
Spain: regularisation of foreigners, people's legislative initiative. Support from several Catholic bodies

The Spanish Parliament has agreed to examine a people's legislative initiative on the extraordinary regularisation of foreigners, supported by 700,000 signatures and over 900 organizations, including the Spanish Conference of Men and Women Religious (CONFER), Caritas, the migration department of the Spanish Bishops' Conference, and the Network of Entities for Solidarity Development (REDES). A press release from these associations expressed satisfaction with the parliamentary vote that opens the parliamentary process for a bill that thus has solid social support. The initiative is part of a process initiated in 2021 that could lead to the regularisation – residence permit and a rights framework – of “approximately 500,000 people currently living in our country in irregular situations”, a statement reads. “We trust that future negotiations will seek consensus to responsibly address a reality that must be treated as a state matter”, the associations said, calling on political parties to “take advantage of this historic opportunity”.

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