



Ongi Etorri Errefuxiatuak activists collecting signatures in Bilbao.

Report • October 2026

Citizens' Legislative Initiative for an *Extraordinary Regularization* of migrants in Spain.

Origin, development and impact of the #ILPRegularización.

Summary

A law born from 700,000 signatures.

The ILP Regularization was a Citizens’ Legislative Initiative born from the political party Por Un Mundo Más Justo (For a More Just World) (M+J) and the Global Citizens Foundation (FCG), involving more than 1,000 Civil Society Organizations, 17,000 volunteers and more than 700,000 signatures to force the Government of Spain to approve an extraordinary process of regularization of foreigners in an irregular administrative situation.

Legally articulated through Royal Decree 316/2026, the measure opened an exceptional window between April 16 and June 30, 2026 for migrants who already lived in the country and were working irregularly to apply for a residence and work permit with a duration of one year. The

process concluded with historic success, registering over one million applications.

The regularization was not an automatic general amnesty, but a regulated process where each applicant had to strictly demonstrate compliance with specific requirements such as:

1

Date of entry

Residing in Spanish territory before January 1, 2026.

2

Minimum stay

At least five months of continuous, uninterrupted stay when applying.

3

Criminal record

None, in Spain or the country of origin, for the last five years.

Requirements of the regularization process (Royal Decree 316/2026), summarized from the text of this report.

Key figures.

700,000

citizen signatures

Source: FCG.

1,000+

civil society organizations

Source: FCG.

17,000

volunteers across Spain

Source: FCG.

310–33

votes on admission for consideration

Source: Congress, Apr 9, 2024.

1,000,000+

regularization applications

Source: FCG, at close of window.

421,306

new Social Security contributors

Source: Ministry of Inclusion, Sep 30, 2026.

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Timeline.

- Summer 2020**
Congress rejects the Non-Legislative Proposal promoted by Regularización YA.
- February 2021**
M+J and FCG decide to promote a Citizens' Legislative Initiative.
- September 2021**
The Promoting Committee is formed under the #Esenciales campaign.
- April 9, 2024**
Congress admits the ILP for consideration by 310 votes to 33.
- December 2025**
Consensus secured in the Migration Committee.
- January 2026**
The Government approves the regularization by Royal Decree.
- Apr 16 – Jun 30, 2026**
Application window: over one million applications.
- September 30, 2026**
421,306 people already contribute to Social Security.

Source: compiled from the text of this report.

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Chapter 1 · Origin

Origin and initial idea: *the trigger*.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a Non-Legislative Proposal (PNL) inspired by an extraordinary process in Portugal, and promoted by Regularización YA, was rejected in Congress in the summer of 2020.

After this political rejection, the M+J party and the Global Citizens Foundation decided in February of 2021 to raise the democratic stakes. They planned to use a Citizens' Legislative Initiative to force parliamentary debate directly through citizen support.

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Chapter 2 · M+J

The role of the political party *Por Un Mundo Más Justo* (M+J).

Political Initiative and Strategic Vision: Following the parliamentary rejection of a Non-Legislative Proposal (PNL) in the summer of 2020, the political party Por Un Mundo Más Justo (M+J) envisioned using a Citizens' Legislative Initiative (ILP) as a powerful legal mechanism to bypass parliamentary blocks and force a direct legislative debate through citizen mobilization.

The Figure of the Author and First Signatory: The formal author and first signatory of the text registered in the Congress of Deputies was Augustin Ndour Ndong, a prominent militant and former presidential candidate for M+J. His dual role as a grassroots activist and an employee of the Global Citizens Foundation allowed him to connect the harsh reality of undocumented migrants with institutional legal tools. It was Ndour who, after the 2020 rejection, proposed this bold response to the leadership, famously stating he would chain himself to the lions of Congress if necessary to raise awareness.

Moral Legitimacy and National Advocacy: Having lived in an irregular administrative situation in Spain in the past, Augustin Ndour brought undeniable human legitimacy to the #Esenciales campaign. He traveled across Spain participating in civil society forums, universities, and religious entities. Ndour consistently highlighted a stark irony: the very migrants who would benefit from the law could not legally sign for it, making the solidarity of Spanish citizens absolutely necessary.

The very migrants who would benefit from the law could not legally sign for it.



Massive Grassroots Contribution: At a collective level, M+J became the single organization that contributed the largest volume of support to the campaign, independently collecting 143,336 physical signatures through its militant networks.



