

## WELCOME

Dear readers and friends,

I am pleased to send you this third Newsletter from the Catalan Observatory at the London School of Economics.

The Catalan Observatory is a research centre within the London School of Economics, forming part of the LSE European Institute. The centre was created as the result of an agreement signed in June 2009 by the Catalunya Mòn Trust and the London School of Economics, which was subsequently complemented by a series of bilateral agreements between the LSE and other bodies which include Mediaproducció SL, Abertis Infraestructuras SA, the Foment del Treball Nacional (the leading Catalan business association), the Mancomunitat de Municipis de Barcelona (the Community of Municipal Authorities of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area), the Societat Econòmica Barcelonesa d'Amics del País (Barcelona's oldest association for the study of economics) and l'Obra Social La Caixa (the social foundation of Catalonia's leading savings bank).

In the academic year 2010–2011 the Observatory at the London School of Economics has begun its second year of operation, following the encouraging results produced by its 2009–2010 programme. In that first year of operation, the project fulfilled the tasks and objectives that collectively we had agreed for it. The individuals and bodies involved in the scheme continue to set the highest ambitions for it, aware as we are that to invest our efforts in the international projection of Catalonia and the promotion of academic studies that analyse it within its European context is a task that is not only useful and interesting, but also profoundly necessary. In this regard I invite you, at the start of this new year of activities, to visit the Observatory's webpage [www.lse.ac.uk/catalanobservatory](http://www.lse.ac.uk/catalanobservatory), where we make every effort to make fully and consistently accessible all the documents and conclusions that our programme of events has produced and will continue to produce in the future.

This third edition of the Newsletter now has the same structure as the two editions published previously, during the two semesters of 2010. In it you will find on the one hand a summary of the most recent activities organized by the Observatory, and also current information on our academic priorities and the themes that we have chosen to highlight in this edition.

I then invite you to consult the reports on the events held on 'The Macroeconomic Situation: the Role of La Caixa' and the BFI cinema season 'Clandestí: Invisible Catalan Cinema under Franco'; and also concerning the Publication of the Working Papers for 2010.

The second part of the Newsletter is given over to our current concerns, regarding the future prospects that Catalonia can offer Europe within the framework of its external relations. This section includes news on the Catalan presence achieved in international conferences and other fora, as well as news updates regarding topics covered in previous editions of the Newsletter.

It only remains for me to hope that you find reading this Newsletter rewarding, and to send you our very best wishes for 2011.

Paul Preston

**Chair of the Catalan Observatory at LSE**

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Visit our website [www.lse.ac.uk/catalanobservatory](http://www.lse.ac.uk/catalanobservatory) for the Lent, Summer term events programme.

## Lecture 'Thoughts on the Macroeconomic Situation: the Role of "la Caixa"'



Some years after graduating from LSE with a master's degree in Law, Juan Maria Nin returned to the campus to share his thoughts on the macroeconomic crisis in a public lecture delivered on Tuesday 5 October 2010. As President and CEO of Spain's largest savings bank, La Caixa, he was well placed to comment on its role in confronting economic problems in Spain.

It would be absurd to try and understand what is going on merely by comparing one quarter with another – reality is much more complex,' he began, taking a longer term view. 'Seven years ago the Spanish debt was better rated than the German one – things change very fast. Everything is relative except unemployment and the social damage it causes.'

La Caixa is doing its best to help with these social problems, spending 500 million Euros per year on welfare projects such as affordable housing and social inclusion initiatives. Sr Nin went on to look at the origins of the Spanish financial crisis, comparing it both to other European countries and previous crises. He pointed out that Spain has never reneged on a debt and that the current problem stems from lack of liquidity due to lack of market confidence, rather than insolvency.

Nin presented an overview of the current state of the international economy in the first part of the lecture. He retraced the evolution of the main global economic indicators, such as the evolution of the annual and semi-annual national GDP, as well as the variations within the real estate and labour markets. Generally speaking, the speaker showed how the 'crisis' emerges as one of the central (if not the most important) issues when explaining the financial context from 2008 until the beginning of a certain 'recovery' in the middle of 2010.

