

Andalusian Studies Centre



Junta de Andalucía

Consejería de la Presidencia,
Administración Pública e Interior

CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS ANDALUCES

Our organisation

Mission



The Andalusian Studies Centre Foundation is a non-profit organisation of cultural and scientific nature, attached to the Advisory Board of the President's Office of the Andalusian Government. Since its creation in 2001, the Foundation has aspired to become a point of reference in decision-making in areas affecting the cultural, social and economic development of Andalusia by promoting research and by providing a framework for the exchange of knowledge between the scientific communities of Andalusia, Spain as a whole and abroad.

Governance

Efficiency, transparency and responsibility

The Andalusian Studies Centre is assigned to the Department of the Presidency and is governed by a Board which is responsible for its representation, government and administration, a Chairman and a Managing Director. It also has a Scientific Committee, which acts as an advisory board and is composed of representatives from the spheres of science and culture.

The governance model of the Andalusian Studies Centre is guided by an Annual Strategic Plan. This plan allows the Foundation to coordinate all the members of its organisation in order to achieve specific objectives, verified by means of ongoing monitoring, control and improvement. The Strategic Plan allows the proper functioning of the institution and is therefore the result of active and effective participation of all the members board. Likewise, The Andalusian Studies Centre is committed to proper accountability to society, integrating the basic principles of efficient use of resources, transparent information and management systems, and improved participation, as well as a strong social and environmental commitment.



The Centre has two offices: the administrative office is located in the city centre of Seville, and the Centre's head office located in the municipalities of La Puebla and Coria del Río, consisting of the Museum of Andalusian Autonomy, the Blas Infante House and the Andalusian Historical Memory Research Centre. Its purpose is to create a lasting institution for education, publication, conservation and research into contemporary Andalusian history and common heritage. In addition to hosting excellent facilities for the development of academic life, becoming a meeting and exchange place for scientific knowledge and experiences, we must also highlight that the Andalusian Autonomy Complex is located in an important heritage site such as the Blas Infante House, the 'Father of the Andalusian Nation' ('Padre de la Patria Andaluza').

Generation and dissemination of knowledge

A leading research centre open to researchers and society

The main objective of the Andalusian Studies Centre is to convert itself into a leading Centre for research on Andalusia and a reference for decision-making by public and private institutions which influence the development of the Autonomous Community.

Generation of knowledge regarding the current situation of Andalusia

As a research centre, the Foundation dedicates the majority of its resources to the promotion of initiatives aimed at increasing knowledge regarding Andalusia, in this way contributing to the consolidation of the region's scientific, innovative and intellectual networks.

Our projects are based around four priority areas of research:

- Andalusia on the global arena.
- Spaces and participatory policies, transparency and open government.
- Welfare policies and social trends and their implications for Andalusia.
- Key issues for the future model of economic growth for Andalusia.

Research is the motor of the activities carried out at the Andalusian Studies Centre. Some of our initiatives in this sense are as follows:

- Grants for Research Projects regarding Andalusia, open to researchers and centres throughout Spain. The Annual Call for Research Project Grants, promoted by the Andalusian Studies Centre, is one of the Foundation's most relevant initiatives. The aim of these grants is to promote, finance and diffuse research projects and studies which contribute to knowledge and analysis of the current situation and future challenges in the social, political, economic and cultural ambit in Andalusia, in keeping with the strategic lines of research of the Andalusian Studies Centre.

In its 11th Edition the Foundation dedicated approximately € 428.838 to this area, with a maximum of € 10,000 for individual projects and € 30,000 for research groups. One of the most relevant aspects of these grants is that they are open to centres and universities throughout Spain and Europe, thereby extending the networks of knowledge and researchers carrying out works in relation to Andalusia.



As a result, in its 11th Edition 239 projects were presented from various autonomous communities. Following the evaluation process by a committee of external judges, 16 projects were selected to receive the grants awarded by the Andalusian Studies Centre.

These projects constitute a source in the short and medium term of a significant part of the Foundation's initiatives, such as training activities, publications, reports and expert meetings, among others.

- Best Doctoral Thesis Prize, open to young researchers with projects focusing on Andalusia. The Doctoral Thesis Prize seeks to promote and disseminate works by young researchers whose projects focus on Andalusia. After fifteen years this initiative has consolidated its presence, receiving an increasing number of applications and with greater recognition on the part of the scientific community. As in previous years, € 3,000 is awarded for the first prize, €1,500 for the second prize,

and €1,000 for the third prize, with the possibility of publication of the doctoral thesis.

- Research stays for higher graduates. This initiative aims to host post-graduates, post-doctorate and established researchers, promoting in this way the exchange of knowledge and research with the rest of Europe and overseas.

Public Opinion Barometer

Since 2009, The Centre carries out the Public Opinion Barometer. Its main aim is to analyze change and continuity in the social and political attitudes, attributes and behaviors of Andalusian citizens. The Barometer is carried out on a four-month basis involving interviews with around 2,500 randomly-chosen people from all over the region, with extensive social and demographic information on them being gathered for analysis as well as their opinions. These studies include a group of set



questions on political attitudes, which the Centre uses to calculate and publish voting estimates. In addition to these questions, each poll contains another block of variable questions, which focus on a particular political or social issue on each occasion. The results of the polls are made public on the Centre website. The Centre is involved in an innovative process of creating a Big Data Centre, with the aim to provide public access to microdata files of the Barometer and research studies performed by the Centre in recent years, free of charge.

Research dissemination: scientific and informative activities

Dissemination is of paramount importance to the Andalusian Studies Centre, in order to maximize its overall impact and trigger effects across its targeted stakeholders and society. We work to generate knowledge regarding the social, political, economic and cultural situation in Andalusia, granting special importance to the

exchange and participatory development of knowledge and its diffusion.