Campaign billboard featuring Augustin Ndour, first signatory of the #ILPRegularización.

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Chapter 3 · FCG

The role of the *Global Citizens Foundation* (FCG).

Legal Architecture and General Coordination: The Global Citizens Foundation (FCG) served as the operational and legal brain of the initiative. The foundation fully coordinated the complex drafting of the ILP's legal text. After the Congress Bureau rejected the first two drafts due to competence conflicts with organic laws, FCG successfully designed a third draft focused on modifying a transitional provision, which achieved final admission for parliamentary processing.

Executive Leadership: The entire process was under the executive leadership of Jorge Serrano Paradinas, who served in a dual capacity as General Director of the FCG and General Coordinator of M+J. Serrano acted as the General Coordinator and the public face of the ILP. He led key political negotiations with the Government of Spain, defending the economic, fiscal, and human rights viability of the regularization process, and oversaw the development of the extraordinary regularization until the closing of the official application period in June 2026.

Financial Engine and Viability Guarantee: FCG acted as the sole financial engine of the ILP, making a direct investment of €340,000 to cover technical infrastructure, printing of official documents, and national logistics. FCG also relied on vital logistical support from veteran militants like María del Carmen Paradinas Riestra, whose home in Madrid was transformed into the national logistics hub where forms were distributed to 17,000 volunteers and 700,000 signatures were verified and stored.

Technological Innovation (Wikizens.com): FCG designed and funded Wikizens.com, a digital platform functioning as the operational brain of the campaign. It managed the distribution of official forms, hosted an interactive map of physical signature points, and provided real-time data transparency.

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Chapter 4 · The Church

The role of the *Catholic Church*.

A Decisive Transversal Factor: The deep involvement of the Catholic Church provided a social doctrine approach centered on human dignity. This involvement was crucial in breaking partisan rhetoric and connecting the campaign with conservative or traditional sectors of Spanish society that do not usually participate in anti-racist street marches.

Institutional Dialogue and Leadership: Key entities such as Cáritas Spain, the Spanish Conference of Religious (CONFER), the Network of Entities for Solidarity Development (REDES), and the Migration Department of the Spanish Episcopal Conference led institutional dialogues at critical moments of the process, anchoring the narrative in universal human rights and social justice.

Massive Signature Collection Mobilization: The Church's structural network translated into massive practical support. Parishes and religious headquarters served as official physical signature collection points across the country. As a collective entity, the official confederation Cáritas alone contributed 39,280 verified physical signatures to the initiative.

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Chapter 5 · Regularización YA

The role of *Regularización YA*.

The Precursor and Grassroots Mobilizer: The national network Regularización YA, composed of self-organized migrant and racialized groups, was the original force that pushed for an extraordinary regularization during the COVID-19 pandemic through the 2020 Non-legislative proposal. When the

promotional coalition was formalised under the #Esenciales campaign in September 2021, they joined the Promoting Committee as a fundamental pillar.

Anti-racist Leadership and Street Presence: Regularización YA led the grassroots and anti-racist movements, neighborhood associations, and frontline human rights defenders. Their presence ensured that the self-representation of affected migrants remained at the core of the social narrative, providing visibility and mobilizing communities across the entire Spanish territory.

Massive Organizational Impact: Demonstrating an extraordinary capacity for direct mobilization, Regularización YA was the second largest collective contributor of signatures to the campaign, gathering 102,501 physical signatures.

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Chapter 6 · #Esenciales

Creating the #Esenciales support network.

To obtain the required signatures, FCG and M+J joined forces with Regularización YA, Por Causa Foundation, Alliance for Solidarity, and REDES. Together they established the formal Promoting Committee under the #Esenciales citizen campaign.

They used their networks to bring together more than 1,000 NGOs, migrant groups, and religious entities, managing to collect nearly 700,000 signatures, by more than 17,000 volunteers throughout Spain.

The Regularization ILP campaign was extremely broad and cross-cutting from an ideological point of view. The great success of the ILP was to avoid partisan rhetoric and present itself as a pragmatic measure of social justice, human rights, and tax revenue. This cross-cutting social appeal was precisely what broke the political deadlock, leading to the Congress approving its initial processing by a very large majority, and demonstrating that regularization was not an exclusive demand of one ideological sector, but a broad consensus of civil society.

This highly unusual ideological confluence managed to bring together organizations that are usually at opposite ends of the political, social, and religious spectrum in Spain:

Grassroots and anti-racist movements: Led by the national Regularización Ya network (made up of self-organized migrant groups), along with neighborhood associations and human rights defenders.