In the second part of the lecture he focused on one of the 'key' issues when deciding on future financial strategies: market confidence. Juan Maria Nin reviewed the elements and initiatives linked to the notion of confidence in the financial markets (with a special emphasis for instance in the so-called European stress tests). In the same direction, he offered a relative 'optimistic' assessment of the Spanish economy, emphasizing the fact that the measures implemented recently by markets, private and public companies as well as households were helping to strengthen the 'road to recovery'. The speaker suggested that the different measures were to be evaluated as a 'sign' of improved economical credibility in Spain, insisting in the influence that some 'subjective' elements (such as appreciation and perception) can have when dealing with the recovery of financial markets. Juan Maria Nin then went on to offer a comparative statistical look at the situation of Spain and other countries, which in theory enjoy a better economic rating. By way of conclusion, the speaker offered some guidelines for the future, starting from improving transparency, resilience and consolidation of the Spanish banking system. His final remarks concerned the necessity to assess the failures, risks and successes of the financial market in the most 'realistic' and least 'biased' way possible.

To review the different press articles and academic documents related to this event please access the webpage :

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/catalanObservatory/CONF%20Nin.aspx>

## BFI cinema Festival 'Clandestí: Invisible Catalan Cinema Under Franco'



The Catalan Observatory was a co-sponsor of a season of film screenings, panel discussions and Q&A sessions under the title '**Clandestí: Invisible Catalan Cinema under Franco**'. The season was held from 25 to 30 November 2010 at Britain's foremost art film theatre, the British Film Institute Southbank, and more than 800 tickets were sold for the screenings and discussions held over those four days.

The purpose of *Clandestí* was to introduce the most radical and subversive underground works produced during the 1960s and 1970s in Catalonia. Among the other partner institutions involved, the project enjoyed the participation of: Institut de Cinema Català; Generalitat de Catalunya: Departament d'Interior, Relacions Institucionals i Participació; Generalitat de Catalunya: Delegation to the United Kingdom; Memorial Democràtic; Institut Ramon Llull; Ministerio de Cultura; and Pragda (an independent cultural initiative focusing on developing International film programs).

The first time that these films were exhibited was in May 2009, at the Film Society of Lincoln Center in New York, with a highly positive impact, both in terms of critical response and audience. Since then the festival has been presented at the Babylon Theatre (Berlin, from 29th September to 4th October 2010) as well as at the prestigious Istanbul Modern Centre (Istanbul, from 24th to 27th June 2010). After leaving London, the programme will go on to Toronto, Tel Aviv and Tokyo.

The *Clandestí* programme includes works of well-known and influential filmmakers such as Pere Portabella (*The Dinner - El Sopar*) or José María Nunes (*Sexperiencias*), both of them important symbols of the Spanish *indie* – independent- cinema. The programme also provides the opportunity to rediscover some of the 'classics', such as the recently restored '**Lock Out**', directed by one of the most original Spanish directors, Antoni Padrós. The programme allowed a British audience to encounter the artistic production of a generation characterised by its non-conformism and its opposition to the Francoist dictatorship. Because of its cultural strait-jacket, they were forced to produce, distribute and exhibit their films in an independent, anonymous and *clandestine* way. The authorship of some of the films produced during this period remains unknown since the majority of the films presented had no credits (in order to protect the identity of actors and technical staff).

The programme is divided in five sections: "Morality and Society", "Countryside and the City: the Struggle to Make a Living", "The Ongoing Political Struggle", "Aesthetic Subversion: Anarchy and Absurdity", and, finally, "Over the Edge: The Aesthetics of Outrage".

The films shown, the great majority of them for the first time ever in the United Kingdom, were the following: **Lock Out** (1973), Antoni Padrós, only recently restored. Padrós creates a nightmarish, allegorical world peopled by politically and sexually unsatisfied characters that hover between lethargy and revolution. One of the most fascinating personalities in Spanish cinema, Padrós worked as a bank clerk by day while creating this desperate cry for freedom secretly at night.

**Happy Parallel** (El Alegre Paralelo, 1964) by Enric Ripoll i Freixes and Josep Maria Ramon. A revealing look at one of Barcelona's more notorious neighbourhoods, "El Paralelo," known for its prostitution and torrid nightlife even during the Franco era.

**The Dinner** (El Sopar, 1974), Pere Portabella. In 1974, on the night that the anarchist militant Salvador Puig Antich was executed, five former political prisoners gather in a farmhouse to prepare a meal and appear in a movie on the problems and issues arising from long prison sentences. A pillar of Spanish independent cinema, veteran avant-garde artist Portabella surprises with this highly intimate and moving political classic about the political struggle within prisons.

