

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Spanish Chamber
of Commerce in
the United Kingdom
EST. 1886

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Spanish Chamber
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the United Kingdom
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BRINGING MARKETS TOGETHER

Spanish Chamber of Commerce
in the United Kingdom

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ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Spanish Chamber
of Commerce
in the United Kingdom

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Greetings from...



PRESIDENT OF THE SPANISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE UK

MR. EDUARDO BARRACHINA

January and February are always good months to look back to an entire past year. It is true that the Chamber continues improving its attendance record figures, has consolidated its number of Patrons and maintains a stable and healthy number of Members ~250. London is the world's financial capital and we are one of the leading and more proactive foreign Chambers of Commerce. And yet, it is always worth taking a look at the previous year.

At a personal level 2024 was a challenging year, a painful one with many ramifications. Following a cancer diagnosis, my health deteriorated rapidly. At some point, I could have gone either way and during some time I was unable to perform my obligations as President of the Chamber. We are all indebted to our **Vice-President, Mónica Fernández-Mejuto**, for her strong dedication and commitment during many months as an acting President. Under difficult circumstances, Mónica went all the way and her job was of the highest possible calibre. ¡Muchas gracias!

With this in mind, I hope that I for once should like to thank personally each and every of you who expressed your kindness. Many Members, Patrons, Directors of the Board tried to reach the Secretary General or me directly. I was most touched by this and of course it shows the personal dimension of the Chamber.

Last year, the Board of the Chamber elected **Juan Pablo Pérez Royo** as second Vice-President, from **Ferrovial**. This is excellent news. Not only is Juan Pablo passionate about the Chamber but he also represents one of the largest Spanish investors in the UK.

At an institutional level, we bid farewell to **Hugh Elliott as His Majesty's Ambassador to Spain** and welcomed **Sir Alex Ellis KCMG**. Sir Alex has eagerly become familiar with the work of the Chamber and we look forward to working together. Back in London, **Álvaro Nadal** departed from his role as Head of the Economic and Commercial Office of the Spanish Embassy. Last year we welcomed instead **Gonzalo García Andrés**, who has rapidly adapted to London and most notably, the Chamber.

As ever, the working relationship with the **Spanish Embassy** and in particular with the Spanish Ambassador, **José Pascual Marco Martínez**, has been an excellent example of an eloquent **public-private collaboration**. It is great to work as a team.

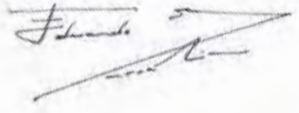
We pride ourselves in the execution of our consolidated annual corporate gatherings and in 2024 the Chamber reached new heights. We presented **José Vicente de los Mozos, CEO of Indra**, with the Golden Award, welcomed a record number of guests to our Annual General Meeting with **Keith Anderson, CEO of ScottishPower**, and were joined by not one, but two UK Ministers at our ever

anticipated Gala Dinner: **Gareth Thomas MP**, Minister for SMEs, and **Sir Chris Bryant MP**, Minister for Data Protection and Telecoms. It was a tremendous evening during which **Josep Olliu, Chairman of Banco Sabadell**, attended as our Guest of Honour. We then ended the year on a high with our most popular Barometer presentation yet, crucially supported by 13 companies and hosting both new Trade Ministers, **Douglas Alexander MP** and the new Spanish Trade Minister, **Amparo López Senovilla**, whom we welcomed warmly to the sixth edition of this unmissable economic gathering. If one looks at the bilateral calendar between both countries, they would quickly realise that the Barometer is the only event which provides a platform for both governments and companies to exchange opinions directly about the state of Spanish investments in the UK.

The Chamber is first and foremost a Spanish-British business association whose main goal is to ensure we provide valuable services to our Patrons and Members as well as other stakeholders, like other Chambers of Commerce or public entities in the UK. However, as part of our actions and objectives we have incorporated the social dimension of the Chamber. Last year, it was most satisfying to see the II International Women's Day reception with **Amy Clemitchaw**, Deputy Director for Women and Girls at the FCDO as Guest Speaker. I thank Director **Raquel Barrera from Diversitas Institute** for her guidance and efforts leading this initiative. Separately,

it is clear that our **Proud of our Pride** reception is now one of the most fun and inspiring pride Celebrations in the entire business community in London and we thank **Deutsche Bank** for their sponsorship.

I hope that when you flick through the pages of this Report you will feel pride to belong to the Chamber. I hope also you are making the most of what we can offer to you and your company. As you can see, in spite of today's uncertainty, together we are heading into 2025 with a great sense of optimism and determination to strengthen the trade and investment bilateral relations between our two beloved nations.



Yours sincerely,
Mr. Eduardo Barrachina
President of the Spanish Chamber
of Commerce in the United Kingdom



SPANISH TRADE MINISTER

MS. AMPARO LÓPEZ SENOVILLA

Dear Members of the Chamber,

I am delighted to have the opportunity to present to readers the Chamber's 2024 Annual Report. With nearly 250 Members in both Spain and the UK, the work that the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK is doing to bring our businesses and markets together is extraordinary.

The international sector has been key in underpinning the strong performance of our economy and its resilience against major recent shocks. The ability of Spanish firms to compete in the global market has allowed us to achieve a structural external surplus while growing above the euro area average. The relationship with the United Kingdom is a case in point, because of its depth, diversity and potential.

It has been just over four years since the Trade and Cooperation Agreement entered into force and our businesses have adapted remarkably well to the new trading relationship. The agreement has provided a solid foundation for maintaining our long-standing friendship and cooperation.

Indeed, the figures show that trade and investment relations between our two countries have overcome the difficulties of Brexit and the pandemic, demonstrating our mutual commitment. In 2023, the United Kingdom was the fifth largest destination for Spanish exports and the UK was the eighth largest supplier to Spain. The UK is the first destination of exports of Spanish services and Spain is the second global supplier of services to the UK, only after the United States.

Regarding investments, in 2022 the United Kingdom was the third largest foreign direct investor in Spain, behind the United States and France. The latest foreign direct investment flows data, up to September 2024, place the UK as the leading country of origin of total gross foreign investment in Spain. The UK, in turn, is the second most important destination market for Spanish FDI.

The work of the Chamber of Commerce and its Members has been instrumental in keeping this bilateral relationship strong and healthy. The Chamber organises many activities with great success: seminars, networking events, receptions, conferences and breakfasts. The network of Chambers of Commerce, to which this organisation belongs, plays a key role in Spain's institutional infrastructure for internationalisation, advising Spanish companies to seize the opportunities of global markets. Since 2019, the Chamber has also been publishing the Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK. The report is a valuable tool for analysing the path of Spanish investment in the UK and for this reason has been firmly endorsed by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business throughout the years. In this regard, as the Spanish Minister for Trade, I had the pleasure to attend in December 2024 the event at which the last Barometer was launched, alongside the Rt. Hon. Douglas Alexander MP, UK Minister for Business and Trade.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business in Spain and the Spanish Economic & Commercial Office in London are always pleased to support the Chamber and its Members as the work they do to strengthen commercial ties between the two countries is outstanding.

With the UK Government's new 'EU reset' policy, we hope that we can continue to work together and cooperate to address the global challenges we face, while encouraging and facilitating investment in both directions. I am confident that the Spanish Chamber of Commerce and its Members, with the full support of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business, will continue to work towards an even better relationship and achievements for both countries.

Yours sincerely,
Ms. Amparo López Senovilla
Spanish Trade Minister



H.E. THE AMBASSADOR OF SPAIN TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SPANISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE UK

MR. JOSÉ PASCUAL MARCO

Dear Members and friends of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom,

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK has a unique position in the Spain-UK relations. It plays a vital role in promoting the growth and expansion of companies that represent the best of Spain. The Chamber connects businesses with key stakeholders and provides tailored services that are essential for these companies to establish and strengthen themselves in the UK.

The VI Barometer of Spanish Investment in the United Kingdom shows that Spanish investment in this country is growing, even in these challenging times. This is due in no small part to the contribution of the Spanish Chamber and its Member companies. Their dedication, innovation, and resilience are a testament to the strong ties between our nations and to the Chamber's effectiveness as a driver of bilateral economic relations.