Church and religious entities: The Catholic Church played a decisive role. Organizations such as Caritas Spain, the Spanish Conference of Religious (CONFER), the Network of Entities for Solidarity Development (REDES), and the Migration Department of the Spanish Episcopal Conference led the institutional dialogue in key moments of the process. The deep involvement of bishops and Catholic networks provided a social doctrine approach centered on human dignity, connecting with more conservative or traditional sectors of society that do not usually participate in anti-racist marches.

Large international cooperation NGOs: Third-sector organizations with strong technical and communication capabilities, such as Oxfam Intermón and Alianza por la Solidaridad.

Workers' unions and labor platforms: Labor groups, notably including the Barcelona Street Vendors' Union, advocates for the rights of domestic workers, and groups of seasonal agricultural workers.

Political parties: Specially the promoting party itself, For a More Just World (M+J).



Signature collection point in Deusto (Bilbao).



#Esenciales campaign poster.



Information poster from the Promoting Committee.

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Chapter 7 · Technology

Digital coordination platform: Wikizens.com.

Designed and funded by the Global Citizens Foundation (FCG), Wikizens.com was the digital coordination platform and centralized data system that enabled the organizational management, distribution, and tracking of the

more than 700,000 physical signatures that ensured the success of the Regularization Citizens' Legislative Initiative (ILP).

Specifically designed as a kind of "social network for political participation", it functioned as the operational brain of the #Esenciales campaign, allowing for the massive decentralization of signature collection throughout Spain. Any Spanish citizen who wanted to collaborate could register on the platform. The system processed the application the same day and managed the postal delivery of the official forms—previously numbered and stamped by the Central Electoral Board—directly to the volunteer's home.

Wikizens Map of fixed points: It allowed for the registration of commercial premises, parishes, and NGO headquarters to create an interactive public map where any citizen could find out which physical location to go to sign the petition.

Data Control and "Gamification" of Activism Real-time monitoring: The website offered a transparent panel that constantly displayed three metrics; the legally required signatures (500,000), the signatures pledged by volunteers, and the collected signatures that had already been physically verified.

500,000

signatures required by law

Legal requirement for an ILP.

700,000

signatures collected and verified

Source: FCG.

17,000

volunteers coordinated

Source: FCG.

Assignment by networks: The system linked user profiles to the ILP's nodal organizations. For example, the signatures collected individually by activists like Mar Ruiz or Jesús Barcina were automatically added to the overall count for the M+J party within the website's network graphs.

Following the resounding success of the Regularization Citizens' Legislative Initiative process, the Global Citizens Foundation decided to capitalize on all the technological learning from Wikizens.com. In 2025, the platform evolved and transformed into Boreal.es, a permanent and open digital ecosystem designed to provide free assistance to any social group or citizen wishing to promote future Citizens' Legislative Initiatives at the municipal, regional, national and European level.

The *logistics*.

María del Carmen Paradinas Riestra played the role of “vital logistical and operational support” from the base of the ILP Regularization.

She is a veteran militant of the party For a More Just World (M+J), where she has served as Signatory of Material Resources, in addition to being the mother of Jorge Serrano Paradinas and an active volunteer of the Global Citizens Foundation (FCG).

Carmen Paradinas transformed her own home, located in northern Madrid, into the logistics hub and “safe house” where the national signature campaign was coordinated.

From this house, signature sheets were sent to the 17,000 volunteers distributed throughout Spain, and the 700,000 signatures collected were received back.

Management of official documents: Her living room, hallways, and bedrooms were filled with hundreds of cardboard boxes intended to store, organize, and classify the thousands of physical sheets with signatures arriving from all over Spain.



Boxes holding the 700,000 signatures just before they were delivered.

Meeting point for the validation of signatures: In the final stage of the signature collection, the house served as a meeting point for dozens of militants from the Madrid headquarters of the political party Por Un Mundo Más Justo (M+J), who dedicated a month to reviewing and validating the hundreds of thousands of signatures received, under the coordination of Raquel Torrejón and David Meco.



ILP Regularization certifying officers (fedatarios) reviewing signatures.



ILP Regularization certifying officers (fedatarios) at the moment the count passed 500,000 signatures.