**Far from the Trees** (Lejos de los Árboles, 1963-70), J. Esteva-Grew. One of the landmarks of Spanish cinema in the Sixties, **Far from the Trees** is a kind of "updating" of Bunuel's classic **Land Without Bread** that focuses on the pervasive presence of popular traditions involving pain and death.

-...**And then none will laugh** (...i després ningú no riurà, 1968), Manel Esteban. Capturing the spirit of revolt that spread throughout the world in 1968, Esteva takes his critique beyond the regime to a more acidic rendering of Spain's Catholic, bourgeois culture.

-**Sexperiencias** (1968), Jose Maria Nunes.

A charter member of the avant-garde "Barcelona School," Nunes charts the reactions of an elderly man and a young girl living in a sheltered Spain at the news of the international groundswell of protests that characterized the late Sixties.

-**Field for Men** (El Campo para el Hombre, 1973), Helena Lumbreras, Maria Lisa. A key work, **Field for Men** explores rural poverty, highlighting both the difference and the similarities experienced in two very different regions, Galicia and Andalucía.

-Clandestine films: **Long Journey to Rage** (Viaje Largo hacia la Ira, 1969), Llorenç Soler. **52 Sundays** (52 Domingos, 1966), Llorenç Soler. **Protest February 1/8 1976** (Manifestacions 1/8 Febrer 1976), Anonymous. **Mountain** (Muntanya, 1970), Anonymous. **Crònica d'una Mirada** (1960-1975), Manuel Barrios.

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**Crònica de una Mirada** (Manuel Barrios): **An Anthology of Clandestine films drawing on: Long Journey to Rage** (Viaje Largo hacia la Ira, 196, Llorenç Soler); **52 Sundays** (52 Domingos, 1966, Llorenç Soler); **Protest February 1/8 1976** (Manifestacions 1/8 Febrer 1976, Anonymous); **Mountain** (Muntanya, 1970, Anonymous).

In the words of Marta Sánchez, the Curator of the BFI Festival, **Clandestí**, 'Within Spain, Catalonia, particularly Barcelona, has often welcomed the forerunners of major social and cultural movements. Unsurprisingly, Barcelona was also the nation's first gateway to the art and industry of film, a role the city enjoyed until sound cinema and the Spanish Civil War moved the centre of Spanish filmmaking to Madrid. Under Franco, the film industry was never nationalised but remained under the close supervision of government authorities.

Political criticism, when it appeared in films, was dramatically veiled. **Clandestí: Invisible Catalan Cinema Under Franco** focuses on a generation of independent filmmakers whose innate unwillingness to conform forced them to produce, distribute, and exhibit radical films in Catalonia, with the furtive hope of sending them into the rest of Franco's Spain. While this body of work represents a margin of Spanish film history, it nevertheless contains some of the most crucial, first-hand documents of the end of the dictatorship, revealing problems of housing and social services, immigration, the fate of political prisoners, and restrictions on expression and free speech"

Related links:

<http://pragda.com/bfi-southbank-london-2010-clandestini.php>



During the second half of 2010, the Catalan Observatory has published a number of academic documents including the main conclusions from the conferences held during 2009-2010. At the same time, the Observatory has published podcasts and working materials deriving from the lectures and papers of the principal guest speakers.

One of the main objectives of the Observatory is to make available all the academic materials produced in the course of our activities and which could contribute to the social, political and international debate about contemporary Catalonia. The working papers consequently reflect an important element of our work. It is hoped that their careful preparation will render them useful to the various sectors of Catalan society and institutions concerned with the international position of Catalonia.

Publications for the second semester of 2010 include:

Conference on 'Historical Memory: Policy and Practice' (1st and 2nd July 2010). The working papers and the related material can be downloaded at this address: (<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/catalanObservatory/CONF%20Historical%20Memory.aspx>). Concerning the conference on '*Sports, Socialization and Economic Development*', the link for consulting the different materials is: <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/catalanObservatory/CONF%20Sports.aspx>.

Other publications:

The Catalan Observatory was pleased to present during the first week of October 2010 the document 'SocioEconomic Indicators 2009-2010'. The publication is the first contribution of a medium-term strategy to evaluate annually the socioeconomic dynamism of the Catalan economy, mostly by taking into account some patterns of competitiveness and the levels of socioeconomic openness. This first report has been focused in examining three different indicators created by the Observatory on Social Mobility, Economic Competitiveness, and 'Globalization', the conclusions of which are detailed in the following documents: **Summary of the main conclusions (WORD)**; **Methological Annex (PDF)**.