The Chamber serves as a crucial meeting point for the Spanish and British business communities. By acting as a bridge between institutions, it facilitates dialogue, collaboration, and mutual understanding. It also provides a platform where companies and professionals come together to exchange ideas, explore opportunities, and forge partnerships that strengthen our economic and cultural ties.

The Chamber organises major corporate events, hosting hundreds of business and government representatives. This year's XIII Annual Gala Dinner was a prime example, alongside other notable events such as the presentation of the VI Barometer, the Annual General Meeting, and the Golden Award or Premio PYME ceremonies. Additionally, there are a wide range of technical networking events, which represent invaluable opportunities to connect and continue progressing.

I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK for its unwavering commitment and to all its Members for their contributions. Together, we are ensuring that the relationship between Spain and the UK remains strong and that our businesses continue to thrive in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,
H.E. Mr. José Pascual Marco
Ambassador of Spain to the
United Kingdom and Honorary
President of the Spanish Chamber
of Commerce in the UK



PRESIDENT OF CÁMARA DE COMERCIO DE ESPAÑA

MR. JOSÉ LUIS BONET

Dear Members and friends of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK,

In an increasingly interconnected world, global events have a profound impact on trade and economic relations. Recent years have brought both challenges and opportunities, shaped by geopolitical shifts, military conflicts, and economic uncertainties. The United Kingdom, like many other nations, has experienced these pressures while navigating its own unique transitions.

Following Brexit, Spanish companies have demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability, and this year we have witnessed another pivotal significant change with the arrival of the first Labour government since the UK's departure from the European Union.

In this dynamic and evolving environment, the importance of a trusted advisor with deep local expertise is invaluable. Spanish Chambers of Commerce abroad play an essential role in this regard, offering businesses unparalleled insights into local markets, connecting them with key partners and clients, and providing expert guidance to help them succeed.

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK exemplifies the multidisciplinary approach that defines our network. Through its diverse activities and initiatives, the Chamber supports its Members with tailored foreign trade advice, creates valuable networking and professional opportunities through its extensive events programme, enhances visibility for businesses through strategic communication, and delivers ongoing, personalised support to help its Members achieve their goals.

Beyond fostering trade and business growth, Chambers of Commerce also build a sense of community among those who share a commitment to advancing Spain's global presence. They serve as meeting points for individuals and organisations working towards a common goal: strengthening international relations and promoting Spain's presence worldwide. In this regard, I would like to express my gratitude to the Chamber's President, Eduardo Barrachina, who leads this fruitful initiative in promoting Spanish-British trade relations.

At Cámara de España, we collaborate closely with the Spanish Chamber in the UK to achieve these shared objectives. We are proud of their exceptional work and dedication, and we extend our gratitude for their efforts in supporting Spanish businesses and enhancing bilateral relations between Spain and the UK. Together, we remain committed to driving innovation, fostering collaboration, and promoting sustainable growth in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. José Luis Bonet
President of Cámara de Comercio de España

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HONORARY ROLES

HONORARY PRESIDENT

H.E. Mr. José Pascual Marco,
Ambassador of Spain to
the United Kingdom



HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Gonzalo García Andrés,
Head of the Economic and
Commercial Office, Spanish Embassy



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Mr. Eduardo Barrachina,
Linklaters



VICE-PRESIDENT

Ms. Mónica Fernández-
Mejuto Rodríguez,
Sabadell UK



VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Juan Pablo Pérez Royo,
Ferrovial



TREASURER

Mr. Nacho Morais,
Frank Consulting



SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr. Igor Urra,
Spanish Chamber of Commerce



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Daniel Feliu,
Banco Santander



Mr. Anselmo Andrade,
BBVA



Mr. Víctor Granero,
CAIXABANK



Mr. Gianluca Landolina,
Cellnex



Ms. Raquel Barrera,
Diversitas Institute



Mr. Javier Teulón Ramírez,
Dragados



Mr. Ignacio Morillas-Paredes,
Gunnercooke



Mr. Javier Fernández Hidalgo,
Hispania



Mr. Moisés Cedeño Tovar,
Iberia



COMMITTEE MEMBERS (CONT.)

Mr. Keegan Pierce,
LALIGA



Mr. Greg Harris,
MAPFRE



Ms. Irene Gómez,
Meliá White House



Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca,
Uría Menéndez



MEET THE TEAM



IGOR URRA | SECRETARY GENERAL
igor.urra@spanishchamber.co.uk

Igor has been the Secretary General of the Chamber since 2012, and is responsible for coordinating the day-to-day operations at the Chamber. Over the years he has provided stability to the Chamber throughout many difficult situations. He is very passionate about the great work that Spanish businesses are doing in the UK in many different sectors. Igor is always up for meeting existing and potential Members, listening to their concerns and devising new ways to help them. He gives a lot of thought to any new proposal for improving the Chamber and is very keen on finding new routes for innovation. Curious fact: After more than 20 years living in the UK, he's now officially Scottish.



REBECCA WALL | DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
rebecca.wall@spanishchamber.co.uk

Rebecca joined the Chamber in 2021 and has undertaken several different roles during this time. Having recently been named Deputy Secretary General, Rebecca now assists in the coordination of the daily operations of the Chamber, the development of new initiatives and projects, and the overall expansion of the Chamber's remit and its services. Rebecca remains the main point of contact in the team for relevant institutions and government departments and ensures that the Chamber's institutional relations continue to strengthen. As a British-Brazilian dual national, Rebecca loves all things Latin American and is passionate about working with many Spanish speakers.



THOMAS NEWMAN | HEAD OF ACCOUNTS & MEMBER RELATIONS
t.newman@spanishchamber.co.uk

Tom has a number of years of experience here at the Chamber, and is the familiar face of accounts and makes sure the admin wheel of the Chamber keeps turning. He holds a key role, being the longest serving member of staff at the Chamber, and combines this with a passion and enthusiasm for all things Spanish - especially the food!



MIGUEL FLAVIÁN | HEAD OF FOREIGN TRADE
miguel.flavian@spanishchamber.co.uk

Miguel has lived in London for almost 15 years, and has a wealth of experience working for private companies as well as public bodies and associations. His professional interest lies in the food industry and helping small companies to prosper, making him a great fit for the role of Head of Foreign Trade at the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom. His hobbies include reading and enjoying the outdoors with family, especially strolling around his favourite area of Barcelona, Poble Nou, where he lived for ten years and returns to whenever he can.



DESIRÉE ODULAJA | FOREIGN TRADE MANAGER
desiree.odulaja@spanishchamber.co.uk

Desirée joined us this year as Foreign Trade Manager. With a degree in International Relations with Spanish, she is dedicated to promoting trade relations between the UK and Spain and organising various trade services at the Chamber. Desirée has lived in Madrid and Valencia and has a passion for Spanish football and travelling!



LAURA GARRIDO MARTÍNEZ | DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
laura.garrido@spanishchamber.co.uk

Laura joined the Chamber as our Digital Communications Manager in 2024. She leads our communication strategy, drawing on her experience as a communications consultant and her master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Outside of work, Laura is passionate about outdoor sports, languages, and travelling.



MÍRIAM GIMENO | EVENTS MANAGER
miriam.gimeno@spanishchamber.co.uk

As a Spanish journalist who has recently moved to London, Míriam's aim is to bridge the Spanish and British businesses and to strengthen links between the Spanish community based in the UK. She couldn't think of a better way to do this than by promoting a busy calendar of events, varying in form and content to suit the interests and preferences of all our Members and prospective Members. She loves discovering new places and original experiences, which she can then share with the Chamber's Members through its events.

THE CHAMBER WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS GRATITUDE FOR THE INVALUABLE WORK OF ALL THE INTERNS WHO JOINED US THROUGHOUT THE YEAR: **ANDREA MINSSART, CANDELA RODRÍGUEZ MARTÍN, IGNACIO PERINAT, KIERAN NAIDOO, LUIS MARTÍNEZ HIGUERAS, MARC RODRÍGUEZ BLEDA, PAOLO ZENERE, AND SOPHIE ZILIUKAS.**



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Spanish Chamber
of Commerce in
the United Kingdom

EST. 1886



About the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK

WHAT IS THE SPANISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

The **Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom** was established in **1886** by a group of enterprising merchants and traders with a clear goal: to enhance economic and commercial relations between Spain and the United Kingdom.

