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SKUPINOVÁ MOBILITA: IES “Elena García Armada“, Jerez de la Frontera, Cádiz, Španělsko

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PROJEKT: The EU as a Palette of Cultures - Getting to Know Each Other as a Path to Tolerance and Respect

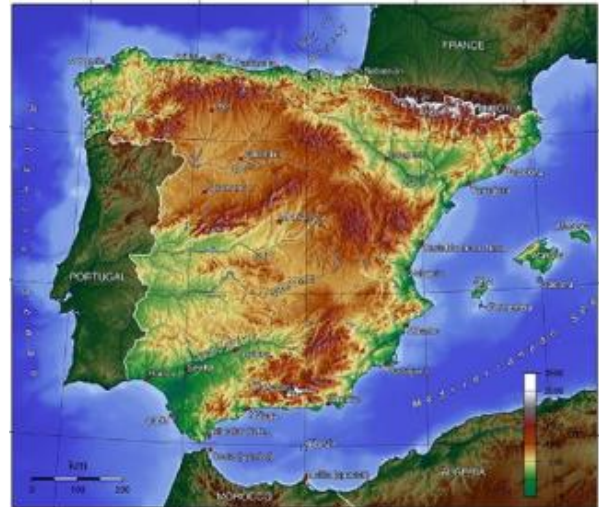
JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA: CULTURE GEOGRAPHY– SPAIN

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General information



Spain is a constitutional monarchy (**kingdom**). The king is called **Filip IV**. Spain lies in the south of Europe on the Iberic Peninsula. Spain borders with France, Portugal and Andorra. The capital city is **Madrid**. Spain has the population of **49 million people**.



History

Spain was once a colonial empire (that’s why the Latin American countries speak Spanish). In the 1930’s there was a civil war, which was won by the almost-fascist dictator Francisco Franco. Spain didn’t take part in neither of the world wars.

Geography

In general, Spain is covered by mountains with plains on the coastlines. Many islands belong to Spain, such as Mallorca, Tenerife, Fuerteventura, Grand Canaria. Mountains: Pyrenees, Castilian Mountains, Iberian Mountains, Cantabrian Mountains, Sierra Nevada, Sierra Morena, Picos de Europa, Serra de Tramuntana, Sierra de Gredos, Sierra de Gata, Catalan Costa range. Rivers: Tajo, Douro, Ebro, Minho, Guadiana, Guadalquivir

Political division



Spain is divided into **17 autonomous communities**: Andalusia – Seville, Aragon – Zaragoza, Asturias – Oviedo, Balearic Islands – Palma de Mallorca, Basque Country – Vitoria, Extremadura –Mérida, Galicia – Santiago de Compostela, Cantabria – Santander, Canary Islands – Las Palmas, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Castilla la Mancha – Valladolid, Catalonia – Barcelona, La Rioja - Logroño, Madrid – Madrid, Murcia – Murcia, Navarre – Pamplona, Valencia – Valencia.



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Politics

Spain is an EU member since the 1st of January 1986, a decade after Francisco Franco's authoritarian regime had fallen.

Spain is also a member of the UN and NATO.

Being a constitutional monarchy, Spain has a Parliament (The Cortes Generales) consisting of two parts: Congress of Deputies (the lower house) and the Senate (the upper house), same as in the Czech Republic.



Princess Leonor is sworn to occasionally represent her father, the king.

Demography

The majority of the population lives in the big cities on the coastline.

Religion

Spain is mostly Roman Catholic with the second largest religion being atheist and the third Muslim.

Culture and traditions



One of the most well-known Spanish traditions is the **bullfighting called corrida**.

On the 25th of September (**Saint Fermín's Day**), run of bulls in the streets of Pamplona and people run in front of them.

There is also famous **Easter processions**.

Transportation

Spain has one of the best road networks in Europe. In the big cities, people generally use cars because of the unreliability of the public transport.

