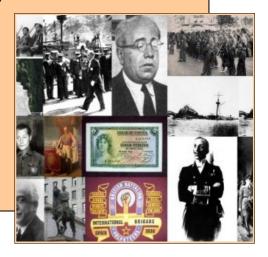
UNIT 16 – Spain at the Beginning of the 20th Century

- Introduction
- Alfonso XIII's constitutional reign (1902-1923)
- The Second Republic
- o Bienio Reformista (1931-1933)
 - Opposition to these reforms
- Bienio Conservador and the Popular Front (1933-1936)
 - The Popular Front
- The coup d'état and the division of Spain
- The Civil War outside Spain
- Evolution of the Spanish Civil War
- Life during the War



Introduction

In 1895, a new pro-independence movement started in Cuba. The conflict continued until 1898 when the USA declared war on Spain after the warship Maine was sunk in La Habana harbour.

After the defeat, Spain lost the colonies of Cuba, the

Philippines and Puerto Rico. This was known as the 1898 disaster. It had a lot of consequences, like frustration and sadness, among politicians and intellectuals.

Another consequence was the "Rexeneracionismo", an intellectual movement that proposed to carry out reforms in order to solve the problems of Spain and to end the caciquismo and corruption.







Alfonso XIII's constitutional reign (1902-1923)

He maintained the 1876 Constitution and rotating government; the leaders of the two main political parties were then: **Maura**, the leader of the Conservative party and **Canalejas**, the leader of the liberal party.

- Maura tried to stop caciquismo reforming the electoral law and the local administration but he was unable to solve the problems.
- Canalejas' most controversial measure was the law that banned new religious orders in Spain.
- Other political parties started to have a lot of supporters: PNV, Republicans,
 PSOE, the Lliga Catalá and the Trade Unions, UXT and CNT.

After 1909 there were **three crisis** that finished off the Restoration System:

- The Tragic Week in Barcelona: ordinary people rioted because they were called to fight against Morocco, but wealthy people could pay not to do the military service.
- The 1917 crisis that affected Spain with a lot of problems in political, military and trade unions' life.



Social riots between 1919 and 1923, after the Russian Revolution.
 Government and entrepreneurs were afraid of the workers' movements.
 Between 1917 and 1923 there were 43 changes in the government.

10,000 soldiers died in Morocco after the army was defeated in Annual (1921). The opposition in the Parliament asked for an investigation. Part of the army, to protect themselves, decided to seize power. In 1923, **General Primo de Rivera**, with the king's agreement, made a *coup d'etat*.



The Constitution was suspended, so the Cortes, all political parties and trade unions were banned. Primo de Rivera ended the war against Morocco. This dictatorship lasted until 1930 thanks to the economic prosperity of the 1920s.

A lot of public works were made.

After 1927, intellectuals, students, workers and nationalists, started to criticize the government. Two years later, because of the opposition, the king ended his support for Primo de Rivera

who resigned in January 1930.

Alfonso XIII ordered a new government to be formed, called for elections and reestablished the constitution. However, the opposition to the king was strong because he was considered to be part of the dictatorship.

Republicans, socialists ... even some monarchists, signed the **San Sebastian Pact**, in 1930, with the aims of taking part in the elections together and establishing a republic.

TASKS:

- 1. Define "Rexeneracionismo".
- 2. Do you think that Alfonso XIII's reign was a sequel of the Restoration?
- 3. Who were against Alfonso XIII's monarchy?
- 4. What caused the crisis in the liberal system?
- 5. Why did General Primo de Rivera carry out a coup d'état?

The Second Republic

On the 12th April 1931, there were local elections. In general, supporters of the monarchy won the elections but Republicans won in most of the provincial capitals, less dominated by local *caciques*, so they considered themselves the real winners.



Because of there results, Alfonso XIII went into exile. A provisional government proclaimed the second republic, on the 14th April of 1931.

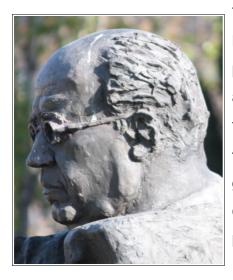
The Provisional Government and the 1931 Constitution. The new government was integrated by the political parties that signed the San Sebastian Pact, presided by Alcalá Zamora.