Nowadays, the Spanish Chamber is still an **independent**, private institution supported by its **Members**, which include Spanish, British, and international companies. The Chamber is a **non-profit organisation** primarily funded through membership fees.

Although the Chamber's objectives and activities are independent of any administration, it holds an **official status** and is **recognised** by the **Spanish Government**. It also maintains a strong relationship with **British institutions**. The Chamber is governed by a **Board of Directors**, elected by its Members, and has a permanent body of **staff** working on the Chamber's different projects.

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce operates through four foundational areas: Foreign Trade, Communications, Events, and Partner and Institutional Relations. The **Foreign Trade** Department is dedicated to fostering economic ties, supporting companies in their growth ambitions and facilitating international trade opportunities. **Communications** manages the Chamber's social media platforms and press relations, helping Members enhance brand and product visibility by reaching targeted audiences. **Events** bring together a wide range of activities, from workshops and seminars to large corporate gatherings, offering invaluable opportunities for networking and collaboration.

The **Members and Institutional Relations** division plays a dual role: providing dedicated support to Members and building strategic partnerships with Spanish and British institutions. By focusing on Member engagement and institutional alliances, this area strengthens the Chamber's network and broadens the scope of collaboration between key stakeholders in both countries.

Together, these core areas underpin the Chamber's mission of **fostering business collaboration** between Spanish and British companies, driving growth, and encouraging bilateral exchange.



OUR GOALS

PROMOTE TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Foster trade and investment between Spain and the United Kingdom by enhancing the **commercial and economic relations between both nations**.

GIVE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Enable strong **connections between our Members and British institutions**, especially considering the new UK-EU trade legislation.

FACILITATE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Offer our Members opportunities to establish **commercial connections** within the Chamber's Spanish-British business network.

SUPPORT SMEs

Link **small and medium sized enterprises with potential clients and partners**, providing visibility and facilitating their seamless integration into the British market.

PROVIDE SUPPORT AND ADVICE

Provide our Members with **tailored solutions** to meet the specific needs of each company, helping them to enhance their operations in the UK.

CREATE A STRONG SPANISH-BRITISH BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Through a wide range of **events** organised throughout the year, the Chamber brings together professionals from Spanish, British, and international companies, fostering **business connections**.



HOW DOES THE CHAMBER SUPPORT ITS MEMBERS?

As a Member of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom, you will have the opportunity to:

EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

Participate in our networking events, which provide our Members with an optimal opportunity to **connect with new clients and business partners**. The Chamber can also arrange meetings and provide contact lists of potential clients, collaborators, and business opportunities.



INCREASE YOUR BRAND VISIBILITY

Your company's information will be listed in the **Members' Directory** on our website and in the Annual Report. Members are also provided with opportunities for exposure through **publications** on our **social media** channels, fortnightly **newsletter**, **website blog**, and can promote their business with dedicated **banners** featured on our online platforms.



DEVELOP NEW INSTITUTIONAL CONNECTIONS

For nearly 140 years, the Chamber has been fostering bilateral commercial relations between Spain and the United Kingdom. As a Member, you can leverage our extensive **institutional network** of affiliate organisations and government departments.



GET TAILORED GUIDANCE

Our Foreign Trade Department advises both Member and non-Member companies looking to enter either the **Spanish or British markets**. Our team of experts can connect your business with the right **local partners, clients, and suppliers** to ensure a smooth entry into a new market.

COLLABORATE WITH THE CHAMBER

We invite Members to arrange a seminar, webinar, or workshop in **partnership** with the Chamber. This will allow you to **showcase your company's expertise**, promote your services, and create new business connections. **Sponsoring** one of our events is also a highly effective way to expand your reach within the Chamber's network.



BECOME A MEMBER TO CONNECT WITH THE SPANISH-BRITISH BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom fosters bilateral trade and commercial relations between Spain and the UK by **building a strong network of Spanish, British and international companies**. Our network includes everything from **large corporations** to **SMEs**, covering a diverse range of **sectors**.

As a Member of the Chamber, you'll gain access to a **wide range of services**, including the Chamber's extensive network of **business** and **institutional contacts**, as well as tailored **advice** and **information** regarding business opportunities. Your membership also provides access to our **events** and the chance to enhance your **visibility** through our communications and promotional opportunities.

We offer three categories of membership which are tailored to meet the diverse needs of companies. Association with the Chamber provides a range of **general benefits** for all Members, while there are **exclusive advantages** for each of the superior membership categories.

The **categories** of membership with the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK are as follows:

CORPORATE

This category is ideal for companies that:

- Are interested in expanding their network of contacts.
- Wish to **enhance their visibility** in the British-Spanish business community in the UK.

BENEFACTOR

This category is ideal for companies that:

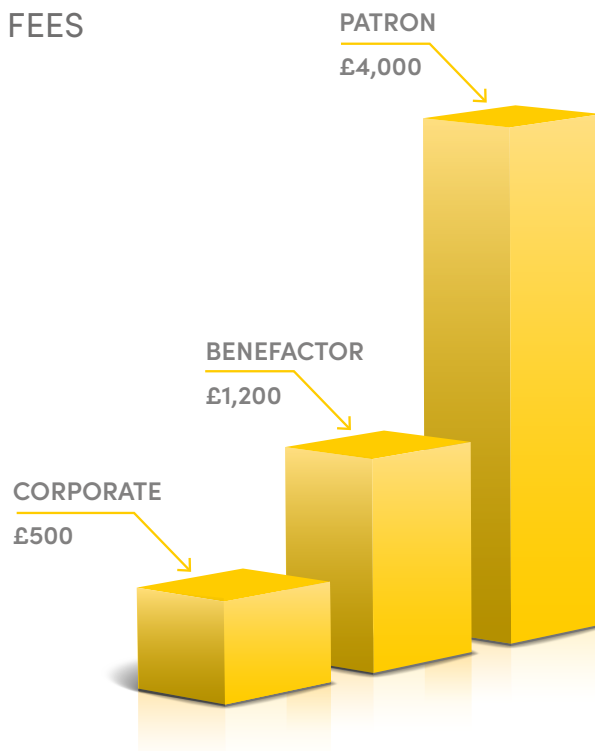
- Are larger companies.
- Wish to **upgrade their membership** and sample some of the benefits of a Patron membership.

PATRON

This type of membership is best suited to companies that:

- Are large or multinational companies.
- Wish to use their membership to benefit from **greater institutional visibility**.

2025 MEMBERSHIP FEES (EXCL VAT)



FIND THE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY WHICH BEST SUITS YOUR COMPANY:

	CORPORATE	BENEFACTOR	PATRON
Member profile and logo displayed on our website	●	●	●
Invitation to company events associated with the Chamber	●	●	●
Access to exclusive offers via the private Members' area of our website	●	●	●
The opportunity to publicise promotions, events or job vacancies via our various communication channels	●	●	●
Invitation to the Chamber's networking events (the majority are free of charge for Members)	●	●	●
Discounts for all of the Chamber's services and advertising packages	●	●	●
Special announcement in the Chamber's newsletter, blog and social media channels to inform our contact network of new Members	●	●	●
Complimentary use of our meeting room (5 hours annually for Benefactors, 10 for Patrons)	●	●	●
Priority for organising events in collaboration with the Chamber	●	●	●
1 x Complimentary advert in our fortnightly newsletter	●	●	●
2 x Complimentary blog articles published about your company upon becoming a Member of the Chamber	●	●	●
Logo publicised in our newsletter and website, hyperlinked to the company's own website	●	●	●
Company name included in all of our marketing materials (email signatures, corporate documents, photocalls and on menus and screens displayed at corporate events)	●	●	●
Invitation to the Annual Patrons' Dinner held at the Spanish Embassy	●	●	●
Priority when receiving invitations for events organised in collaboration with other institutions and Chambers of Commerce	●	●	●
Priority invitation to sectorial forum events (subject to availability)	●	●	●
Priority for sponsorship of Chamber events	●	●	●
Access to Patrons' Club events	●	●	●

SERVICES OF THE CHAMBER

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom offers a **wide variety of services** to its Member companies. Some of these services are also available to non-Member companies for a fee.