To this end, the Andalusian Studies Centre offers a yearly calendar of activities of a scientific and informative nature open both to specialists and to the general public. These activities are related to the Foundation's main research areas, but are also open to the consideration of current issues facing Andalusian society. They constitute a veritable forum for the exchange of ideas and constructive debate regarding Andalusia's current situation.

Through these activities we offer the opportunity to establish an open dialogue with specialists of renown in each of the fields considered, thereby reciprocally enriching our understanding and perspective. Apart from the activities we organise independently, the Foundation also supports various training initiatives organised by other institutions in all the Andalusian provinces. The formats are highly varied, resulting in a yearly calendar of activities consisting of:

- Research Training Courses. The research training courses annual program offers a wide range of specialized intensive courses (minimum 4 days) for Master, PhD students and researchers (at postdoctoral level). They provide knowledge and skills in research methodology, enhancing participants' knowledge of innovative research tools and methodologies.
- Scientifics Events. We are experienced organizers of conferences, exhibitions and workshops. The Centre hosts and organizes high-profile scientific events, and collaborates in the organisation of events with different institutions at a regional, national and international level.

Dissemination of results: scientific and cultural publications

The results of the activities of the Andalusian Studies Centre can be appreciated through its publications. Through its important publishing activities, the Founda-

tion seeks to disseminate the results of research projects and Andalusian social and cultural heritage in general. Our collection is constantly growing, both in terms of the number of annual publications and the range of topics, functions and formats. The aim is to reach a progressively wider audience of people interested in key issues for Andalusia. Along these lines, we offer the following collections, as well as monographic works which are regularly issued to address specific areas:

- 'Factoría de Ideas' Policy briefs: short and informative analysis documents that concisely summarize the key conclusions from research initiatives.
- 'Actualidad' Collection: reflection regarding issues affecting Andalusian society in the 21st century.
- 'Realidad Social' Collection: focusing on the field of sociology, this analyzes key aspects of the Andalusian scene in further detail.



– ‘La Imagen de Andalucía’ Collection: analysis of the perception of Andalusia, from the perspective of various fields of study and points of view.

– Thesis Collection: a publication with the winning works of the annual Competition for Best Doctoral Thesis, along with other theses considered to be of interest.

– Monographs and Co-publications: diffusion of Andalusia’s cultural heritage in collaboration with publishing houses and public and private institutions.

– Electronic publications: monographic works, social databases and working documents available on the website and for free download.

– ‘Andalucía en la Historia’ Magazine: a quarterly publication which seeks to foster the study, knowledge and enjoyment of Andalusian history.

***Documentation Service:
open access and digital archives
repository of the documentary,
statistical and bibliographical archives
of the Foundation***

As a public organization, we are committed to ensure open access (online access is free of charge for any user) to our scientific publications relating to their results. The Centre ensures open access to the deposited publication — via our digital repository — on a wide range of materials including an archives repository. In addition, we offer open access to research data, which we deposit in a research database and take measures to enable third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate — free of charge for any interested person — our data.

Our digital repository includes an historical digital collection related to Andalusian history and common heritage. The Centre has carried out a digitalization project



aimed the long-term preservation of the historical archives’ paper documents regarding Andalusian history. The purpose is to digitize paper files and documents that will be opened to the public.

Exhibitions: history in the here and now

Its three different areas combine a museographic overview of the process of Autonomy in Andalusia, a consideration of the life and work of Blas Infante, scientific research into historical memory, temporary exhibitions and a programme of informative and leisure activities designed for both children and adults. A place open to all, in the midst of a continuous process of expansion directed towards reflection and analysis of the major milestones for Andalusia in the 21st century.

The Studies Centre aims to promote culture through innovative themes which

exploit the synergies established with its research activity. Our calendar of exhibitions has been extended over the years, informing the public regarding our own initiatives and projects in collaboration with other entities. These initiatives enable us to bring to the forefront the history, themes and figures that have contributed to Andalusia’s recent history, through the documents, works and objects involved in each case.

IMAGENERA rewards

In 2007 the Andalusian Studies Centre presented the 1st edition of the International Documentary Competition on Andalusian Remembrance, IMAGENERA. This competition, the purpose of which is to generate interest in the research and study of Remembrance in our Region through audiovisual media.

Our main strengths

Influence and collaboration: Network of Experts

The Andalusian Studies Centre has entered into agreements and alliances at both a national and international level with scientific and cultural entities in both the public and private sphere. These universities, public institutions, foundations, research centres and publishing houses together comprise an extensive forum for the exchange of ideas and joint collaboration for research projects and cultural diffusion.

International expertise

The Centre's preferred field of action is in the geo-historic areas with which Andalusia shares not only a common history to a large extent, but also in those to which Andalusia feels committed to collaborate in the task of building a common future: Latin America, the Maghreb, the Mediterranean Basin and Europe.

Knowledge transfer

The Centre is an established research organisation with a solid background. It counts on qualified personnel and a communication and publishing departments to liaison between the researchers and general public and to disseminate high-quality research results both in Andalusia and throughout the EU.

A bridge between research and public actors

One of our priorities is to keep pace with the challenges and opportunities for society in the 21st century. The forums of experts which we organise seek to create the spaces for social reflection necessary in order to facilitate reliable and scientific research into the key issues for the future. These forums, with the presence of the leading specialists in each area and in conjunction with the agendas of public institutions, enable us to bring the research world into contact with those responsible for decision-making processes in both the private and public sphere. Through initiatives such as these, the Andalusian Studies Centre seeks to convert itself into a reference for all the social actors which influence in the social and economic development of Andalusia.

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