### The Catalan language, represented for another year at *Expolangues*

The Catalan language has participated to the 29th Edition of Expolangues, one of the most important fairs about language in Europe.

The guest of honour for 2011 is the Arabic language, with the support of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization. In his opening address, the French Minister of Culture, Frédéric Mitterrand, made multiple references to the multicultural bridges that unite the Catalan and Arabic languages. Similarly, he emphasized the importance of some of the most prominent 'fathers' of the Catalan culture and language, such as Ramon Llull and Arnau de Vilanova (whose 700th anniversary falls this year).

The Director General of 'L'Etudiant', the principal organizer of the fair, recognized the role of Catalan nowadays, considered as a language that is playing a progressively more important role in a multilingual international context. Moreover, he highlighted the importance of having guest languages that are not necessarily connected with a 'state', but with a broader area and with more possibilities for expansion.



The Catalan language was the guest of honour of Expolangues in its 2010 Edition. During the three-day duration of the fair the Institut Ramon Llull and various public bodies affiliated to it promoted the Catalan language under the title 'Catalan, a language of 10 million Europeans'. The event was used, among other things, to highlight some of the particular features of the Catalan language, such as the large number of citizens who use it (making it the twelfth-most-extensive European language in terms of number of speakers) or the especially important role it has in publishing (occupying the twentieth position internationally among the most widely used languages in publishing, and as the eighth-most commonly used language in the blogosphere).

The aim of the Expolangues international fair is to promote multilingualism and develop international communication. The 2010 fair brought together representatives of 30 countries and more than 80 languages, and attracted some 22,000 visitors. In recent years other guests of honour have been the Russian Federation (2007), the Chinese People's Republic (2008), the European Union (2009) and the Arabic language (2011).

Links of interest:

Institut Ramón Llull, 'El català, llengua de 10 milions d'europaus', [www.llull.cat/\\_cat/\\_quisom/reconeixement.shtml](http://www.llull.cat/_cat/_quisom/reconeixement.shtml)

Statistics on the Catalan Language, Generalitat de Catalunya, [www20.gencat.cat/portal/site/Llengcat](http://www20.gencat.cat/portal/site/Llengcat)

### From Paris to Mexico City

During the second semester of 2010 the Catalan language was also invited to the 2010 Edition of the Book Fair of Guadalajara (Mexico), with an important presence of Catalan literature in the programme of activities, such as the presentations of Lolita Bosch, Jordi Julià or Vicenç Llorca, as well as the tribute to Màrius Torres.

The Catalan participation was emphasized through various activities, such as the presentations of the books 'Voces. Antología de narrativa catalana contemporánea (Anagrama, 2010)' and 'Poesías, de Màrius Torres (Milenio, 2010)', together with poetry recitals and student gatherings.



The guest of honour at the FIL 2010 was 'Castilla y León'. The Catalan language had this honour in the 2004th Edition. <http://fil04.llull.cat/cat/00principals/prehome.htm>; <http://www.fil.com.mx/>



## Catalonia at Expo 2010 Shanghai

Catalonia was present in two ways at the Expo 2010 world's fair in Shanghai, held during the second semester of 2010. The Catalonia Week held in the Spanish Pavilion between 24 and 30 May and the Barcelona area within the zone dedicated to cities both served to publicize Catalonia's most important attractions in the fields of tourism, business, culture and universities and academic studies. The Expo 2010 Shanghai world's fair was held under the theme 'Better City, Better Life', and was visited by 73 million people.

Links of interest:

Catalonia at Expo 2010 Shanghai, <http://blocs.gencat.cat/blocs/AppPHP/CataloniaShanghaiExpo/>

## BIO 2011, promoting the Catalan bio-technological sector

Over 40 Catalan biotech companies and research institutions will travel to Washington, DC for the BIO 2011 convention. The world's principal convention for the biotechnology sector is being held this year from 27 to 30 June in Washington DC, the capital of the USA and a major life sciences hub that has grown considerably over the past few years.

This year's location for BIO (Biotechnology Industry Organization) offers major advantages both in terms of the biotech and pharma areas as well as politically. The Greater Washington region, which also encompasses the states of Virginia and Maryland, boasts one of the highest rates of venture capital investment in the USA and has witnessed major growth in biotechnology companies.