These services include access to our **extensive institutional** network, with whom we have established strong relationships in both countries; our **events**, which provide valuable networking opportunities; our **foreign trade activities**, which promote commercial relations and offer expert advice; and our **communication tools** which are designed to enhance the visibility of our Members.

Mr. Igor Urrea, Secretary General of the Chamber, presenting at the 137th Annual General Meeting.



INSTITUTIONAL NETWORK

For nearly 140 years, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce has been fostering the **bilateral commercial relationship** between Spain and the UK. This has provided the Chamber with a deep **understanding** of both the **British and Spanish administrations**, strengthening its institutional connections. As a Member, you can take advantage of our **extensive** network of affiliated **organisations** and **government** departments.

UK	SPAIN	INTERNATIONAL	CULTURAL
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			

EVENTS OF THE CHAMBER

In 2024, more than 3,000 professionals from 700 companies attended the events organised by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom. Each event serves as a **meeting point of the Spanish-British business community**, welcoming **senior representatives**, as well as **government** officials and other **influential figures** from both countries. Our wide variety of events, from **major corporate events to technical sessions**, provide a profitable networking opportunity for companies of all industries and sizes.

CORPORATE EVENTS

These events bring together **250 to 350 senior representatives** from a wide range of Spanish, British, and international companies, as well as government officials and other influential figures from both countries.

PATRONS' CLUB EVENTS

Our **Patron Member** companies enjoy access to **exclusive events**, including an annual dinner at the Spanish Embassy and private receptions with prominent institutional figures from both the Spanish and British governments.

MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFASTS

In this event series a **distinguished guest speaker from the business or political realm** delivers a briefing on a relevant topic, followed by an open discussion with attendees.

SEMINARS, WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

These highly regarded events cover a wide range of topics, offering our Member companies a platform to engage in **dialogue**, share **insights** into their sectors, and access valuable networking opportunities. The Chamber also organises a series of **workshops for new and prospective Members**, introducing them to the Team and highlighting the benefits of joining the network.

NETWORKING EVENTS AND THE NEW MEMBERS' DRINKS RECEPTION

These informal events offer a more relaxed networking environment compared to the Chamber's other events, while still providing **opportunities to connect** with the Chamber's Team and broader membership network. Additionally, the Chamber hosts several **Elevator Pitch** speed networking events throughout the year, offering companies a valuable opportunity to promote their services and forge connections with other businesses.

EDI EVENTS

Now in its third consecutive year, the Chamber hosts this The **Spanish Chamber** has a strong commitment to **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**, and this is translated into several event series which have now been running for three consecutive years, to highlight the importance of EDI in the workplace.

FOREIGN TRADE EVENTS

These events foster **bilateral commercial ties** between Spain and the UK, while supporting the needs of companies operating in the other country. Additionally, they provide a platform for **exchanging insights**, exploring **new business** opportunities and strengthening **collaboration** between both countries.

EVENTS WITH OTHER CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Every year, we organise a variety of events with our Members, providing opportunities to connect and collaborate with members of other **international Chambers of Commerce in the UK**, as well as regional **British Chambers of Commerce**. By participating, our Members expand their reach and strengthen their presence in both **local** and **international** markets.

COLLABORATION WITH MEMBERS

We collaborate with our Members to organise **events**, such as workshops, where they can showcase their expertise and gain direct access to our **broad network**, supporting their business growth and international expansion. These events create unique opportunities for our Members to engage with new **markets**, build **valuable connections**, and explore **new opportunities for collaboration** within and **beyond their industry**.

Mr. Gareth Thomas MP, Minister for Services, Small Business and Exports during his speech at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



FOREIGN TRADE

The **promotion of bilateral trade between Spain and the United Kingdom** remains a primary goal of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce. Its **official** recognition, **institutional** network, and the **expertise** of its Team make the Chamber a strategic partner for expanding your business in **either the Spanish or British market**.

Both Member and non-Member companies can benefit from the **services** provided by our Team, which include **connecting** with the right local partners, clients, and suppliers to ensure a smooth entry into a new market.

FIND COMMERCIAL CONTACTS

The Foreign Trade Department at the Chamber can curate **contact lists** tailored to specific business sectors, helping companies **identify potential new clients**. Our Team can also **arrange** face-to-face or virtual **meetings** with prospective clients for businesses looking to expand their exports in any of the markets we cover.

ACCESS TO NEW MARKETS

Commercial presentations offer a **comprehensive market** overview, showcasing the products of the contracting business to potential customers or partners, and helping facilitate the company's entry and integration into the target market.

DEFINE YOUR MARKET

Our Team provides detailed **market reports**, offering in-depth analysis and insights into the British market.

MARKET UPDATES

During 2024, the Chamber's Foreign Trade Department continued publishing the weekly Market Updates newsletter, featuring the **latest news from a range of industries and sectors**. The content is carefully curated by the Foreign Trade Department, focusing on key developments relevant to both the Spanish and British markets, and is shared with the Chamber's network.

TRADE MISSIONS AND EVENTS

The Foreign Trade Department organises **trade missions and networking events to boost local product exports**. These initiatives aim to foster commercial relationships among companies by showcasing products, identifying distributors, and expanding opportunities for both Spanish and British companies in each market.



COMMUNICATION TOOLS

At the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, we provide a range of **communication tools** and **services** to help our Members enhance **brand and product visibility** by reaching a targeted audience. Our official status boosts the visibility of our Member companies, reaching an audience across Spain and the United Kingdom. The Chamber's Team is dedicated to increasing your brand visibility, expanding your network, and maximising your market impact to help grow your business.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Through the Chamber's **LinkedIn**, **Instagram**, and **X accounts**, we regularly promote our Members' news, products, and events. Our diverse audience and strong following across all social media platforms enhance our outreach. On LinkedIn alone, we have nearly 10,000 followers.

Additionally, many of our events are recorded and uploaded to our **YouTube** channel, and event sponsors receive product and brand visibility in all our professional videos. Finally, we have a collection of professional photographs from all our key events on our **Flickr** page, which attendees are welcome to share on their social media accounts.

NEWSLETTER

Our popular **biweekly newsletter** keeps you informed with the latest news from the Chamber and upcoming events for Members. You'll also find essential updates from our network, including new Members, Member-hosted events, and exclusive Member-to-Member offers. Plus, enjoy highlights from our latest YouTube videos and blog posts!

Members can further boost their visibility by **promoting** their businesses, brands, or products with a customised **banner** in our newsletter for **free**. Our newsletter now reaches over 4,000 subscribers in both Spain and the UK.

BLOG

The Chamber's blog features **current topics**, the latest business trends and expert insights from our Team and Members. Patrons and Benefactors of the Chamber have the opportunity to contribute their own articles on business, trade or company news to our blog free of charge. We will credit your company and include a link to your profile on the Chamber's Member Directory to boost engagement.

