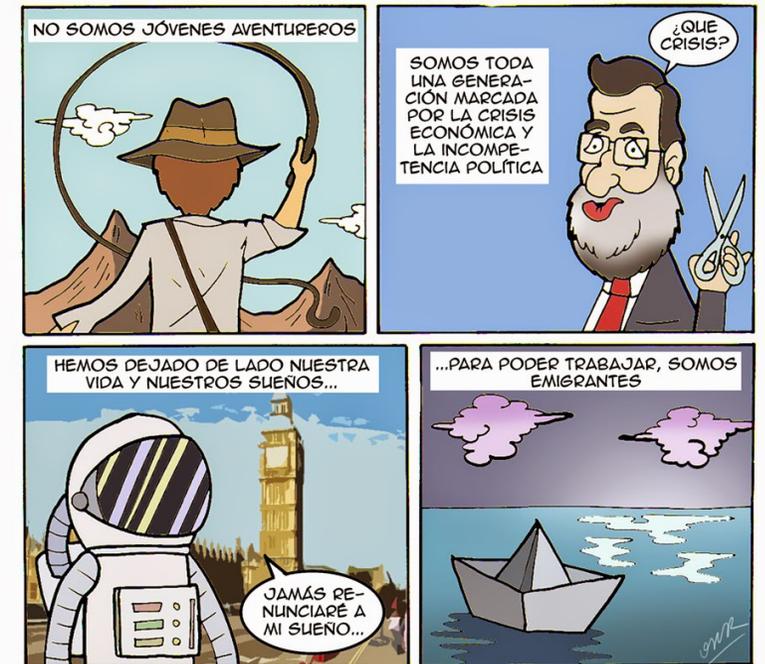
Newspapers	Digital newspapers	Radios	TV stations
El País	El Confidencial	Radio Nacional de España	Televisión Española
El Mundo	Público	Cadena SER	Antena3
ABC	Libertad Digital	Onda Cero	Telecinco
La Razón	El Diario	ABC Punto Radio	La Sexta
La Provincia	Huffington Post	Cadena COPE	Canal +
La Opinión	Periodista Digital		Cuatro TV
	Voz Populi		Telemadrid
	Nueva Tribuna		Canal Sur
			TV Canaria

**Main audiovisual Spanish media consulted**

Source: Office of Broadcasting and General Media Study (01-07-2014)

# Recent emigration in the media

- **Comics, web-series, film projects, blogs** and other communication channels have proliferated with information about the new migration processes. We also explored this source carried out by migrants themselves in many cases and we have tried to do an overall assessment.
- *La Blogoteca, Pepas y Pepes 3.0* and many others show these experiences from an opposite perspective to that offered by conventional media.
- Moreover, comics and webseries created around Spanish emigration focus the migration process from other points of view.
- From a crowdfunding platform, Óscar Ibáñez publishes the comic *Leaving Spain*. This publication inserted daily cartoons where anecdotes and experiences of young Spaniards about their life in a foreign country are set.
- Javier Moreno Caballero conducts Spaniards in London, the first webseries about the Spanish emigration held in UK (<http://spaniardsinlondon.com/>).



# Recent emigration in the media

- Some films have also appeared in Spain. *En tierra extraña* (*In a strange land*) is a documentary by Iciar Bollaín (2014) which deals with the everyday life of young Spaniards who travel abroad in search of work. This film is focused on the experience and problems of those living in Edinburgh.
- The emigration of young talent abroad, notably to Germany, is the central theme of *Perdiendo el Norte* (*Losing the North*), Nacho Garcia Velilla film, released in late 2014.



## Printing press' and magazines' logos

# Recent emigration in the media

- Lastly, expatriation-migration has generated a "new journalism" created by the protagonists themselves and private companies and public administrations.
- This journalism is targeted to an emigrant public and is based on an information request which includes the news from Spain and the respective host countries.
- Some of these media were created by former waves of Spanish migrants. Now, the media are being updated through the use of websites, mobile messaging or social networks.