The government started some reforms and called elections that the Republicans won.

The new *Cortes* made a democratic Constitution (1931) where all the political parties could be represented.

The main features of the constitution were:

- Individual freedom of expression, meeting or association.
- Right to divorce was introduced.
- Universal suffrage (for men and women)
- A secular state, without an official religion. Everybody had the right to practise any religion and to receive secular education.
- Territorial decentralized organisation: the possibility of creating autonomous regions was open. Other languages, apart from official Spanish, were recognized.
- The importance of the welfare state; the state created public schools ...



This was the first democratic constitution in Spain. Part of the country did not accept it because of the parts of the constitution about religion and territorial autonomy.

There were riots in the main cities and plots against the republic. Moderate Republicans left the government, unhappy because of the articles in the constitution that affected religion. **Azaña** was elected president of the government.



TASKS:

- 6. Was this the first time in recent history that a monarch was expelled from Spain?
- 7. After the monarchy was over, who had the power?
- 8. How did the monarchy end? Was it a violent change? Why?
- 9. Name the most important news of the new constitution.
- 10. Why did not all political groups agree about the new constitution?

11.

| PARTIES | POLITICAL ORIENTATION | LEADERS |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Esquerda Republicana (ER)* | Left | Manuel Azaña |
| Partido Republicano Radical Socialista (PRRS) | Left | Félix Gordón de Ordás |
| Partido Republicano Radical Socialista Independiente (PRRSI) | Left | Marcelino Domingo |
| Unión Republicana (UR)** | Left | Diego Martínez Barrio |
| Esquerda Republicana de Cataluña (ERC) | Regionalist left | Francesc Maciá Lluis Companys |
| Organización Republicana Galega Autónoma (ORGA) | Regionalist left | Santiago Casares Quiroga |
| Partido Socialista Obrero Español (PSOE) | Left | Indalecio Prieto Julián Besteiro Francisco Largo Caballero |
| Partido Comunista de España (PCE) | Left | José Díaz Dolores Ibárruri (Pasionaria) |
| Partido Obreiro de Unificación Marxista (POUM) | Left | Joaquín Maurín Andrés Nin |
| Partido Republicano Radical (PRR) | Center- right | Alejandro Lerroux |
| Partido Republicano Conservador (PRC) | Center- right | Miguel Maura |
| Partido Republicano Progresista (PRP) | Center- right | Niceto Alcalá Zamora |
| Partido Republicano Liberal Demócrata (PRLD) | Center- right | Melquíades Álvarez |
| Confederación Española de Dereitas Autónomas (CEDA) | Right | José María Gil Robles |
| Partido Nacionalista Vasco (PNV) | Rexionalista de dereita | José antonio Aquirre |
| Liga Rexionalista de Cataluña | Rexionalista de dereita | Francesc Cambó |
| Falanxe Española das XONS | Extreme right | José Antonio Primo de Rivera |

- a) Make a list of the main political leaders and their political tendencies.
- b) Do you think the main political leaders were represented in the 1931 elections? Provide a reasoned answer.
- c) Which present-day autonomous communities did the nationalistic political parties belong to?

TASKS:

- 12. Search for information about those two presidents of the government.

 Write a short biography of each one.
- 13. Investigate if any of those political parties still exist. You can use internet, encyclopedias, newspapers...
 - a) Are they important political parties today?
 - b) Do they have the same ideology? Explain your answer.

Bienio Reformista (1931 – 1933)



Between 1931 and 1933, Azaña was the president of the government.

There were several reforms during these years.

 Agrarian reform: The aims were to improve the agrarian production and the life of the peasants so they planned to expropriate the uncultivated large estates and give the land to casual labourers.

The body in charge was the IRA (*Instituto de Reforma Agraria*), but they did not have enough money for their objectives. Farmers felt disappointed so there were problems in the

country.

- Catalonia got its autonomy: The statute of Nuria (1932) was passed and the Generalitat was founded.
- Military reform: Military commands had to swear loyalty to the republic.
- Labour reforms: such as minimum wage and accidents insurance.
- **Education reform:** 10,000 primary schools were built in two years. The education budget increased 50%.
- Civil marriages and divorce were regulated.

Opposition to these reforms

Wealthy landowners, high ecclesiastic and army hierarchy were against the reforms. They considered them radical.

