

Commission: Court of Justice

Issue: How to eradicate gender, homophobic, xenophobic, racist and anti-Semitic conflicts on a European scale?

Author: Spain

The Kingdom of Spain is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy with the King, currently Filipe VI, as head of state, and the prime minister, now Pedro Sanchez, as head of government. Besides its territories on the Iberian Peninsula, it also includes the Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean, the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea, and the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla in North Africa. In 2022, Spain's PPP GDP per capita was \$46,331.7 international, ranking it 18th in the EU, between Poland and Estonia, with the service sector, industry, agriculture, and tourism contributing the most to its economy. The official language is Spanish, however, the government recognises other official languages in specific regions across the country, such as Catalan, Galician, Basque, and Aranese. The 2 major ethnic minorities in Spain are Moroccans (1.7%) and Romanians (1.2%). Most of the population is Roman catholic (58.2%) and about 37% are either agnostic, atheist, or non-believers.

The Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez originates from the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) – a centre-left party. It embraces social democracy and advocates for workers' rights, social justice and security. It is also for federalism and is pro-European. The PSOE's opposition is the People's Party (PP), a centre-right to right-wing Christian-Democratic party.

Spain's position regarding the discrimination of minorities is firm and clear: all member-states ought to embrace diversity and avoid the isolation of minorities. Spain often finds itself at the top of relevant rankings, such as the Global Gender Gap index (17th worldwide) or the Global Acceptance index (6th worldwide). Historically, Spain has been one of the most open countries globally, being the third to legalise same-sex marriage or the first to implement paid menstrual leave. The Spanish government has created various institutions aimed to abolish systemised and societal discriminations, such as the Pluralism and Coexistence Foundation (FPC). With the Spanish peoples maintaining their vibrant and historically sourced culture, it is an example that acceptance of diversity does not lead to foregoing tradition. Although not yet perfect, Spain has made noticeable improvements in matters pertaining to discrimination and it would happily share its insights with other countries.

The Kingdom of Spain actively participates in numerous international initiatives to combat discrimination based on gender, religion, race, and sexual identity. On the European Union (EU) level, Spain is a strong supporter of the EU's LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025, which aims to combat discrimination and promote equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer individuals. Spain also champions the EU's anti-discrimination directives that prohibit discrimination based on various factors, including gender and race. Beyond the EU, Spain participates in initiatives like the UN Women's Global Gender Equality Architecture, advocating for women's empowerment and equal rights. Additionally, Spain is a signatory to international human rights treaties that protect individuals from discrimination, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). Through these various

international efforts, Spain collaborates with other countries to create a more inclusive and equitable world.