ANNUAL REPORT

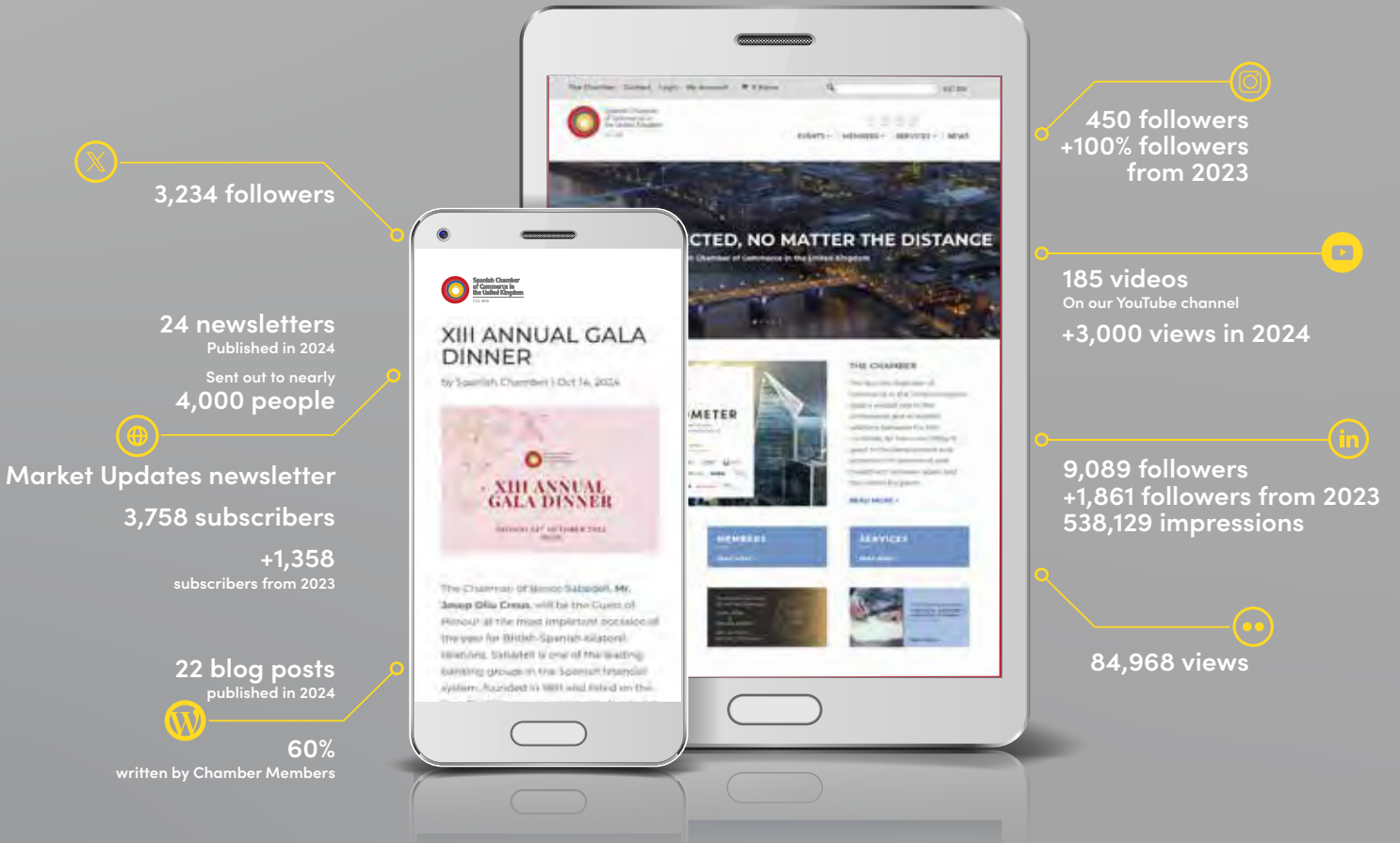
Our Annual Report contains detailed information about our services and activities.

In addition to advertising through the Chamber's social media, newsletter and blog, we also offer both Members and non-Members the opportunity to promote their company, news, and events with a paid advertisement in our Annual Report. This includes showcasing your company in our Annual Report, with physical copies distributed at over 50 events throughout the year and a digital version available on our website and social media channels.

OTHER VISIBILITY OPPORTUNITIES

For interested companies, the Chamber can provide a range of **advertising packages** designed to help you reach an engaged audience within the Spanish-British business community.





Spanish Chamber in the UK

@SpainChamberUK

Active since 1886, we are the official organisation for the promotion of Spanish-British business relations, made up of over 260 member companies.

[Traducir la biografía](#)

📍 126 Wigmore Street | LONDON spanishchamber.co.uk

📅 Se unió el marzo de 2015

937 Siguiendo 3.230 Seguidores



BUSINESS CENTRE

The Chamber offers Members a variety of business services and facilities to help support their network and help them expand their operations in the UK.

See the business services that we provide to our network below:

BUSINESS CENTRE

SIMPLE AND INTELLIGENT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Services we offer:



DESK
HIRE



POSTAL
ADDRESS



MEETING
ROOM HIRE



ADVERTISING
OPPORTUNITIES



OFFICE
SPACES

 126 Wigmore Street. London W1U 3RZ
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 info@spanishchamber.co.uk



www.spanishchamber.co.uk

OTHER PROJECTS OF THE CHAMBER

EDI

The Spanish Chamber's commitment to **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)** - introduced at the 2022 Annual General Meeting- has gained momentum in 2024 through targeted events and initiatives. The Chamber has consolidated and strengthened its EDI initiatives, ensuring their continuity, and these efforts have been met with positive feedback and high engagement.

These initiatives have not only reinforced the Chamber's key role in promoting the social and corporate debate surrounding this topic but also reinforced **our position as a key player** in fostering the economic and commercial relationship between Spain and the United Kingdom.

Indeed, the Chamber's EDI approach has also significantly **enhanced diversity and inclusion across all its events and activities**. For instance, in terms of participation, gender parity has been achieved in the number of women and men among both attendees and speakers at the Chamber's events.

ATTENDEES AT THE CHAMBER'S EVENTS (*)



3,287 ATTENDEES



44% WOMEN



56% MEN

(*) based on the number of guests who registered to the events through the Chamber. Guests may attend one or more events.

The percentage of women attending the Chamber's events as guests has increased compared to 2023

SPEAKERS AT THE CHAMBER'S EVENTS



241 SPEAKERS



47% WOMEN



53% MEN

EDI INITIATIVES IN 2024

WOMEN OF THE CHAMBER

This initiative, in the form of interviews, aims to provide a **platform where women's views and experiences can be shared**. These interviews raise awareness of the **challenges** and **opportunities** women still face in a business environment, elevate **visibility** of female talent within our network and **celebrate** the **contributions** and achievements of women in the corporate world.

WOMEN'S VOICE

A **study** developed by the Spanish Chamber where women within our network participated in an **anonymous survey** to share **their perceptions and experiences** regarding the challenges and opportunities they encounter in the workplace. The **results** of the study were presented at the II International Women's Day Networking Event.

EDI EVENTS IN 2024

II INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In March, the Chamber celebrated the second edition of our annual International Women's Day Reception at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence. At this year's event, the Chamber was delighted to welcome **Ms. Amy Clemitchaw**, Deputy Director for Women and Girls at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office as Special Guest Speaker.

During their discussion, these women, who have all reached huge success in the finance industry, shared their experiences and career journeys, providing invaluable insights for a fruitful conversation.

III WOMEN WHO INSPIRE

In April, the third edition of our Women Who Inspire series took place at the Spanish Embassy in London. For this year's event, we were delighted to welcome an exceptional panel of **women leaders in the finance sector**.

II PROUD OF OUR PRIDE

In June, the Chamber, in collaboration with the Spanish Embassy in the United Kingdom, held the second edition of Proud of our Pride event at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London. The event was sponsored by the **Chamber Patron Deutsche Bank**. The Chamber was delighted to welcome **The Rt. Hon. Lord Smith of Finsbury** as guest speaker.

Ms. Monika Dissen (Deutsche Bank) speaking at the II Proud of our Pride event.





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VI BAROMETER ON THE CLIMATE AND OUTLOOK FOR SPANISH INVESTMENT IN THE UK

In 2024, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom presented the **VI edition** of its “Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK”. This report, led and published by the Chamber since **2019**, serves as an **official source of data** for anyone involved in the Spanish–British business community or interested in joining it.

The Barometer, one of the Chamber’s largest projects, is divided into **two sections**. The first offers an **analysis of the latest available data** on the value of Spanish investment in the UK, while the second presents **insights into Spanish investors’ perceptions of the British market’s attractiveness**, drawn from a survey of over 100 companies.

Now in its VI edition, the Barometer has established itself as **an essential tool for analysing the trajectory of Spanish investment in the UK** amidst ongoing global economic turbulence.