Anarchists and trade unions were also against them, but because they considered them too light.

In August 1932, there was a *coup d'etat* led by General Sanjurjo in Seville, but it failed.

Anarchists, on the other hand, occupied land, because they were unhappy because the agrarian reforms were too slow.

In Casas Viejas (Cádiz) farmers had demonstrations in January 1933. Several people died.

In September 1933, following the unpopularity of the government and the economic crisis, Azaña resigned and new elections were called.

The right political parties went together in a group called CEDA (*Confederación española de dereitas autónomas*) led by **Gil Robles**.

TASKS:

- 14. Which problems did Azaña's government want to solve?
- 15. Were they new problems? Explain.
- 16. What region was the first to get autonomy?
- 17. Who were not happy with the reforms?
- 18. What did they do against the reforms?
- 19. Explain the consequences of their actions.

Bienio Conservador and the Popular Front (Frente Popular), (1933 – 1936)

The "center–right" political parties won the elections in 1933. The new government from the Radical party of **Lerroux**, with the support of CEDA, stopped the reforms that the previous government had started.

In 1934, there were new ministers from the CEDA, the left-wing parties did not accept them and they decided to get the power in an non-democratic way so there was the **October revolution:**

- 1. The revolution succeeded in **Asturias**, where workers unions occupied the coal mining area, but General Franco, sent by the government put the revolt down.
- 2. In **Catalonia**: the autonomous government supported the revolt and Lluis Companys proclaimed the **Catalan Republic**. After the revolution failed, the *Generalitat* was dissolved and autonomous government leaders imprisoned.

After these problems the government started a crisis. The ideological differences and the corruption in the Radical party ended the "co-alliance" in the government. New elections were called in February 1936.

The Popular Front

Left-wing parties socialist, communists, some nationalists and anarchists, formed **Popular Front** and went together to the elections.

Calvo Sotelo and José Antonio Primo de Rivera, leader of the fascist party *Falanxe Española*, were the most important political politicians of the **right-wing parties**.

The Popular Front won the elections. The new government restarted the reforms and gave freedom to the prisoners of the October revolution.

Alcalá Zamora was fired and **Azaña** became the president of the republic.

Problems increased in the streets. There were strikes, churches were "burned", and there were armed quarrels between "falanxistas" and "militantes de organizacións obreiras" which, in a lot of cases, ended in murders.

Some military commanders, led by General Mola, started plotting an end to the republic.

On the 12th July 1936, "*teniente*" Castillo, (left wing), was killed by people from the right.

On the next day some of Castillos's friends killed **Calvo Sotelo**, the right-wing leader.

This gave way to the uprising of the Spanish army in the North of Africa, led by General Franco.

The coup d'état and the division of Spain



The army rebelled in the Peninsula on the 18th July 1936. The *coup* was accepted by the church and followed by part of the army, *carlistas* political parties, monarchists, conservatives and *falanxistas*, these called themselves *Nationalists*. The coup divided Spain in two parts. *Nationalists* controlled most part of both Castelas, Galicia, Cáceres, part of

western Andalucía, Navarra, Baleares (except Menorca) and the Canary Islands.

To organize themselves, they founded the "Xunta de Defensa Nacional" in Burgos. A few mouths latter Franco was named the leader of the government and all political forces formed one political party: "Falanxe Española Tradicionalista e das Xuntas de Ofensiva Nacional Sindicalista (FET e das XONS)"

The Republicans controlled most of Aragón, the North of Spain, except Navarre, Catalonia, Levante, Madrid and nearly all of Andalusia. After the *coup* the power of the government nearly disappeared. Trade Unions and some popular organizations "took the opportunity to have a social revolution expropriating land and factories. At the some time "*milicias populares*" were organized to defend the republic, but they were not coordinated and sometimes they quarrelled among themselves. A few mouths latter the popular Army was created but anarchists and *Nationalists* disobedience to the government weakened the Republican side.



The Civil War outside Spain

The Spanish Civil War divided public opinion everywhere. Britain and France convoked a conference and afterwards they signed an agreement not to interfere. They were afraid that this war could become an international conflict.