EL NORTHERN

EL IBÉRICO  
El periódico en español de Londres

EL CORREO  
Primer periódico en español de UAE y del Golfo Árabe

CIRCULO  
CREATIVO  
LONDON

Polska Viva  
El periódico en español de Polonia Gazeta po hiszpańsku w Polsce

CARTA DE ESPAÑA  
online

CRÓNICAS de la EMIGRACIÓN

BERLUNES  
Ellos tienen Mallorca,  
nosotros tenemos Berlín

## Main "migrant" press

The Spanish Herald (Australia)

Pasaporte (España)

El Ibérico (Londres)

Carta de España (España)

Círculo de Creativo (Reino Unido)

Polska Viva (Polonia)

SRUK/CERU (Reino Unido)

Berlunes (Berlin)

El Northern (Manchester)

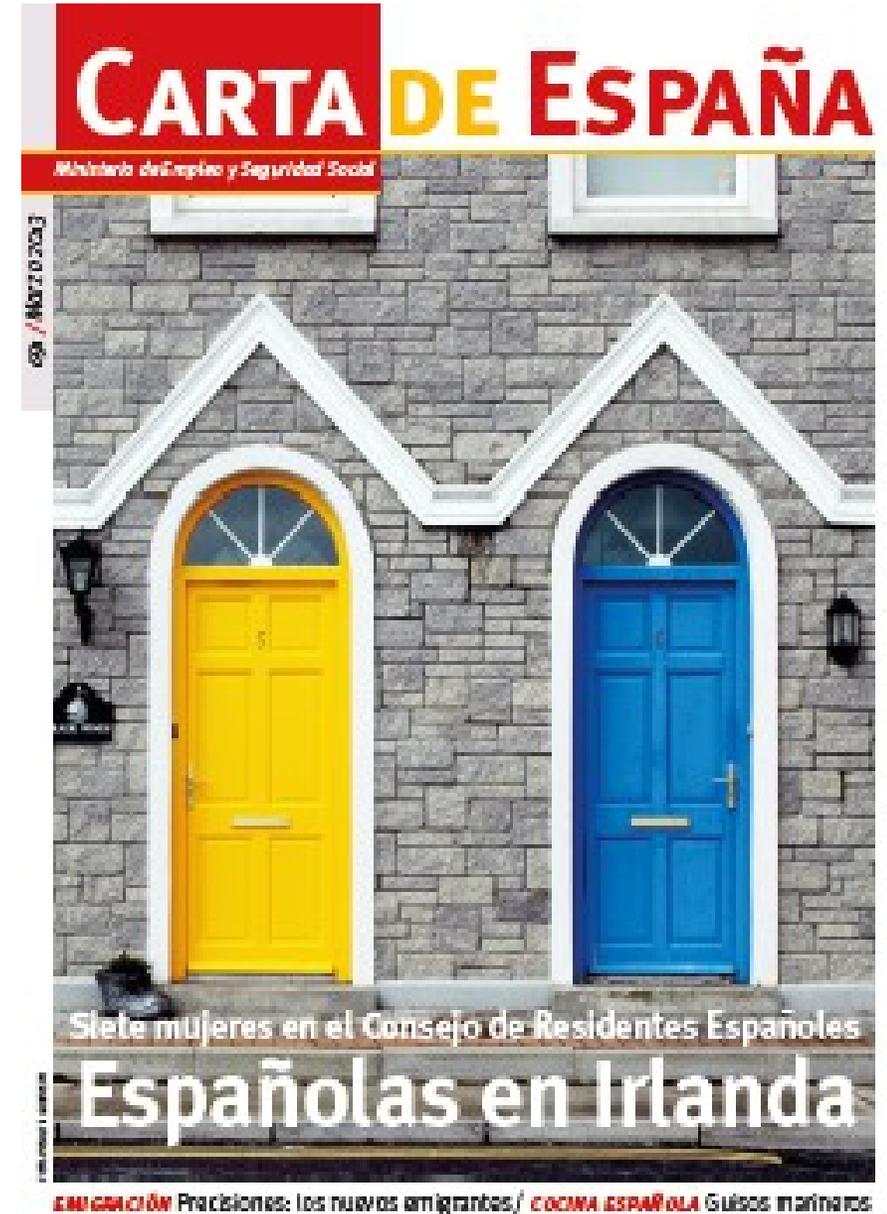
La Región Internacional (España)