Additionally, the annual **event** where the Barometer is presented has become a **must-attend occasion**, bringing together **British and Spanish representatives** from government, diplomacy, and the private sector. Held at the **Spanish Embassy in London**, the event features high-level panellists from key Spanish investors in the UK.

You can access the VI Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK here:





H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Events 2024

EVENTS HELD IN 2024

In 2024, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK organised over **45 events**, both in-person and online, welcoming over **3,000 guests** from **700 companies** across a wide range of sectors. The Chamber is proud to deliver a diverse and dynamic events programme each year, creating invaluable networking opportunities for our Members that strengthen connections and promote collaboration within the Spanish-British business community.

+45

EVENTS
ORGANISED
IN 2024

+3,000

NUMBER
OF GUESTS
WELCOMED

+700

COMPANIES
TOOK PART IN
OUR EVENTS

SPONSOR COMPANIES OF 2024 CORPORATE EVENTS

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our **sponsors** for supporting the **various corporate events** held throughout 2024: BBVA, Cellnex UK, Clece Care Services Ltd., Deutsche Bank, Exolum, Ferrovial, Iberdrola, Iberia, Indra, López Landa Interiors, Navantia, Banco Sabadell, Santander UK and Uría Menéndez.

The Chamber also thanks the companies that sponsored premium products and catered our events: Bodegare, Hispania, Mahou San Miguel, Mevalco Fine Foods, Raventós Codorníu and Vichy Catalán.

BBVA

Bodegare

cellnex
driving telecom connectivity

CLECE
Care Services

Deutsche Bank

exolum

ferrovial

H
HISPANIA
LONDON · BRUSSELS

Iberdrola

IBERIA

indra

LOPEZ
LANDA
INTERIORS

M MAHOU
SAN MIGUEL

MEVALCO
FINE FOODS FROM
SPAIN

Navantia
UK

1551 1872
RAVENTÓS CODORNÍU
WINERIES & VINEYARDS

Sabadell

Santander

URÍA
MENÉNDEZ

VICHY
CATALAN

BRITISH
EMBASSY
THE UNITED KINGDOM

MINISTERIO
DE ECONOMÍA, COMPETENCIA
Y ENERGÍA

Cámara
de Comercio de España



2024 EVENTS

JAN

30

- ◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
NEW YEAR'S DRINKS RECEPTION

FEBRUARY

2

- ◆ **WORKSHOP**
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SPANISH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

6

- ◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
PREMIO PYME

12

- ★ **NETWORKING EVENT**
NEW MEMBERS' DRINKS RECEPTION

14

- ◆ **WEBINAR**
CYBERSECURITY THREATS AND THEIR IMPACT ON BUSINESS. HOW TO PROTECT OUR COMPANIES? - STRATESYS

20

- ◆ **WEBINAR**
SPANISH MULTINATIONALS CAN OPTIMISE TRANSFER PRICING AND INTERNATIONAL TAX OUTCOMES IN A TURBULENT GLOBAL ECONOMY - PKF LITTLEJOHN

22

- **NETWORKING EVENT**
ELEVATOR PITCH!

26

- **MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFAST**
MR. ANDY BURNHAM, MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER

26

- ◆ **WEBINAR**
NAVIGATING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES POST-BREXIT: INSIGHTS FROM UK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS AND TRADE

MAR

7

- **EDI EVENT**
II INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY NETWORKING RECEPTION

21

- **MELIÁ BUSINESS LUNCH**
SHADOW MINISTERS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE & EUROPE

APR

16

- **FOREIGN CHAMBER SERIES**
CONNECTING YOU WITH THE WORLD FROM THE UK: SPAIN AND BRAZIL

17

- **NETWORKING EVENT**
INTERNATIONAL WINE, SPIRITS, AND BEER TASTING 2024

23

- ★ **PATRONS' CLUB EVENT**
ELECTION ANALYSIS: HOW WILL PIVOTAL ELECTIONS IMPACT THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE EU & MEXICO? SIGNUM GLOBAL ADVISORS

26

- **WORKSHOP**
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SPANISH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

29

- ★ **NETWORKING EVENT**
SPANISH STAR CHEFS AND THE INGREDIENTS THAT INSPIRE THEM

30

- **EDI EVENT**
WOMEN WHO INSPIRE: FINANCE

MAY

9

- ◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
ANNUAL GOLDEN AWARD 2024

13

- ★ **OTHER**
TWO LANDS, ONE PASSION: SPAIN, THE UK AND FÚTBOL - LA LIGA AND INSTITUTO CERVANTES MANCHESTER

15

- **NETWORKING EVENT**
ELEVATOR PITCH!

21

- ◆ **WEBINAR**
HIRING STAFF FROM OVERSEAS - IAS





JUN

13

★ **NETWORKING EVENT**
EXECUTIVE BREAKFAST, POSITIVE LEADERSHIP AND BEHAVIOURAL FITNESS WITH IE BUSINESS SCHOOL

17

◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
137TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25

◆ **WEBINAR**
HOW TO MEASURE AND INTERPRET YOUR ORGANISATION'S GENDER PAY GAP WITH DIVERSITAS INSTITUTE

27

● **EDI EVENT**
II PROUD OF OUR PRIDE

JUL

10

◆ **WEBINAR**
WHAT IS NET ZERO AND WHY DOES IT MATTER? - IRWIN MITCHELL

SEP

5

★ **OTHER**
TECHNICAL ROUNDTABLE WITH THE UK DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND TRADE | LONDON

6

● **WORKSHOP**
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SPANISH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

12

□ **NETWORKING EVENT**
ELEVATOR PITCH!

16

★ **OTHER**
III ANNUAL BUSINESS COCKTAIL IN MADRID

16

★ **OTHER**
TECHNICAL ROUNDTABLE WITH THE UK DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND TRADE | MADRID

25

★ **OTHER**
CHARITY 10K RUN FOR THE CRIS CANCER FOUNDATION

OCTOBER

14

◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
XIII ANNUAL GALA DINNER

30

□ **NETWORKING EVENT**
CAMINO PARTY

NOV

5

◆ **WEBINAR**
POST-AUTUMN BUDGET ANALYSIS WITH BLICK ROTHENBERG

11

□ **NETWORKING EVENT**
ELEVATOR PITCH!

13

● **SEMINAR**
FRAUD, IDENTITY & AI: NAVIGATING RISKS AND UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES - VERIDAS

26

★ **PATRONS' CLUB EVENT**
ANNUAL PATRONS' DINNER

28

● **SEMINAR**
BRIDGING BORDERS: UK-SPAIN BUSINESS & IMMIGRATION - IRWIN MITCHELL

29

● **WORKSHOP**
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SPANISH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

DEC

2

◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
VI BAROMETER DINNER

3

◆ **CORPORATE EVENT**
VI BAROMETER ON THE CLIMATE AND OUTLOOK FOR SPANISH INVESTMENT IN THE UK

10

■ **MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFAST**
MS. CATHERINE WEST MP, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE FCDO

● WEBINARS
18%

○ SEMINARS
5%

● WORKSHOPS
9%

● PATRONS' CLUB EVENT
4%

○ EDI EVENTS
7%

● MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFASTS
7%

● CORPORATE EVENTS
14%

● NETWORKING EVENTS
25%

● OTHER EVENTS
11%

+45
EVENTS

STATISTICS

CORPORATE EVENTS

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK hosts **six corporate events** each year: the New Year's Drinks Reception; Annual Golden Award; Premio PYME; Annual General Meeting & Dinner; Annual Gala Dinner; and the presentation of the Barometer on the Climate & Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK.

These events attract senior **representatives** from a diverse array of Spanish, British, and international companies, as well as **government** officials and other **influential figures** from both countries.

XIII ANNUAL GALA DINNER

In 2024, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK celebrated its **XIII Annual Gala Dinner** at the prestigious **Landmark Hotel** in London.

This event brought together nearly **350 representatives from the Spanish and British business sectors** and civil society. It was the largest corporate event organised by the Chamber and the most important occasion for Spanish-British bilateral relations of the year.

Our Guest of Honour, **Mr. Josep Oliu, Chairman of Banco Sabadell**, expressed his gratitude for the role played by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in "building strong ties between both countries".