But both sides had foreign help:

- The USSR supported the republic that paid them with gold from the Bank of Spain.
- The Nationalists received get arms and soldiers from the fascist Italy and the Nazi Germany.



A lot of intellectuals like Hemingway, Einstein,

George Orwell... supported the Republicans, and also all the people from left parties all over the world. They saw the war as a battle against fascism. Thousands of foreign volunteers came to Spain from their countries to join the **International Brigades** (*brigadas internacionais*)

TASKS:

- 20. When did the uprising start? Who supported it?
- 21. How was Spain divided after the uprising?
- 22. How was each side organized?
- 23. Explain the international answer at the beginning.
- 24. Which countries helped each side? And how?

Evolution of the Spanish Civil War

The war lasted nearly three years (1936–1939). There were three phases:

○ The Campaign Around Madrid (July 1936 – March 1937):

At the beginning of August, thanks to the help of Italian and German planes, the Moroccan army crossed the strait of Gibraltar and by the end of October they had reached already Madrid.

Recovering Madrid was the main objective of the *Nationalists*. The offensive lasted all winter. The Republican government left the capital and named a "*Xunta Militar*" to defend the city.

The Republicans were able to fight off the Nationalists with the help of the International Brigades, as well as Soviet planes and tanks.

The Republicans were defeated at the **battle of Jarama** (February 1937) and at the Battle of **Guadalajara** (March 1937).

After the defeat, the nationalists concentrated their effort in other fronts.



The North Front (April – October 1937)

Franco's army went to the North with the aim of invading industrial places along the **Cantabrian coast** on 26th April 1937. The Germany air force, the Condor legion, bombed Guernica. After this, the Basque Country was in the hands of the *Nationalists*. In August, Santander and Asturias became *Nationalists* (*Nationalists* got Santander and Asturias after this)

Republicans attacked in **Brunete** (Madrid) and **Belchite** (Zaragoza) but they failed.

The End of the War (October 1937 – April 1939)

At the end of 1937, Franco went to the eastern front and conquered Teruel. Then he advanced to the Mediterranean coast leaving Catalonia isolated from the rest of the Republican area. The Republican area was divided. To solve this problem, the Republicans crossed the Ebro river and attacked Franco's troops

from behind. This is called the **Battle of Ebro.** It lasted more than three months. The Republican army was nearly destroyed.







After this, the *Nationalists* advanced through **Barcelona** in January 1939. In March, Franco's troops seized Madrid and the war ended.

- 1) As a result of the civil war there were nearly 500,000 casualties.
- 2) A lot of people went into exile.
- 3) The country was devastated.

TASKS:

- 25. How did the rebel troops arrive in the Peninsula?
- 26. Which way did they go?
- 27. What was their main objective? Why?
- 28. Why did they not get it?
- 29. Explain the consequences of the Guernica bombing.
- 30. What consequences did the loss of the north of Spain have for the Republicans?
- 31. What happened after the Battle of Ebro?
- 32. What was the last place Republicans had?

Life during the War

These were years of hunger, death, and fear. Provisions were difficult to guarantee especially by

for Republicans, because the Nationalists controlled the areas where agriculture was important. Food was rationed so the government determined the amount of food each person could get per day.

 People were afraid of bombings, of the recruitment of young members of their family as soldiers, etc.



BANCO DE ESPAÑA

UNIT 16



- Everyday there were reprisals from both sides against the other one. The most common way were the "walks" or "paseos": an armed group took somebody out of their home with the excuse of going for a walk and they killed that person.
 - Union leaders, people from left-wing parties, intellectuals, and military officers that supported

the Republic were imprisoned or killed in the National area.

- Caciques, big landowners, entrepreneurs and people that belonged to the church,
 like priests or nuns, were killed by the Republicans.
- In both sides a lot of people were accused of belonging or supporting the other side and were executed.

People, who were shot, were also buried in common graves during the night without any identification. Still today a lot of families are looking for their relatives buried in those anonymous graves.

During the war, a lot of people, afraid of Franco's troops, left their homes and became **refugees**. This affected especially women and children in the Republican side. 30,000 children left Spain to go to other countries like Mexico, France and the USSR, escaping from the disasters of the war. They are known as the **children of the war.** A lot of them never came back.

At the end of the war, thousands of people went into exile, but a lot of them came back soon when the Second World War started, a month after the end of the Spanish Civil War.