In keeping with tradition at BIO, the 34 companies and the various research institutions that will participate in the Catalan delegation will be located in the BioRegion of Catalonia pavilion.

With 350 companies, 13 hospitals with noteworthy research activity, 60 research centers and 13 science and technology parks, Catalonia is an important biotechnology hub in the southern Europe. Catalonia also leads the Spanish ranking of biotech companies owning patents or following application processes.



As analyzed in the Biocat Report 2009 ([http://www.biocat.cat/sites/default/files/v4Biocat\\_Report\\_2009\\_en.pdf](http://www.biocat.cat/sites/default/files/v4Biocat_Report_2009_en.pdf)), there is a clear predominance of 'red biotech' in the BioRegion of Catalonia (63% of all biotech companies and 60% of research centers), mainly focusing on oncology, central nervous system and cardiology.

To foster partnering opportunities between the Catalan delegation and other international delegates, the Biocat pavilion at the BIO convention will be a platform for all the components of the Catalan delegation, to provide information about the sector and to facilitate specific networking opportunities.

Catalonia also participated at BIO Chicago 2010. The BIOCAT delegation was located amongst the most relevant European biotechnological clusters (Munich, Sweden and Cambridge). The presence of Catalan representatives from the sector underlines the fact that the biotechnological and biomedical Catalan consortium is in a phase of positive consolidation.

Webiste of the Convention: <http://convention.bio.org/>

European Convention: <http://www.biocat.cat/noticies/una-trentena-dempreses-de-la-bioregio-de-catalunya-assisteixen-bioeuropa-munich-edicio-de-tardor-de-la-trobada-europea->



## **The First Steps Towards the Creation of the International Institute of the United Nations University in Barcelona**

An area within the historic buildings of the Hospital de Sant Pau – one of the greatest monuments of Catalan Modernist architecture in Barcelona, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site – will be the location for a new International Institute of the United Nations University. The Institute will be the first centre of the UNU on the shores of the Mediterranean, as well as the first one in southern Europe. It will commence its activities at the beginning of the 2012–2013 academic year, and its initial priorities will be research and academic studies related to education, migration, youth and the new role of the media.

The Institute, which will be known as the UNU-IIAOC, reflecting its focus as the 'International Institute for the Alliance of Civilizations', will be the eleventh such International Institute within the UNU. In this instance Barcelona will be the fifth European city to host this type of centre, following Helsinki, Bruges, Bonn and Maastricht. The United Nations University (UNU) is an autonomous entity established by the United Nations Organization (UNO), which promotes research and post-graduate training in the areas of operation of the UNO.

Within the parameters of the UNU, the future research centre will have its own criteria for the admission and selection of its personnel, placing special emphasis on the principles of representativeness in terms of age, gender and cultural and geographical diversity in the selection of both the academic staff of the Institute and its students (who will be divided between post-graduate researchers, post-doctoral scholars and Masters' students). The plan for the refurbishment of the building anticipates the creation of three lecture theatres with capacity for 116 people, 34 offices for the academic and management staff and 64 additional work spaces. The origin of this project dates from 2005, when the UNO gave its support to the Alliance of Civilizations initiative. The Institute has been conceived as a centre for research and higher education that will be focussed above all on providing assistance to the UNO in areas related to the cultural and human relations between different 'regional groups'.

Links interest:

Website of the United Nations University: <http://unu.edu>

Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau news updates (in Catalan and Spanish): [www.santpau.es](http://www.santpau.es), under 'Notícies' – Novembre 2010.





## **The Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion is further consolidated with the creation of the CREAMED European programme for supporting new entrepreneurs**

During the second half of 2010 the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion initiated the CREAMED European programme, intended to provide support jointly for business generators in the regions of Midi-Pyrénées, Languedoc-Roussillon, Aragon, Catalonia and the Balearic Islands. The project is the first example of an association formed entirely by European regional authorities (a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation or EGTC) to obtain co-financing from the EU.

In this respect the project represents a significant advance in the consolidation of the capacities and stability of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion. The funds available for the CREAMED programme, close to 1.1 million Euros, will be used to aid activities and schemes aimed at stimulating innovation, improving communication and exchanges between those responsible for business generation and above all in support for the incubation and development of companies created by new entrepreneurs and their expansion into international markets. The purpose of the regional coordination of the scheme is to share synergies between the incubators of the Euroregion and to develop a common system of awareness and recognition among the five regions, in order to broaden the field of opportunities for entrepreneurial projects.