Mr. Josep Oliu, Chairman of Banco Sabadell, during his speech at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



During his speech, **Mr. Eduardo Barrachina**, President of the Chamber, thanked Mr. Oliu for joining us and noted that the achievements and growth of Banco Sabadell “reflect those of Spanish society”. Our President also emphasised that “rebuilding trust is essential” given the current geopolitical context. In this sense, he added, “strong and time-honoured institutions like the Spanish Chamber of Commerce are committed to playing their role in facilitating trade and investment, which, as we all know, are based on trust”.

Among the attendees were representatives from His Majesty’s Government, including **Mr. Gareth Thomas MP, Minister for Services, Small Business and Exports**, and **Sir Chris Bryant MP, Minister of State for Data Protection and Telecoms**, as well as **Minister for Creative Industries, Arts, and Tourism**.

Also in attendance were the **Spanish Ambassador to the United Kingdom, H.E. Mr. José Pascual Marco**, and the **Director General of the Cámara de Comercio de España, Ms. Inmaculada Riera**, among other institutional representatives.



Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber; Mr. Josep Oliu, Chairman of Banco Sabadell and H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.

This event was kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Bodegare, Hispania, Mahou San Miguel, and Raventós Codorníu.

Bodegare

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SANMIGUEL

1551 1872
RAVENTÓS CODORNÍU
WINERIES & VINEYARDS



Dragados Corporate Table at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Mr. Anselmo Andrade, Country Manager of BBVA UK, with Lord Bridges of Headley at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Official picture (from left) of Sir Chris Bryant MP, Minister of State at the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport; Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber; Mr. Josep Olliu, Chairman of Banco Sabadell; H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco; Mr. Gareth Thomas MP, Minister for Services, Small Businesses and Exports; and Ms. Inmaculada Riera, Director General of Cámara de España, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber, with the Earl of Kinnoull at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Official photo of the Executive Board of Directors of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK with the Guest of Honour, Mr. Josep Oliu, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.

PREMIUM AND CORPORATE TABLES





Guests at the Top Table during the Loyal Toast at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Sir Chris Bryant MP, Minister of State at the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca (Uría Menéndez) and Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto (Banco Sabadell & Vice-President of the Chamber) with the Guest of Honour, Mr. Josep Olliu, at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Guests at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner, held at The Landmark Hotel.



Representatives from Ferrovial at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.



Representatives from BBVA at the XIII Annual Gala Dinner.

137TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER

In June, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK held its **137th Annual General Meeting** at One Great George Street in Westminster. As one of the Chamber's main corporate events of the year, the Annual General Meeting offers its Members and supporters a valuable opportunity to **gather and reflect on the work** of the institution over the past year, and **outline strategies** for the future.

The **importance of the Annual General Meeting** was reflected by the Vice-President of the Chamber, Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, in her speech where she shared that "during the meeting our accounts and articles were approved, and we successfully relayed our key principles as well as upcoming initiatives and events".

She reaffirmed the Chamber's role in **strengthening the commercial relations** between Spain and the UK and **acting as a bridge** between the public and private sectors: "We have become an instrumental tool in creating business and networking opportunities for each and every one of you". The Chamber's Vice-President noted that this could not be done "without the unfaltering support of the **key institutions** that are represented here today".



Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, delivering her speech at the 137th Annual General Meeting.

The meeting was followed by a formal drinks reception and dinner, which welcomed over 250 guests, including the Guest of Honour, **Mr. Keith Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of ScottishPower**. H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco was also in attendance, as well as other Spanish and British institutional representatives and business executives.

During the dinner that followed the Annual General Meeting, Mr. Keith Anderson celebrated **the commercial bonds between Spain and the UK**, lauding the merger between Iberdrola and ScottishPower as “an example of the firm and lasting partnership” between the two. He highlighted the substantial Spanish contributions to the UK’s energy sector, noting that “over the past 15 years, Iberdrola has invested more than £30 billion here”. He highlighted that a significant portion of these funds has been allocated to sustainability initiatives, positioning Iberdrola and ScottishPower as “one of the largest green energy investors in the UK”.

Mr. Anderson concluded with a pledge to continue the partnership between Spain and the UK in the energy sector: “we strongly believe in **the long-term contribution we can make to delivering a greener, more secure and more affordable energy system** in the UK – helping to build ever stronger links between Spain and the UK every step of the way”.

The 137th Annual General Meeting served as a **unifying platform for the Spanish-British business community**, providing a valuable opportunity to collaborate on common commercial goals.

This event was kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Bodegare, Mahou San Miguel, Raventós Codorníu, Vichy Catalán and Member Mevalco Fine Foods.



PREMIUM AND CORPORATE TABLES





H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, during his speech at the dinner that followed the 137th Annual General Meeting.



Ms. Raquel Barrera, Board Member of the Chamber, speaking at the 137th Annual General Meeting.



Guests signing in to the 137th Annual General Meeting, held at One Great George Street in Westminster.

THE VI BAROMETER ON THE CLIMATE AND OUTLOOK FOR SPANISH INVESTMENT IN THE UK

In December, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom presented the sixth edition of its **Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK**. The event, held at the Residence of the Spanish Ambassador in London, served as a **meeting point for representatives** from both the **public and private sectors** of both countries.

H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the United Kingdom, Mr. José Pascual Marco, opened the presentation of this sixth edition. This was followed by contributions from the **President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina**, who highlighted that the Barometer event in London is the only annual bilateral economic event between the two countries. Our President explained that the Barometer provides a platform for both governments and companies to exchange opinions directly about the state of Spanish investments in the United Kingdom.

Among the British representatives, the event was also attended by the **Earl of Kinnoull** and the **UK Minister of State for Business and Trade, the Rt. Hon. Douglas Alexander MP**, who confirmed the commitment of the British government “to further strengthen this enduring partnership”. The **Spanish Minister for Trade, Ms. Amparo López Senovilla**, who was also in attendance, insisted on the importance of the Barometer, “as it ensures the vibrancy of our bilateral relations”.



Official picture (from left) of the Earl of Kinnoull, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber; The Rt Hon Mr. Douglas Alexander MP, UK Minister of State for Business and Trade; Ms. Amparo López Senovilla, Spanish Minister for Trade; H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco and Ms. Inmaculada Riera, Director General of the Cámara de Comercio de España.

The session also included three technical roundtable discussions, moderated by **Mr. Peter Foster, Public Policy Editor at the Financial Times**. This session addressed topics such as UK regulatory developments in the investment market, challenges and opportunities for Spanish companies, and the perspective of the public sector.

The roundtable participants included: **Ms. Beatriz Casares Echenique** (BBVA), **Ms. Yufan Cai** (Exolum), **Mr. José Jacinto Monge Bravo** (Indra), **Mr. Brian Magson** (Banco Sabadell), **Ms. Hazel Gulliver** (ScottishPower), **Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca** (Uría Menéndez), **Mr. Gonzalo García Andrés** (Economic and Commercial Office of Spain in the UK), and **Ms. Cathryn Law** (Department for Business & Trade).

The presentation also included the participation of **Mr. José Manuel Amor**, Board Member and Treasurer of the **British Chamber of Commerce**, and **Ms. María Romero Paniagua**, Managing Partner at **Analistas Financieros Internacionales** (Afi).

The Chamber would like to extend its deepest gratitude to our sponsors, ABANCA, BBVA, Cellnex, Clece Care, Exolum, Ferrovial, Iberdrola, Indra, López Landa Interiors, Navantia, Banco Sabadell, Santander and Uría Menéndez, whose invaluable support and contributions make the Barometer possible.

BAROMETER SPONSORS



You can access the VI Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK here:



VI BAROMETER DINNER

As is tradition, this **bilateral dinner** was held on the eve of our VI Barometer on the Climate and Outlook for Spanish Investment in the UK event, and brought together **institutional guests** and **sponsor companies**. The dinner was attended by representatives from both governments, making it an intimate event for Spanish and British bilateral relations.

The VI Barometer dinner opened with introductory speeches from **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco** and the **President of the Spanish Chamber, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina**.