TASKS:

- 33. Write a list of the main problems that civil population had.
- 34. What were the reprisals? How were they done?
- 35. Explain the situation of Republicans who were afraid of Franco's advance.

FINAL ACTIVITIES

- 36. Make a timeline showing the events that took place in Spain between 1902-1939:
 - a) Write the name of each period and colour it.
 - b) Place the next events in the right position:
 - Second Spanish Republic
 - 1917 Crisis
 - o Civil War
 - Asturias Revolution
 - Alfonso XIII's Kingdom
 - The Bombing of Guernica
 - The dictatorship of Primo de Rivera
 - The end of foros.
 - c) Write a paragraph about each event, mentioning what happened and its relevance
- 37. Describe the advance of Franco's troops: First ... Secondly.... Then... Finally...
- 38. Define the following terms: After that write a sentence using each of then in context:
 - Popular Front
 - International brigades
 - Popular Militia
 - Universal suffrage
- 39. People. Write the following names in the right cell of the following grid: Alcalá Zamora, Antonio Maura, Castelao, Manuel Azaña, Francisco Franco and Primo de Rivera.

| Alfonso XIII | Second Republic | Civil war |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

- 40. What was CEDA? What was FET and Xons?
- 41. Name the political powers that formed the Popular Front.

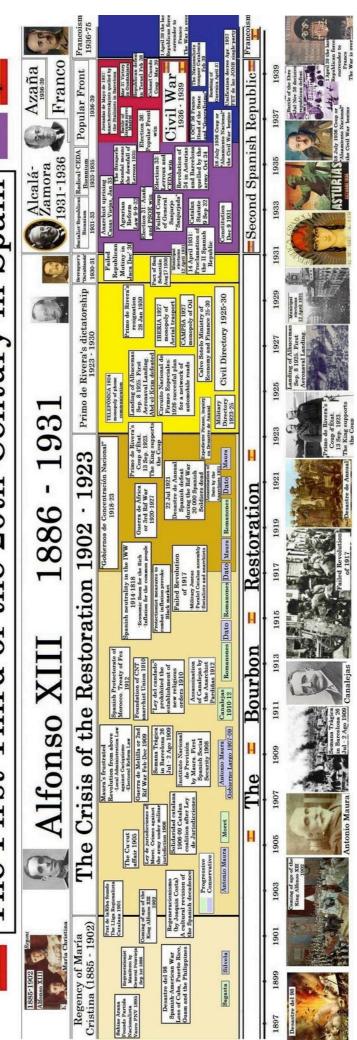
Find out more at...

- o these websites:
 - ✓ http://historylastra.blogspot.com.es/search/label/UNIT%208
 - http://www.almendron.com/artehistoria/historia-de-espana/edadcontemporanea/
- o these books from our school library:
 - ✓ HEMINGWAY, Ernest: For Whom the Bell Tolls. Black Cat.2002. 144 pages. ISBN 88-7754-651-4 Book +audio CD.
 - Oxford Children's Encyclopedia. Oxford University Press. 1991. ISBN 0-19-911244-4, articles about: General Francisco Franco
 - ▶ BINGHAM , Jane: The Usborne internet-linked Encyclopedia of World History. Usborne Publising Ltd.2000. pages 382-385. ISBN 978074605361-4.
- o These films:
 - ✓ Celia (6 chapters by TVE)1993, directed by Jose Luis Borau. It's about the social changes and ideological changes of Spain during the thirties.
 - ✔ Belle Epoque, 1992, directed by Fernando Trueba. A multiple awarded film about the previous and following days of the Spanish Second Republic.
 - ✓ Las bicicletas son para el verano,1984, directed by Jaime Chávarri. Daily life was altered by the prewar and war experience here the focus is in Madrid.
 - ✔ documentary: Nueva historia de España. La época de la restauración. 9.
 - ✓ documentary: Nueva historia de España. República y Franquista. 10.
 - ✓ Las cosas del querer, 1989, directed by Jaime Chávarri. The story of three artists, one of them homosexual, during the intolerant postwar period.
 - ✓ Ay Carmela, 1990!, directed by Carlos Saura.
 - ✓ El laberinto del fauno, 2006, directed by Guillermo del Toro. A thrilling story where fantastic and devastating real events mix together.
 - ✓ Las trece rosas, 2007, directed by Emílio Martínez Lázaro. A Group of girls put into prison accused of conspiration.
 - ✓ La niña de tus ojos,1998, directed by Fernando Trueba. A comedy about a group of Spanish actors who were invited to Berlin to shoot a double Spanish and German version of a story located in Andalucia.
 - ✓ La lengua de las mariposas, 1999, directed by Jose Luis Cuerda. The year that the Spanish Republic comes under fire from Fascist rebels. A film about fear, violence, and betrayal.
 - ✓ Bienvenido Mr. Marshall, 1953,a work by the genius Luis G. Berlanga offers a funny and tender satire on poverty in Spain and the aid that European countries received from the US.
 - ✔ Pascual Duarte, 1976, by Ricardo Franco [an adaptation of the novel, La Familia de Pascual Duarte, written by Camilo José Cela in 1942, which ushered in "social realism" to a certain extent]. This film denounces the dreadful living conditions of the poor farming class.