Links of interest:

Website of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion (in Catalan, Spanish and French): [www.euroregio.eu/eu/AppJava/cat](http://www.euroregio.eu/eu/AppJava/cat)

## News updates regarding topics covered in previous editions of the Newsletter



*'The Decision to Focus on Improving Cross-Border Links and Exchanges, with Special Emphasis on the Mediterranean Rail Corridor and Transcontinental Communications Infrastructure' (Newsletter 1)*

### **European recognition for Barcelona Airport**

The European region of Airports Council International (*ACI Europe*) gave first place to Barcelona Airport in the 'over 25 million passengers per year' category in its Best Airport Awards for 2010. Among the elements taken into account in the evaluation the judges highlighted the new facilities and improvements in service brought by the inauguration of the T1 Terminal, as well as the concern shown for the environmental management of the new terminal (through the installation of 700 photovoltaic panels, which guarantee the most sustainable possible use of energy).

Barcelona Airport handles more than 25 million passengers each year and is one of the foremost points of contact internationally for tourist, business and commercial traffic.

Links of interest:

Website of ACI Europe: [www.aci-europe.org](http://www.aci-europe.org)



### **The Port of Barcelona, improved links with the rest of the continent**

From the beginning of 2011 the Port of Barcelona is the first commercial port in the Iberian Peninsula to have a direct rail connection with France on a European standard-gauge line. At the end of December trains began to operate on the 168km line that joins Barcelona to Lyon, and from there on to Milan. This new infrastructure project makes it possible for goods and cargoes to be transported over the entire route on the same train, avoiding the need for them to be transferred from one train to another at the border. The change in the width of the line has also permitted an increase in cargo capacity, as the length of the freight trains has also been adapted to the European standard (750 metres, instead of 450 metres).

Links of interest:

Port de Barcelona, [www.portdebarcelona.es](http://www.portdebarcelona.es)

***'Promoting the Exchange of Information on Systems and Practices in Health Services, Specifically in Research and Other Fields in which the Catalan Model has shown itself to be Particularly Efficient' (Newsletter 1)***

## **Inauguration of a New Centre for Biomedical Research (CIBEK)**

During the first half of 2011 a new centre for biomedical research will begin operations in Barcelona, to be known as the Centre d'Investigació Biomèdica Esther Koplowitz, in recognition of the charitable foundation that has financed a significant part of the project. It will be associated with the city's Hospital Clínic, and is expected further to augment the hospital's prestige and its ability to attract researchers of international standing. The Centre, considered a leader in the field for its strategy of combining a research space with parallel access to clinical observation, has equipment of the latest generation and extensive facilities in a dedicated building with a floor space of 14,506 square metres. It will have space for 400 scientists, including staff from the Hospital Clínic itself, the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) and the Barcelona Centre for International Health Research (CRESIB). The health fields on which it will place most emphasis will be those related to poverty: immunology, study of the metabolism, diabetes and obesity, diseases of the digestive and hepatic systems, and also cancer and hematology.

Links of interest:

CIBEK website, [www.cibek.org](http://www.cibek.org)



***'Sport as a Motor of Economic Growth, Urban Development and Social Cohesion' (Newsletter 2)***

## **Tarragona, Candidate City for the Mediterranean Games of 2017**

The candidature of Tarragona to be the host city of the XVIII Mediterranean Games in 2017 is continuing to make progress. The candidature has the unanimous support of the city's Ajuntament, the city council, and represents a significant opportunity to establish Tarragona as one of the most prominent cities on the Mediterranean. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Committee of the Mediterranean Games (ICMG) have increasingly promoted the Mediterranean Games as one of the most important and popular multi-sports events for all the different countries that make up the region.

Links of interest:

Website of the Tarragona Candidature, [www.tarragona2017.org](http://www.tarragona2017.org)

## Catalonia exports in 2010, an increase of 19.2%

### 'The commitment to the economic internationalization of Catalonia' (newsletter 2)

In a context of sustained crisis in the short and medium term, the degree of economic internationalization is considered to be one of the decisive factors for the financial and private business sector. During the last quarter of 2010 Catalonia had more than 14,000 companies exporting on a regular basis, with the main companies of the industrial sector posting between 40% and 90% of its sales in exports.