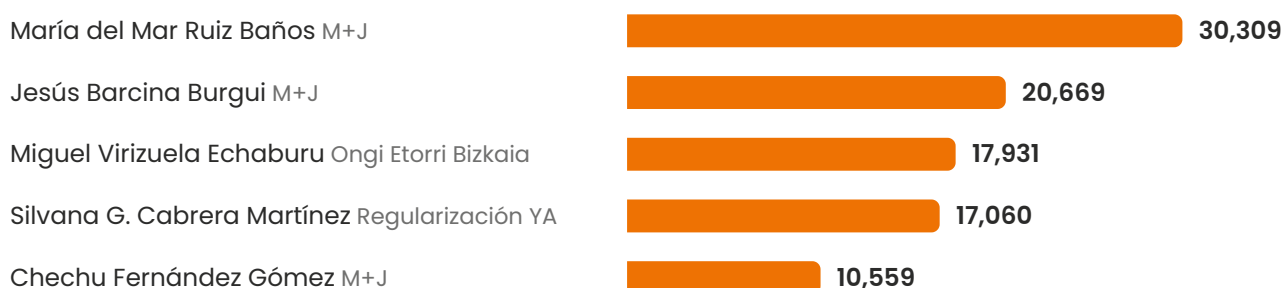
09

Chapter 9 · Data

Signature collection *ranking*.

The Top Individual Signature Collectors: The official record of the signature collectors who achieved the highest personal numbers of physical signatures in the streets includes:

Figure 1. Individuals who collected the most physical signatures.



Source: official signature register of the ILP. Compiled by FCG.

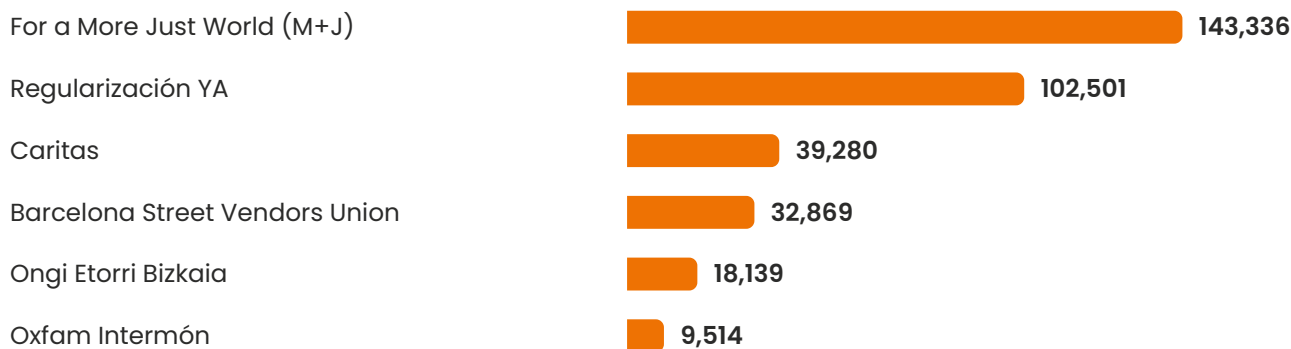
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Chapter 10 · Data

The organizations that *contributed the most signatures*.

At a collective level, although more than 1,000 committees and NGOs participated, the bulk of the support that allowed them to far exceed the half million required by Congress was concentrated in six main organizations:

Figure 2. Organizations that contributed the most signatures.



Source: official signature register of the ILP. Compiled by FCG.

The *funding*.

The Global Citizens Foundation (FCG) was the sole financial engine of the Citizens' Legislative Initiative (ILP), making a direct investment of €340,000 to ensure the viability of the entire legal and logistical operation.

This €340,000 was entirely allocated to cover the costs of technical infrastructure, printing official documents, and posters.

€340,000

direct investment by FCG, the sole financial engine of the ILP

Source: FCG.

Logistical support: The funds enabled the coordination of physical signature collection points throughout Spain during the months the citizen campaign lasted.

Guarantee of viability: By assuming this cost, the foundation relieved self-organized migrant groups (such as Regularización Ya) of the financial burden, allowing for a coalition based on equal operational effort.

Political negotiation and *strategic advocacy* in Congress.



Augustin Ndour, first signatory of the #ILPRegularización, head of migration at the Global Citizens Foundation and member of the party Por Un Mundo Más Justo, greets the members of Parliament as they applaud him after the ILP was admitted for consideration by 310 votes to 33. Madrid, April 9, 2024. Photo: Eduardo Parra / Europa Press.