Pictures from:

- Banco Imágenes ITE (Ebro battle momument by Fairbanks and international brigades by Margarita Irene Marín)
- Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org
- Wikimedia







The Crisis of the Restoration

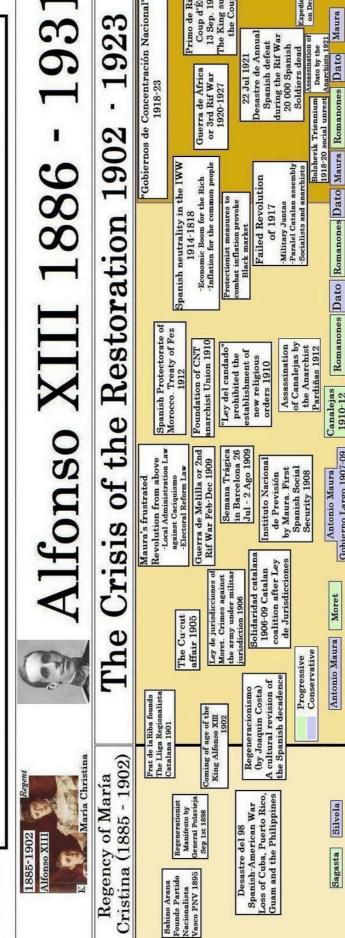


de Riveras's Dictatorship

Gobiernos de Concentración Nacional

1918-23

Primo



1923-25 Restoration Bourbon Canalejas 1910-12 Gobierno Largo 1907-09 9 The

Antonio Maura

Moret

Antonio Maura

Silvela

Sagasta

Expediente Picasso, inquiry on Desastre de Annual

Bolshevik Triennium Dato by the

Soldiers dead

Primo de Rivera's Coup d'État. 13 Sep. 1923. The King supports the Coup

Guerra de África or 3rd Rif War 1920-1927

Desastre de Annual during the Rif War 20 000 Spanish

Spanish defeat

Directory

Maura

Military

















1921

1919

1915

1913

1911

1909

1907

1905

1903



Primo de Rivera's Dictatorship and the "Dictablanda"













Republican Socialist-

Primo de Rivera's Dictatorship 1923-30 1885-1931

Biennium 31-33

Dictablanda Berenguer's

Jaca Dec' 30 Mutiny in Republican Failed

Primo de Rivera's

Aerial trasport

IBERIA 1927 monopoly of

28 Jan 1930 resignation

monopoly of Oil CAMPSA 1927

Abd-el-Krim defeated

Aeronaval Landing Sep. 8 1925. First

The King supports

the Coup

13 Sep. 1923.

Primo de Rivera's Coup d'Etat.

