



AIDE MÉMOIRE

Spain, one of the 54 States that participated in the Conference of Chicago of 1944, had the honour of being a **founding member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and has formed part of its Council, without interruption, since 1951**. Over this period Spain has worked together with all the other Member States to promote the safe, orderly and efficient development of international civil aviation and has participated actively in the different committees, panels of experts and taskforces that have been created over the years. Of particular note is the work of Spanish professionals in the **Air Navigation Commission since 1952**, with Spain having held the Presidency of the Commission for a total of 11 years, in two different mandates.

SPAIN IN FIGURES (2019):

- **275 million passengers** managed at Spanish airports
- **5th State in the world** by number of passengers at Spanish airports
- **4th State in the world** by number of international passengers
- **462 million passengers** have passed through international airports with the participation of Spanish companies
- **2.15 million flights managed** in Spanish airspace
- **98 air service agreements with non-EU States**
- **334 international destinations through, approximately, 1,700 routes**
- **Spain is one of the 4 members of AIRBUS**. The 3 factories in Spain participate in the A400M, A380, A350, A330 and A320 programmes
- Spanish technology is present at the air traffic control centres of **160 countries**
- **Spain was, in 2019, the 2nd country in the world in terms of international tourist arrivals:** 83.5 million, of whom over 80% arrived by plane

1. Spanish contribution to the Organization in 2019-2022

Since the creation of ICAO, Spain has contributed actively towards meeting the objectives established in said Organization, working for the achievement thereof **through the Directorate-General for Civil Aviation and our Permanent Mission in Montreal**, contributing personnel to the Secretariat of the Organization and collaborating actively in the main ICAO Panels. Spain currently **participates in 18 panels of experts, including the new Personnel Training and Licensing Panel (PTLP)**.



Over the past three years, and during the profound crisis into which the aviation sector was immersed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, Spanish experts have been particularly active in contributing in areas of key importance to the Organization, such as the **Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART)**, the **ICAO Policy on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families**; as well as the **Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)**.

2. COVID-19

Spain has formed part of the **ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART)** since its beginnings, in the drafting groups and co-heading its Small Working Group (SWG). Spain maintained its notable contribution at the High-level Conference on Covid-19 (HLCC 2021) held in October 2021, with the participation of a sizeable delegation. Similarly, Spanish public health experts have been involved in the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) since its creation, and played a key role in drafting the documents *Take-off: Guidance for Air Travel through the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis*, and *Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures Manual* (Doc 10152).

In coordination with the measures and recommendations adopted in the European Union, Spain adopted into its domestic law the Guidelines for the management of air passengers and aviation personnel in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, based on the operational guidelines prepared by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and the successive amendments thereto. Moreover, by consulting the national SpTH website, all international passengers can find out what documentation they need to travel to Spain, including the EU Digital COVID Certificate, before arriving at the airport of departure, so that their journey is not subject to **delays or interruptions**. All these actions, including facilitating the transportation of vaccines in Spain, **have been coordinated through the National Air Transport Facilitation Committee** with all the pertinent authorities and with sector partners.

Lastly, Spain is showing its solidarity with those States with which it has close ties—especially Latin America and the Caribbean—through a significant vaccination **donation** campaign, involving **between 5% and 10% of the total number of vaccines that Spain will receive in 2021**, which could amount to an equivalent of 7.5 million doses, through the World Health Organization (WHO) COVAX mechanism. In addition, in Tokyo on 2 June the President of the Government committed to the donation of an additional **15 million doses**.



3. International cooperation

In addition to its ongoing support for the work carried out by ICAO and the WHO in these difficult times, Spain continues working to ensure that air safety and the improvement of its standards are a priority objective at the global level, together with the improvement of the quality and the strengthening of the competitiveness and sustainability of air transport.

In the framework of ICAO's "**No Country Left Behind (NCLB)**" initiative, Spain carries out evaluation and training activities for Civil Aviation Authorities, cooperating with them to improve their regulations and procedures, in countries in North Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Eastern Europe.

In collaboration with public and private institutions, both national and European, Spain undertakes cooperation activities that have a duration of two years. Said activities involve **70 annual expert missions** from Spain's Aeronautical Authority and include travelling to Spain to carry out face-to-face training in the workplace. Due to the restrictions on mobility deriving from the Covid-19 pandemic, since March 2020 activities have primarily been undertaken online, maintaining the same levels of commitment and quality.

Spain also contributes as a donor State in the framework of the partnerships established with 12 Latin American countries under ICAO's **Assistance, Capacity-building and Training Programme in the sphere of CORSIA (ACT-CORSIA)**. Moreover, in 2021 Spain began providing assistance to different States and to the Regional Safety Oversight Organization for Central America under the "**EU-Latin America and Caribbean Aviation Partnership Project (EU-LAC APP)**", financed by the European Union and implemented by EASA. This collaboration project is focused on offering assistance and training to member States in developing and implementing measures for the sustainability of the aviation sector in the region, such as the effective implementation of the CORSIA programme, or the development and promotion of sustainable aviation fuel.