El Correo del Golfo (Emiratos  
Árabes Unidos)

Crónicas de la Emigración  
(España)

# Recent emigration in the media

- First, the media has beveled in public opinion an imaginary of "massive outflows", fed by personal testimonies of the emigrants and their families, who tell their experiences, motivations, feelings, difficulties or facilities encountered, advantages and disadvantages, etc.
- It is noteworthy that catchy headlines and euphemisms that border on sensationalism are used: "Output of expatriates", "New nomads", "brain drain", "forced exile", "Loss of talents", "search of new experiences", "internationalized labor mobility", "talent fled by the crisis", "economic exile", etc. These expressions are disseminated exponentially in the media and social networks, permeating public opinion.
- It is being used the same strategy that it was employed with foreign immigration during the years of economic prosperity (1996-2007) when the news media exaggerated the news and the pictures of the arrival of outsiders to Spain, creating social alarm.



# Recent emigration in the media

- Secondly, after analysis, we can say that the media carry the status of massive and unidirectional emigration, but the figures do not confirm this aspect. In fact, the nature of mobility in times of globalization makes estimating multidirectional and return processes. This former processes are not present in mass media.
- The profile of an immigrant without previous links with the outside is disseminated, leading to underestimate the importance of the movement of Spaniards towards successive destinations, the movements of the Spaniards, children of foreigners who migrate to the countries of origin of their parents and expatriates.
- Third, the immigrant experience is presented on TV as successful, beyond the difficulties and conflicts involving emigration, showing a frivolous and distorted image.
- In the opposite direction, the discourse of the media created by the emigrants themselves, express their dissatisfaction with the economic crisis and the mismanagement by the government.
- Lastly, most of the media defining the profile of young people who have decided to emigrate as self-starters, entrepreneurs and prepared to adapt to live in other societies and highlights that these new Spanish emigrants are very different of the traditional economic migrant due to the lack of remittances.

# Final thoughts

Some considerations to advance...

- Published research works and the information disseminated through the mass media present the recent Spanish emigration like a temporary response to the economic crisis with a severe shortage of jobs that leaves out the system to qualified young people. It is necessary to deepen the structural and cyclical nature of the emigration. Therefore, it should be examined the institutional framework of the labor market to better understand this phenomenon.
- Similarly, the process of intermediation, such as family support, should be approached with more depth, to better understand the conditions that allow the migration potential becomes actual migration.
- We miss a more complete sociodemographic characterization of migrants as well (gender, living patterns, processes of integration in host societies, return plan, etc.)
- At the same time, analysis of the migration policy and the channels of public information of institutions and agents of employment in host countries has not been studied appropriately.

# Final thoughts

- The chances of finding work in certain destinations could also be approached in terms of competition for skilled jobs between migrants from different countries and nationals and ethnic preferences of employers.
- Moreover, we should try to overcome the binomio “emigration/immigration country” or “center/periphery” to solve the apparent inconsistency between migration processes such as those of Spain and Italy, for example, because it is difficult to understand that Italy and Spain interchange a similar number of young workers. The complementarity of the labor markets of the countries should be considered to interpret these flows in the context of the economic globalization.
- Finally, the comparative study of migratory processes of different nature (labor, leisure and retirement) flowing between countries in opposite direction is still a challenge. For example, the labor migration from Spain to most of the countries of northwestern Europe and the retirement migration from these countries to Spain. The apparent lack of connection between these migration processes should be analyzed in terms of the strength or weakness of transnational links.



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**Thank you very much**

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