The Crisis of the

Restoration 1902-1923

Landing of Alhucemas

Circuito Nacional de Firmes Especiales: 926 succesful plan automobile roads

TELEFÓNICA 1924 monopoly of phone

communication

for a network of

Foundation of the Unión Patriótica

Party 1924

Proclamation of Aug171930 14 April 1931: Pact of San 12 April 1931 Municipal Sebastián |bero-American Exposition

the II Spanish

Republic

Barcelona International Exposition 1929

of 1929 in Seville

Civil Directory 1925 - 1930 Calvo Sotelo Ministry of Economy and Finance 25-30

Military Directory

1923-25

II Spanish Republic

Restoration

The

1931

1930

1929

1928

1927

1926

1925

1924

923

anding of Albucemas Aeronaval Landing. Sep. 8 1925. First

1935

Republican Mutiny in Failed Cap. Galán

aca Dec' 30



monopoly of Aerial trasport IBERIA 1927

The King supports

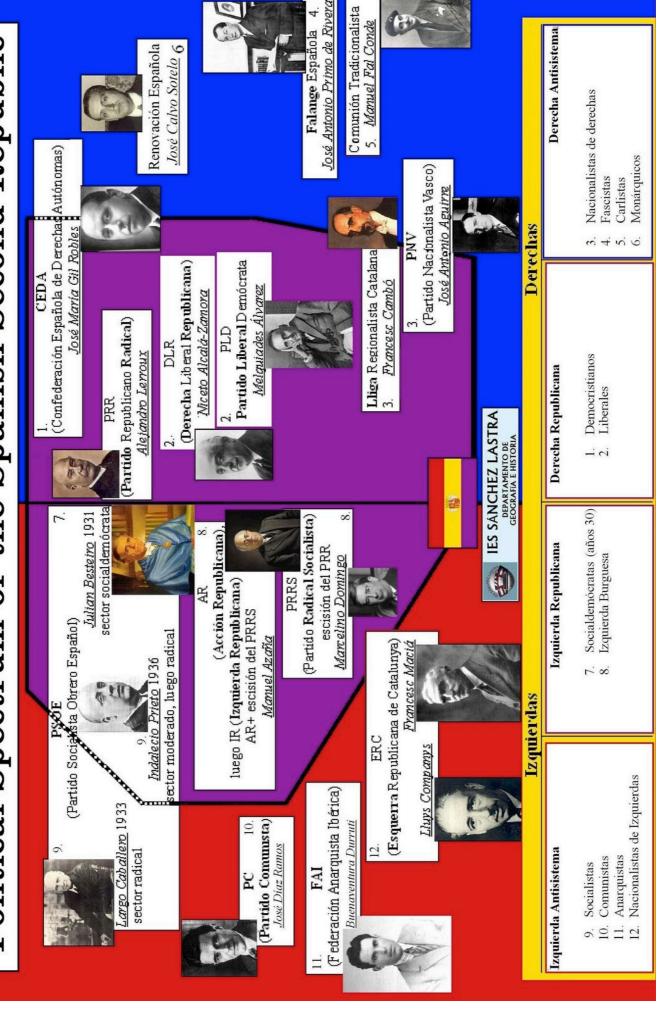
the Coup

rimo de Rivera's

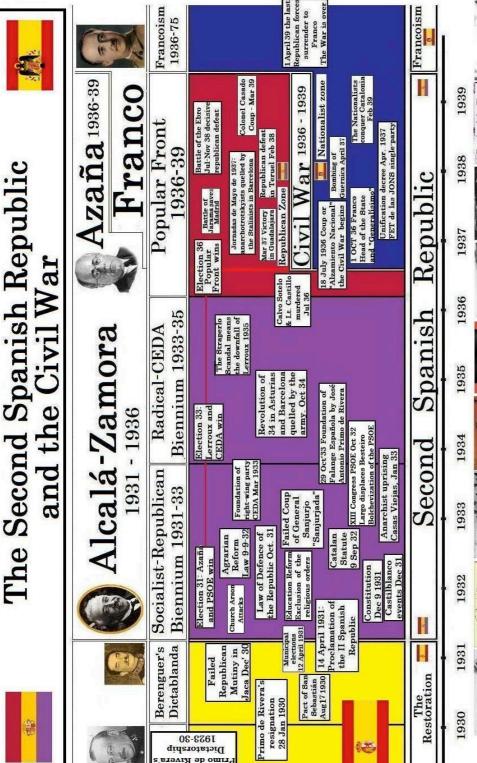
Coup d'Etat.