The Official Presentation in Parliament: The promotional coalition formally presented the Citizens' Legislative Initiative (ILP) for Extraordinary Regularization before the Congress of Deputies. The initiative arrived at the legislature with the historic democratic legitimacy of over 700,000 citizen signatures and the endorsement of more than 1,000 civil society organizations.

The Imminent Parliamentary Rejection: In the days leading up to the critical parliamentary vote in April 2024 to decide whether the bill would be admitted for processing, the two major national parties—the Socialist Party (PSOE) and the People's Party (PP)—were poised to kill the initiative. The migration spokespersons for both mainstream groups, Sofía Acedo (PP) and Luc André Diouf (PSOE), formally communicated to the ILP General Coordinator, Jorge

Serrano Paradinas, that their parliamentary groups intended to vote NO, effectively shutting down the initiative before any debate could even begin.

The Media Counter-Offensive: To counter this institutional blockade, the FCG launched a high-impact media maneuver. The Foundation funded and published a full-color, double-page national advertisement across all major Spanish newspapers. The message delivered a fierce public critique: it stated that both PSOE and PP were threatening to delete a popular initiative without even studying it in Parliament. The ad called out this stance as a profound disrespect to the 700,000 Spanish citizens who signed it, to the 1,000 endorsing NGOs, and most gravely, to the more than half a million irregular migrants, our neighbors, who at the very least deserved to have their plight studied by their representatives.

Grassroots Pressure and High-Level Diplomacy: Simultaneously, the FCG activated the network of 1,000 involved social organizations in a massive lobbying campaign, instructing activists to directly call every deputy, senator, or local councilor they personally knew within both major parties to demand a vote in favor. The decisive diplomatic move occurred when the FCG successfully facilitated a crucial strategic conversation between the General Spokesperson of the People's Party, Miguel Tellado, and the President of the Spanish Episcopal Conference, Luis Argüello. The deep involvement of the Catholic leadership exerted definitive moral pressure on the conservative block.

A Resounding Victory in Congress: As a direct consequence of this multi-layered pressure campaign, both major parties executed a dramatic U-turn from "No" to "YES" just the day before the vote. On April 9, 2024, the plenary floor delivered a landslide victory: 310 votes in favor and only 33 against (exclusively from the far-right party VOX). A subsequent amendment to reject the bill entirely presented by VOX was overwhelmingly defeated with 317 votes against and only their own 33 in favor.

Figure 3. Plenary votes in the Congress of Deputies, April 9, 2024.

Admission of the ILP for consideration



Amendment to the whole tabled by VOX



Source: Congress of Deputies.



Voting board in the Congress of Deputies showing the result of the vote on admission for consideration: 343 votes cast, 310 in favor and 33 against. April 9, 2024.

The Commission Phase and the Government's Preemptive Strike: Following this victory, the initiative moved to the Congressional Migration Commission, where all political groups began negotiating specific amendments. After more than a year of intense text-by-text negotiations, by December 2025, the promoters had successfully secured enough consensus with the necessary votes to guarantee final parliamentary passage, scheduling the definitive approval vote in the Commission for February 2026. Knowing that the text was going to pass in the Commission, the central government decided to get ahead of the narrative to gain political credit. In January 2026, the executive branch surprised the country by passing a Royal Decree born from a political agreement between PSOE and Podemos, launching the most ambitious extraordinary regularization process in the history of Spanish democracy.



The Promoting Committee of the ILP Regularization appearing before the Congress of Deputies.

Judicial Warfare and Veto Attempts: The Regularization faced aggressive judicial opposition designed to freeze the execution of the process. Conservative regional governments, right-wing parties like VOX, and anti-immigration platforms filed urgent appeals before the Spanish Supreme Court (*Tribunal Supremo*). They requested a precautionary suspension of the Royal Decree to paralyze the entire process midway, arguing an alleged “collision” with the European Pact on Migration and Asylum and pushing to escalate the case to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). Ultimately, the Supreme Court rejected these emergency requests, refusing to suspend the mechanism and shielding the legal execution window from targeted lawfare.

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Chapter 13 • Implementation

Implementation and the *vulnerability certification system.*

Transition to Technical and Bureaucratic Management: During the official implementation window deployed between April 16 and June 30, 2026, the focus of the initiative’s promoters shifted dynamically from political activism to high-precision administrative and data management. This operational

deployment was absolutely critical to prevent the state mechanism from collapsing under intense bureaucratic hurdles.