4. Air traffic and airports

According to 2019 data, Spain ranks as the **fifth country in the world and second in Europe by passenger movement**. Spain's leading airport operator, Aena, is the **number one airport operator in the world**, with a total of **275 million passengers managed directly in Spain** during 2019.

When added to the passengers managed at other international airports in which Aena holds interests—in the United Kingdom, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil and Jamaica, including the 18 million that passed through Luton airport—**this figure amounts to 367 million passengers**.



A total of **2.36 million aircraft movements** were made and **1.07 million tonnes of cargo** were transported at Spanish airports.

The **UK-Spain corridor is the largest international air traffic corridor**, with 270,000 aircraft movements transporting **45 million passengers in 2019**. This traffic has dropped significantly as a result of the pandemic, but the trend, as restrictions are lifted, shows that this market has a great capacity for recovery.

Spain has **46 airports**, 41 of which are open to international civil traffic, **and 2 heliports**. Of particular significance is **Madrid-Barajas Airport, with 187 destinations in 74 countries**, and through which **61.7 million passengers** pass every year. In 2019 Madrid-Barajas was the 22nd airport in the world in terms of passenger numbers and 5th at European level.

The second Spanish airport in terms of traffic is **Barcelona-El Prat Airport, with 52.7 million passengers per year and 177 destinations all over the world in 63 countries**. Barcelona-El Prat occupied 27th place in the global ranking of airports and 6th in Europe by number of passengers in 2019.

Madrid-Barajas Airport continues to receive more traffic than any other in the network, with 426 thousand operations per year, followed by Barcelona-El Prat with over 345 thousand operations per year.

5. Airlines and connectivity

In 2019 commercial flights were operated in Spain by **182 airlines, 40 of which have a base in Spain**. Between them they offered almost 1,700 routes to 334 international destinations in 90 States. Spanish airlines transported over 77 million passengers.

As regards the opening up of air transport markets, Spain has formalized **98 bilateral agreements** granting traffic rights **with non-EU States**. All these air transport service agreements open up new opportunities for airlines by enabling them to operate new routes or step up operations on existing routes, while at the same time contributing to strengthening knowledge sharing and to invigorate social, cultural and economic activity.

6. Air navigation

Spain provides navigation and air traffic control services in an airspace encompassing a **surface area of 2,247,000 km²**. This is five times the surface area of Spain, and the second largest non-ocean airspace managed in Europe.



In Spain, the main supplier of air navigation services, ENAIRE, which **in 2019 controlled 2.15 million flights transporting 315 million passengers**, is, by volume of movements, the fourth supplier of air navigation services in Europe and participates notably in all European Union projects related to implementing the Single European Sky.

7. Social and economic dimension

Spain's air (infrastructure and transport) sector plays a fundamental role in stimulating international trade relations and tourism, and as a source of job and wealth creation. This is borne out by the fact that Spain is the **2nd country in the world by number of incoming international tourists**, of whom four out of every five travel to Spain by plane.

The direct and indirect jobs generated by companies whose activities are undertaken at or relate to airports amount to 566,000. If the indirect impacts of tourism are also taken into account, the figures amount to **1.8 million jobs and 6.9% of Spanish GDP**. Tourism alone accounted for 12.4% of GDP in 2019.

Spain forms part of the Airbus consortium and is involved in the A400M, A380, A350, A330 and A320 programmes. The Illescas factory in Toledo is an Airbus centre of excellence for the manufacture of composites, while the final assembly lines for the A400M and the C295 are located at the Seville sites.

One of the sectors in which the contribution of the Spanish aeronautical industry has been most notable is that of the development, manufacture and implementation of Communications, Navigation and Surveillance and Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) systems, thanks to companies such as INDRA, which also include a significant space technology component. **160 countries use CNS/ATM systems based on Spanish technology.**

Moreover, the Spanish company Amadeus is a leader of the airline service sector, and **one of the largest Global Distribution Systems (GDS) in the world**, helping close to 200 airlines to transport more than 1.6 billion passengers the world over every year.

Spain maintains an unconditional commitment to gender equality policies in the aviation sector, and supports all actions aimed at consolidating progress towards the real and effective equality of women and men. This is why Spain is hosting ICAO's second Global Aviation Gender Summit, which will be held in Madrid in July 2022.



Lastly, Spain is committed to promoting the rights of aircraft accident victims and their families, and in December 2021 will host a Symposium in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria which will enable States, airlines and airports to advance in implementing assistance plans for victims, and provide an opportunity to explore good media and insurance practices.