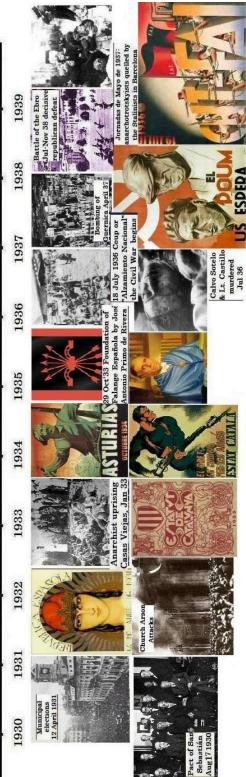
13 Sep. 1923.

Political Spectrum of the Spanish Second Republic

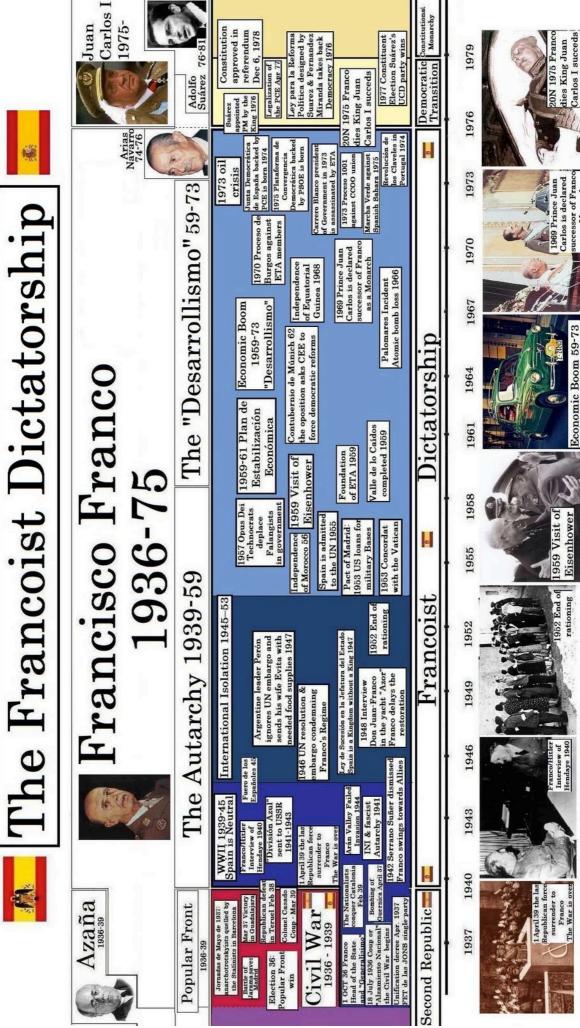












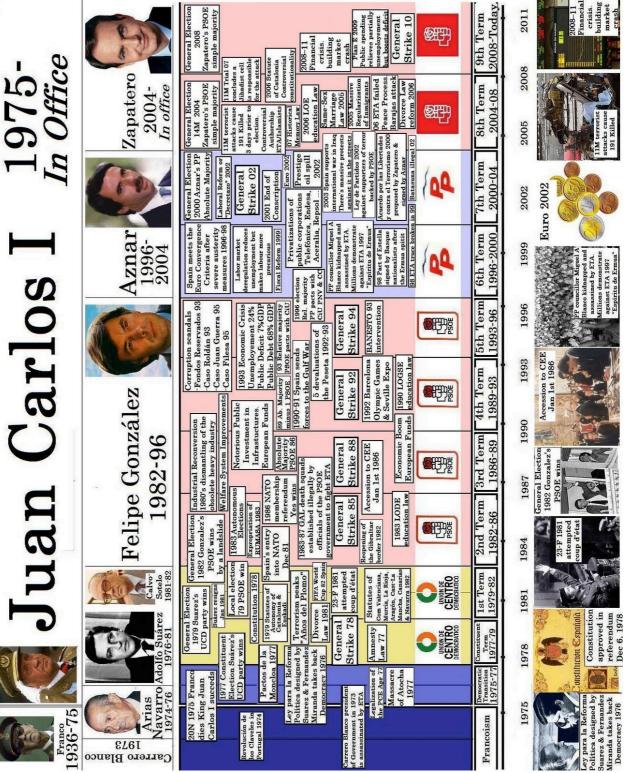
Carlos I succeds

as a Monarch

The Constitutional Monarchy









The Transition to Democracy





Franco

1936-1975



1975-In Officeuan Carlos