The Digital Solution (certificadovulnerabilidad.es): One of the most severe bottlenecks for migrants was demonstrating their community ties and social exclusion to local councils to get their official reports. To address this, the FCG launched the portal certificadovulnerabilidad.es, after being officially accredited by the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration. The platform completely avoided physical queues, allowing thousands of applicants to process their accreditation online, securely and free of charge, effectively bypassing the collapse of municipal social services.

Rigorous Technological Verification: Designed by Alejandro Plans Beriso (M+J Spokesperson and FCG Communication Director), the platform utilized high-tech security features to ensure all generated certificates were fully valid before the Immigration Office. The system required users to activate precise geolocation, upload a scanned copy of their original passport and record a 2-minute video in which the applicant verbally justified their specific situation of exclusion and vulnerability.

Strategic Legal Alliances: To scale the reach of the platform during this short window, the FCG signed key collaboration agreements with major legal bodies, notably the Madrid Lawyers Association (ICAM). Thanks to this institutional synergy, registered lawyers were able to process the complex files of their most vulnerable clients massively, directly, and securely through the website.

On-the-Ground Coordination for At-Risk Groups: Jesús Barcina Burgui (M+J militant and FCG staff) led the technical team responsible for reviewing the incoming digital applications. He coordinated specific assistance programs and the issuance of tailored certificates for highly excluded individuals, such as unaccompanied migrant youth and young people from Gambia. Barcina functioned as the vital human bridge between the foundation's technological platform and the acute psychological and social needs of migrants. Concurrently, Augustin Ndour coordinated direct, hands-on field assistance to vulnerable migrants who were completely overwhelmed by the administrative burden of local municipalities.

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Chapter 14 • Research

Final studies and *profiles*.

Under the research leadership of Jorge Serrano Paradinas, FCG not only processed documents, but also monitored the execution of the Extraordinary Regularization in real time and published rigorous sociodemographic reports of the process, compiling the information from its own vulnerability certificate platform.

Its 2026 statistical studies shed light on the real profile of the applicants:

Geographic origin: The studies determined that 67.5% of the applications came from Latin America, with Colombia positioned as the country with the highest volume of applications processed.

Length of residence: The analysis yielded a devastating piece of data in the face of political narratives: 62.1% of vulnerable applicants had been living in Spain for less than two years.

Gender balance: Debunking stereotypes, the studies recorded that the gender profile was perfectly balanced, registering a 51.6% men and 48.4% women.

Serrano's use of this data in the media served to defend the effectiveness of the ILP before public opinion and to transparently measure the scope of a regularization that exceeded one million total applications at the close of the deadlines.

67.5%

of applications came from Latin America

Source: FCG studies, 2026.

62.1%

of vulnerable applicants had lived in Spain for less than two years

Source: FCG studies, 2026.

51.6 / 48.4

% men and women among applicants

Source: FCG studies, 2026.

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Chapter 15 · Ceuta

Events in Ceuta and the *European political battle*.

The Incident and the Official Account: During the implementation phase of the regularization, the border at the autonomous city of Ceuta experienced a severe geopolitical crisis characterized by coordinated irregular crossings and intense political instrumentalization. Media outlets and opposing parties immediately weaponized the situation, falsely claiming the crossings were a direct 'pull effect' caused by the regularization decree. To counter this narrative, the FCG, under the research leadership of Jorge Serrano Paradinas and Augustin Ndour, deployed immediate monitoring resources on the ground. The resulting independent report proved with verified data that the border events were entirely disconnected from the national regularization process, exposing them as a geopolitical maneuver.

The Backlash: The Letter of the 22 European Leaders: The success of the Spanish ILP triggered an immediate ideological reaction from conservative and nationalist sectors across the continent. A coalition of 22 European political leaders signed and sent an official joint letter addressed directly to the European Commission and the European Council. The letter weaponized the

events in Ceuta, explicitly blaming Spain's extraordinary regularization window for creating a "pull effect" and holding the initiative responsible for what they labeled a border "invasion."

The International Repercussions and Geopolitical Instrumentalization: The border crisis in Ceuta rapidly escalated into a major international flashpoint, heavily weaponized by global political actors and foreign states to destabilize the regularization narrative. The events achieved unprecedented global visibility when Donald Trump and his team repurposed the dramatic live imagery of the Ceuta border crossings in US political campaigns to fuel anti-immigration rhetoric. Simultaneously, the crisis triggered sharp public statements from Moroccan government ministers utilizing border control as a tool of diplomatic leverage to explicitly reclaim Ceuta and Melilla as Moroccan territory. Concurrently, Israeli diplomatic representatives and foreign ministries issued official reactions, attempting to link Spain's domestic migration policy to broader Mediterranean and geopolitical security conflicts. This complex international storm turned Ceuta into a global case study for the weaponization of migration.

