### **Evicted Rights** Right to housing and evictions in Spain

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# There is a personal story behind each door



#### DETRÁS DE CADA PUERTA HAY UNA HISTORIA EXIGE AL GOBIERNO QUE NO ACABE EN DESALOJO

Cuando una persona es desalojada pierde su casa, pierde gran parte de su vida. Todo está en riesgo. f N

La recogida de firmas ha finalizado. Gracias a las más de 100.000 personas que han exigido al Gobierno que iniciase el proceso de reforma de la Ley de Enjuiciamiento Civil para garantizar que los jueces puedan evaluar la proporcionalidad y razonabilidad de un desalojo, caso por caso y que crease un mecanismo obligatorio para supervisar la negociación entre los bancos y las personas y asegurar que el desalojo es el último recurso después de haber explorado todas las alternativas.

La presente legislatura se va a cerrar sin haber conseguido que el Gobierno inicie estas reformas legislativas. Amnistía Internacional seguirá trabajando intensamente para exigir desde el inicio de la próxima legislatura que el Gobierno impulse estas dos medidas con el fin de mejorar las garantías de protección del derecho a la vivienda en España.

Más información sobre el tema.

# The size of the problem (I)

60,000+ evictions per year (half rental, half mortgage).

- **Social housing stock** in Spain comprises only 2% of all dwellings, compared to 32% in the Netherlands, 20% in Austria, 18% in the UK or 17% in France.
- Spain's general government **spending on "housing and community amenities"** was 0.50% of GDP in 2014 (last available comparative data), **less than most countries**, including the USA (0.54%), Portugal (0.60%), Slovakia (0.61%) or France (1.44%).
- 2016 **federal budget** on access to housing and support for housing renovation was slightly more than €587 million, for €1.5 billion in 2009, less than 39%.
- The 2017 proposed budget, currently under discussion with opposition parties, reduces the allocation 20% more.

## The size of the problem (and II)

Even considering the severe **austerity** imposed in the county, no other budget item experienced such a significant reduction during the economic crisis.

The country with the **worst house-to-income ratio in the OECD**. In no other OECD country have house prices outpaced income as much as in Spain.

Spain is also the EU Member State with the highest growth in personal housing expenditure in the last decade.

# The problem beyond the numbers

The constitutional recognition of rights is not worth the paper it is written on.

- Judges lack the necessary means to assess the **proportionality** of an eviction on a case by case basis.
- **Inequality of arms**: No administrative or judicial mandatory mechanism before the foreclosure procedure.
- Lack of information, no disaggregated data, inexistent impact assessment.

#### Missed opportunities and retrogressive measures:

- Large number of empty properties.
- Central government's appeals to the Constitutional Court.
- Sale of social housing units in Madrid to investment trusts.
- The mentioned cuts in public budget.

### What is Amnesty International doing about it (I)





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### What is Amnesty International doing about it (and II)



#### Tengo algo que contarte

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**Gràcies Thanks Gracias** 

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