During the last period of 2010 for which data is available (for the month of October), Catalonia has exported commodities to the value of 4,642.6 million Euros, which meant 19.6% more than a year before. Capital goods registered the highest increase with 56.5%, while the increase in transport material and other capital goods (121.7%) were also very important.

Regarding the evolution of Catalan exports in terms of activity branch, there was a generalized inter-annual increase. The sectors where the exports have grown most significantly are energy (oil extraction (41.6%), agriculture and fishing (39.3%), vehicle engine production and other transport materials (25.0%), metallurgy (23.0%) and chemical industries (18.8%).

#### Exportacions. Catalunya. Octubre 2010 Per branques d'activitat

	Octubre			Gener-Octubre		
	valor	% s. total	interanual	valor	% s. total	interanual
Agricultura, ramaderia, caça, silvicultura i pesca	96.136,60	2,1	39,3	892.799,40	2,2	19,6
Productes energètics; extracció i refinació petroli	125.522,50	2,7	41,6	854.140,60	2,1	21
Alimentació i begudes	485.068,70	10,4	16,3	4.234.266,00	10,6	11,9
Tèxtil, confecció, cuir i calçat	351.534,20	7,6	12,4	3.163.053,40	7,9	8,9
Indústries químiques	1.021.489,50	22	18,8	9.717.534,50	24,3	27,1
Metal·lúrgia i productes metàl·lics	280.138,20	6	23	2.641.370,20	6,6	34,4
Maquinària i equips mecànics	275.312,80	5,9	11,3	2.552.245,80	6,4	11,2
Màquines d'oficina, instruments precisió i òptica	69.858,50	1,5	6,5	583.089,10	1,5	10
Equips elèctrics i electrònics	371.635,30	8	15,7	2.912.338,70	7,3	6,9
Vehicles de motor i altres materials de transport	859.093,70	18,5	25	6.427.774,10	16,1	11,3
Resta branques d'activitat	593.429,80	12,8	17	5.298.485,40	13,3	20
No classificats	113.418,20	2,4	..	708.040,10	1,8	..
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.642.638,00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19,6</b>	<b>39.985.137,30</b>		

Unitats: Milers d'euros.

Font: Idescat a partir de dades de l'Agencia Estatal de Administració Tributaria. Departamento de Aduanas e Impuestos Especiales.

Les branques d'activitat s'obtenen a partir de les divisions de la CCAE-2009.

In terms of geographical development, sales from Catalan industry have grown everywhere excepting North America (-0.4). Sales within the European Union increased by 17.1% with a particularly important growth in the United Kingdom (+49.6%). In addition to the internal European variations, sales have increased in Japan (+57.3%) and Central and South America (+48.6%).

#### Exportacions - expedicions. Catalunya. Octubre 2010 Per àrees i països

	Octubre			Gener-Octubre		
	valor	% s. total	interanual	valor	% s. total	interanual
Unió Europea (UE27)	3.122.933,10	67,3	17,1	26.721.034,20	66,8	12,3
Alemanya	434.613,60	9,4	14,3	3.817.689,60	9,5	9,5
França	856.227,80	18,4	6	7.737.310,20	19,4	10,2
Itàlia	470.291,40	10,1	27,4	3.911.173,40	9,8	17,5
Portugal	355.289,80	7,7	16,7	3.149.623,60	7,9	8,8
Regne Unit	279.590,10	6	49,6	1.984.711,70	5	20,1
Altres països i territoris d'Europa	423.187,10	9,1	30,8	3.553.095,00	8,9	33,2
Suïssa	163.658,90	3,5	17,8	1.497.503,00	3,7	35,8
Amèrica del Nord	146.138,40	3,1	-0,4	1.272.646,00	3,2	22,5
Estats Units d'Amèrica	135.992,80	2,9	0,1	1.149.149,70	2,9	22
Amèrica Central i del Sud	272.023,70	5,9	48,6	2.372.440,50	5,9	31,8
Resta del món	678.355,70	14,6	20,6	6.065.921,60	15,2	27,6
Japó	45.817,00	1	57,3	357.696,10	0,9	62,5
Xina	55.551,20	1,2	3,1	549.604,30	1,4	27,7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.642.638,00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19,6</b>	<b>39.985.137,30</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>17,4</b>

Unitats: Milers d'euros.

Font: Idescat a partir de dades de l'Agencia Estatal de Administració Tributaria. Departamento de Aduanas e Impuestos Especiales.