The Counter-Offensive: A Pan-European Information Deployment: To dismantle this narrative, the promoters of the ILP launched an unprecedented digital and diplomatic counter-offensive. Jorge Serrano Paradinas produced and recorded a comprehensive video response based strictly on the factual evidence compiled in the FCG Ceuta report. The platform's digital infrastructure was leveraged to bypass traditional media blocks, successfully sending both the complete written FCG Ceuta report and the accompanying video response directly to the official email addresses of members of parliament across every single national parliament in all European Union member states. This coordinated deployment of multimedia and technical documentation meticulously explained the reality of what happened in Ceuta, neutralizing the disinformation campaign at a European level.

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Chapter 16 · Economic impact

Macroeconomic transformation: *legal inclusion as a national growth engine.*

The Immediate Boost to Social Security: The transition of hundreds of thousands of workers from the underground economy into formal employment has triggered an unprecedented expansion in public revenues. By September 30, 2026, official data from the Ministry of Inclusion confirmed that 421,306 foreign workers had already been registered and were actively contributing to the Social Security system specifically through the extraordinary regularization

mechanism. This massive structural inflow has pushed the total number of foreign-born affiliates in Spain to a historic record of over 3.55 million workers, representing 16% of the country's entire workforce and substantially narrowing the systemic Social Security deficit.

421,306

workers registered with Social Security through the regularization

Source: Ministry of Inclusion, Sep 30, 2026.

16%

of the workforce is foreign-born

Source: Ministry of Inclusion, Sep 30, 2026.

9.9%

unemployment, the first time below 10% since 2007

Source: data cited in this report.

€2.3bn

estimated new annual public revenue

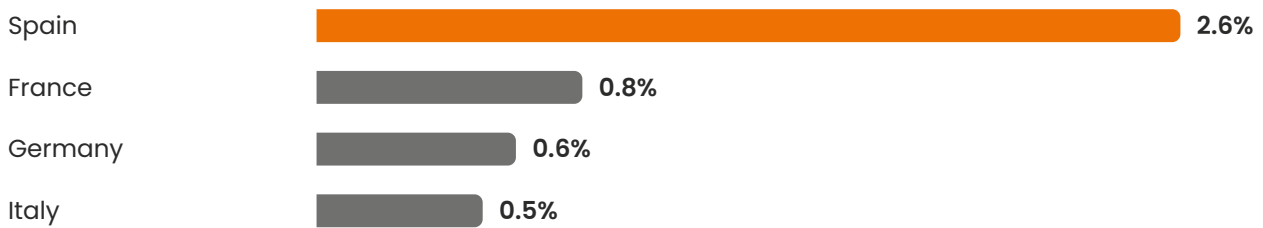
Source: BBVA Research and Funcas.

Direct Impact on Unemployment Statistics: The legal framework has structurally altered national labor statistics by formally enlarging the active workforce. It is critical to underscore that the vast majority of regularized individuals have integrated into the system as actively employed workers, formalizing jobs they already held in the underground economy. As a result, the national unemployment rate has experienced a steep downward trajectory, falling below the 10% threshold (to 9.9%) for the first time since the 2007 financial crisis, effectively reducing structural unemployment.

Deficit Reduction and Public Debt Mitigation via Tax Revenue: The formalization of over 421,000 workers has created a highly productive fiscal feedback loop. The newly regularized workforce is now actively subject to direct taxation through the Personal Income Tax (IRPF) and indirect consumer taxes, generating immediate cash flow for the state treasury. Studies by institutions like *BBVA Research* and *Funcas* estimate that the initial wave of formalization alone will inject up to €2,300 million in fresh yearly revenue into public coffers. This rapid consolidation has significantly minimized the budgetary deficit, accelerating the reduction of Spain's public debt down toward 97.9% of GDP by accelerating nominal growth.

European Comparison: The Growth Divergence: The macroeconomic impact of this labor market formalization has placed Spain in a position of sharp economic divergence compared to its European peers. While the core Eurozone suffers from acute stagnation, registering weak GDP projections for 2026 in Germany (+0.6%), France (+0.8%), and Italy (+0.5%), Spain is set to triple the average Eurozone growth rate, leading advanced economies with a robust GDP expansion of 2.6%. Leading international investment institutions like *Goldman Sachs* emphasize that migration management and labor market resilience are the primary pillars sustaining this growth differentials, making Spain a standout model of macroeconomic resilience.

