

Spain

According to the annual Raxen (RAcism and XEnophobia Network) Report, there are racist groups in all autonomous communities in **Spain**, including over 1,500 xenophobic websites, dozens of neofascist concerts and over 10,000 ultras (fanatic sport fans influenced by extreme political ideologies or views on racism) and neo-nazis. Isaac Querub, president of the Federation of Spanish Jewish Communities, declared on November 9, that Spain is not an antisemitic country, but he lamented the existence of prejudices, stereotypes and verbal and written aggressions, which are disseminated mainly through social networks and internet forums.

Despite its past, the extreme right has not succeeded in gaining significant support in Spain in the last few years as it has in other parts of Europe. However, there have been cases of right-wing extremism, as well as leftist. For example:

- On October 5, Spanish neo-Nazi groups gathered in Malaga, outside the Greek Consulate, to protest the detention in Greece of the leaders of the 'Golden Dawn' group. The gathering was attended by some 20 Nazis, who protested against what they saw as continuing persecution against 'nationalists'. On November 4, a group of 10-15 persons carrying ultra right symbols and claiming to be members of the "Golden Dawn", erupted into the Faculty of History of the Complutense University of Madrid, yelling proclamations, tearing signs and confronting some of the students.
- In July, the Spanish National Police arrested a resident of Sabadell, accused of publishing a blog disseminating antisemitic and xenophobic ideas and possessing an arsenal of weapons. In October, three leaders of a Nazi group the Asociación Frente Joven Obrero (Young Labor Front Association), vinculated to the neo-Nazi party Alianza Nacional in Barcelona, were sentenced to two and a half years in prison and a fine of 1,620 euros for incitement to hatred and discrimination and disseminating Nazi ideology on and through the internet.
- A concert scheduled in August by the group Amusic Skazz Band in Manresa was cancelled following threats and a campaign against two band members accused of being "racists" and "Zionists" for having assisted an act commemorating Israel's anniversary. According to candidate of the pro-independent Catalunyan party CUP (Candidatura d'Unitat Popular), David Vitali, "if they do not permit Nazis in our spaces, we should not allow Zionists. I see no difference".

Classic antisemitism:

- On May 14, the local newspaper Diario de Almeria published an article by Trino Tortosa claiming the roots of the present world economic crisis lay in the "fathers of world economy", twelve "mega-wealthy" Jews who in 1913 created the US Federal Reserve. According to Tortosa, Jews are characterized by their great astuteness for business and their spirit of unity despite the distance between them.
- On November 15, the newspaper El Mundo published a column by Antonio Gala, claiming Jews are "more a race than a people". Under the guise of criticizing the Israeli government, he compared them to the Nazis. According to him, the Jewish intelligence is recognizable, "but also its erratic proceeding, except to survive at any cost...like Nazism proper".
- Referring to the acquisition of shares by George Soros and Bill Gates in the Spanish construction company FCC, owned by Esther Koplowitz, on December 28 the news-site Vozpopuli published an article by MANUEL L. TORRENTS called "The Philanthropic (and Jewish) Lobby Erupts into FCC to Support its Owner", Torrents claims that the three of them have a common, "Semitic" background. According to him the Jewish lobby has always enjoyed something "between a mythic and cursed aura...Nobody knows it, nobody ostensibly belongs to it, but it must exist, otherwise they would not talk about it so much". No other people are thought to be able to accumulate global wealth.

Other significant events:

- In the military fair held in Casa de Campo in Madrid on June 27-29 with the participation of the Ministry of Defense, numerous objects said to have belonged to Jews deported to Nazi extermination camps were sold, as well as Nazi propaganda objects. On September 28, the Principe de Asturias public school in Quijorna, Madrid, held a market where they sold, among other objects, banners with swastikas and patches with the emblem of the SS - the skull.
- On 14 August, **2013**, huge neo-Nazi graffiti, including a picture of Hitler and the phrase "Adolph Hitler was right" was painted in the bull-ring in the municipality of Pinto in Madrid.
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- On September 23, , a sign saying "I hate Jews" was painted on a plaque put up by Keren Kayemet Le Israel commemorating fallen firemen in the village of Horta de Sant Joan.

On January 22, **2013**, during an act in Parliament in honor of International Holocaust Memorial Day, the Spanish Minister of Justice announced that **Spain** will reform its Penal Code to penalize antisemitism. On September 11, **2013**, the Spanish center-right party Partido Popular presented an amendment to the Organic Law for the Improvement of the Quality of Education to include an article on the establishment of Holocaust studies during the different stages of basic education.