Figure 4. 2026 GDP growth forecast (%).



Source: 2026 growth forecasts cited in this report.

The Paradox of Growth: The Structural Housing and Wage Crisis: It is imperative to contrast these positive macroeconomic indicators with the deteriorating living conditions of the general population in Spain. Despite robust GDP growth and expanding fiscal revenues, the average citizen has faced stagnant real middle wages since the year 2000. This wage stagnation has collided with a spectacular and unmitigated surge in housing rental prices across the country, driving a progressive impoverishment of the population. This systemic housing crisis acts as a universal burden, affecting both Spanish nationals and migrant communities alike. Consequently, improvements in aggregate GDP are failing to alleviate a generalized social discontent, proving that macroeconomic success does not automatically translate into economic well-being without structural policies addressing wealth distribution and housing rights.

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Chapter 17 · Challenges

Pending challenges and the *future of European migration.*

A Historic Window of Opportunity: With the successful conclusion of the 2026 Extraordinary Regularization, Spain has achieved a historic milestone: the statistical backlog of undocumented migrants living within the country has been reduced virtually to zero. The FCG argues that this clear slate creates the ideal political and economic opportunity to transition from reactive emergency measures to proactive structural policies. In alignment with the strategic proposals outlined in its Ceuta report, the Foundation advocates for the urgent expansion and diversification of safe, legal, and regular migration channels as the only sustainable long-term solution.

The Administrative Bottleneck: Systemic Collapse: Despite the legislative success of the ILP, the Spanish government faces a critical internal crisis regarding its migration infrastructure. The institutional framework is currently suffering from an absolute administrative collapse. This systemic backlog is

not confined to the processing of the extraordinary regularization applications themselves, but severely impacts every single standard immigration procedure.

The TIE Crisis and Digital Hurdles: The most severe bottleneck manifests daily in the mandatory appointment system for biometric data collection. Migrants face months of delays just to access the fingerprinting process required to obtain their physical Foreigner Identity Card (TIE). The FCG emphasizes that streamlining, digitizing, and drastically simplifying these administrative steps is the most urgent challenge for the Spanish government to ensure that legal status translates into real, everyday institutional inclusion.

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Chapter 18 · Next step

Next step: a digital platform to prevent migrants from *becoming undocumented again*.

The New Administrative Challenge: Following the historic regularizations achieved through the ILP and the 2026 Royal Decree, a massive administrative hurdle has emerged. Within the next year, nearly one million additional immigration renewals will hit an already collapsed Spanish immigration system. To prevent a widespread crisis of systemic, “overnight” irregular status caused by intense municipal and immigration office bottlenecks (which reached up to 5-month delays in Madrid in June 2026), the FCG has designed a structural, digital alternative.

The “Una Más” Institutional Pilot: Officially presented as a pilot project for a public grant under the Agenda 2030 framework, “Una Más” is a state-wide tech-administrative support system designed specifically to streamline the renewal of residence and work permits.

Disruptive Technological Framework: Capitalizing on the technical expertise gained from *Wikizens.com* and *certificadovulnerabilidad.es*, the project introduces a dual-environment digital platform developed by FCG:

- **User Interface:** Allows applicants to photograph and securely upload all required documentation directly from their mobile phones, completely bypassing physical queues and unnecessary appointments.
- **Administrative Panel & AI Integration:** Integrates specialized artificial intelligence infrastructure to support legal teams in reading, classifying, and detecting incomplete or erroneous documentation before official submission.

Ministry Accreditation and Direct Intermediation: As an officially accredited social entity authorized by the Directorate-General for Migrations, the FCG will act as a direct legal intermediary. The FCG technical team will pre-verify, compile, and formally submit completed files directly into the Ministry's digital platform (Mercurio) within less than 24 hours. This drastically reduces processing errors, subverts the dependence on costly private legal advisory, and ensures full institutional compliance.

The pilot aims to process a minimum of 10,000 applications in its initial deployment. While operating nationally alongside prominent networks like CEPAIM, SJM, and Farmamundi, the project deploys reinforced field support, community workshops, and technical assistance in four strategic high-immigration territories: Madrid, Almería, Granada, and Bilbao.



Presentation of the delivery of the 700,000 signatures at the Congress of Deputies.



We mobilize society to change laws and defend the rights of those who need it most.

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