The event was also attended by **Ms. Catherine Law** (Department for Business and Trade) and **Ms. Amparo López Senovilla**, Spanish Minister for Trade, alongside other representatives from the Spanish Embassy, Cámara de España and the companies sponsoring the Barometer.



H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Spanish Chamber, and Ms. Amparo López Senovilla, Spanish Minister for Trade, at the VI Barometer dinner.



Ms. Amparo López Senovilla, the Spanish Minister for Trade, speaking at the VI Barometer presentation.

The first roundtable of the VI Barometer presentation, featuring Ms. Beatriz Casares Echenique (BBVA), Ms. Yufan Cai (Exolum) and Mr. José Jacinto Monge Bravo (Indra). Moderated by Mr. Peter Foster (Financial Times, far left).



The Rt Hon Mr. Douglas Alexander MP, UK Minister of State for Business and Trade, during his speech at the VI Barometer presentation.





Guests at the VI Barometer presentation.



H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, during his speech at the VI Barometer dinner.

ANNUAL GOLDEN AWARD 2024

In May, Chamber Patron **Indra**, the leading Spanish multinational technology and defence company, was the recipient of the **Spanish Chamber's Annual Golden Award 2024** in acknowledgment of their outstanding performance in the UK market.

Mr. José Vicente de los Mozos, CEO of Indra, was presented with the award during a formal reception at the **Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London**. This special evening brought together the Spanish-British business community, alongside institutional and governmental representatives and members of the press.

Guests were welcomed by **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, who congratulated Indra and Mr. José Vicente de los Mozos, and noted Indra's impressive and longstanding presence in the UK.



Institutional guests at the Annual Golden Award. (From left) Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca, Board Member of the Chamber; Mr. José Vicente de los Mozos, CEO of Indra; H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco and Mr. Nacho Morais, Chamber Treasurer.

indra

An institutional welcome was then given on behalf of the Spanish Chamber by **Mr. Nacho Morais, Chamber Treasurer**, who praised Indra as a “global champion in the technology and defence sectors, and a pursuant of ever-increasing innovation”.

Following this, **Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca, Board Member of the Chamber**, hailed Indra’s success as an industry leader, stating that “Indra’s journey is one of relentless pursuit of excellence, spanning continents and industries. With operations in over 140 nations, Indra has not only transformed industries but also set new standards for innovation and corporate responsibility”.

Mr. Machuca emphasised the **impressive inroads Indra has made into the UK market**, highlighting Indra’s collaborations with “organisations such as Transport for London and the Royal Air Force”, alongside their “longstanding partnership with the UK’s air navigation service provider, NATS and its acquisition of Park Air, which cemented its position in the UK market”. As a result, “Indra has solidified its position as a pillar of the aerospace and defence communications industry.”

Following the award ceremony, guests had the opportunity to network while enjoying refreshments provided by the evening’s sponsors, Chamber Benefactors Mahou San Miguel and Raventós Codorníu.



Mr. Nacho Morais, Treasurer of the Chamber, delivering welcoming remarks at the Annual Golden Award 2024.





Guests at the Annual Golden Award reception, held at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London.

Mr. José Vicente de los Mozos, CEO of Indra, (right) receiving the Spanish Chamber's Golden Award from H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco (left).





The Indra team celebrating their award win.



Guests at the Annual Golden Award reception, held at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London.



INTERVIEW WITH INDRA, WINNER OF THE ANNUAL GOLDEN AWARD 2024

Mr. José Jacinto Monge Bravo, Senior Vice-President for North America, Northern and Central Europe at Indra, shares with our Team how Indra has benefited from receiving the **Spanish Chamber's 2024 Annual Golden Award** and provides insights into Indra's operations within the UK.

Q: What does receiving the Spanish Chamber's Golden Award 2024 mean to Indra?

A: For a company such as Indra, with a clear international focus, receiving the prestigious Golden Award from the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom is an **endorsement of our commitment to the UK**.

We are greatly satisfied that the Chamber recognises **the successful track record of a company like Indra in the British market** and its contribution to promoting trade relations between the UK and Spain. This award represents a significant **responsibility** and a motivator to keep moving forward in a country we consider **strategic** and one of our core markets.



This award represents a significant responsibility and a motivator to keep moving forward in a country we consider strategic.

Mr. José Jacinto Monge Bravo
Senior Vice President for North America, Northern and Central Europe at Indra

Q: Indra is one of the most well-established Spanish companies in the UK. How has its presence and growth evolved over time?

A: Indra's presence in the UK spans several decades. We are active in the transport and defence sectors, leading innovative projects that set international benchmarks, such as major technological upgrades for clients like NATS, Transport for London, National Highways, and the Royal Air Force. We are also a technology provider for leading companies in the financial sector and telecommunications operators.

Additionally, in 2023, Indra acquired Park Air, a prominent UK aerospace and defence communications company. In 2024, we announced the acquisition of the leading air traffic simulator and air defence company Micro Nav, as well as Global ATS, the UK market leader in air traffic control training services. Currently, around 200 staff work in our offices in Whiteley (Hampshire), London, and Peterborough.

Q: How is this recognition linked to Indra's long-term strategy?

A: The UK is strategic for Indra, not only as a market but also due to its technological advancements, ambitions, and highly qualified professionals. Within the international vision of our Strategic Plan, which embraces a multinational, multicultural, and multi-business approach, the UK is part of one of the three clusters in our international structure, designed to strengthen local positioning and client proximity.

Our investment in Park Air exemplifies this approach: integrating it into our ATM business has been crucial for securing the US FAA's ground-to-air communications system renewal contract as part of the NEXCOM programme.

Q: Which Indra initiatives would you highlight in the UK market?

A: We highlight the iTEC Alliance, a collaborative model aimed at achieving the Single European Sky, involving seven European air navigation providers, including NATS, with Indra as a technology provider. In 2024, it expanded beyond Europe's borders with NAV CANADA joining. Their new joint project, iTEC SkyNex, will enable borderless, more efficient flight management, promoting greener and more sustainable aviation.

In defence and security, we provide systems like the Lanza 3D radar, used by the Royal Air Force for UK airspace surveillance, the H225 simulators at the Airbus Training Centre in Aberdeen, and the AW159 Lynx Wildcat simulators that train Royal Navy and British Army pilots. In mobility, notable innovations include the integrated management of London's tunnels and roads for National Highways, and soon, the Silvertown tunnel.

Q: What distinguishes Indra in the UK market?

A: Indra stands out for its extensive experience, high technological expertise, and a strong ability to understand client needs and manage large programmes involving multiple stakeholders, driven by a collaborative spirit.

Our commitment to innovation and sustainability is central to our identity. We are the most prominent Spanish company within the European Framework for Innovation Programme, and for the third consecutive year, we have led globally in Sustainability, as recognised by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index and rated "Gold Class" by S&P Global.



Mr. José Jacinto Monge Bravo, Senior Vice-President for North America, Northern and Central Europe at Indra.

I PREMIO PYME DEL AÑO

This year marked the celebration of the Spanish Chamber's **Premio PYME del Año**. This award was created by the Chamber and its Board of Directors to recognise the enormous contribution Spanish SMEs make to the British economy.

The three finalist companies - **H2SITE, Veridas** and **Quibim** - were welcomed at an event held at the **Spanish Ambassador's Residence**. Over 150 guests attended, including Chamber Patrons and Members, Spanish companies operating in the UK, and representatives from both British and Spanish civil institutions.

Following the welcome by **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, the President of the Spanish Chamber, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina**, introduced the event and outlined the importance of the award to the Chamber, emphasising that "it is high time we recognised **the value of SMEs to the economy, the British market, and communities**".

The winner, **Veridas**, was presented with their award by **Mr. Kevin Hollinrake MP, Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business**. The Minister commended the huge contribution Spanish companies make to the UK economy, stating that it is "the small enterprises and small business owners that make the backbone of enterprise and trade." He then thanked **Spanish businesses and entrepreneurs for their role** in making the economic bonds between Spain and the UK "ever stronger." The Minister also thanked the Spanish Chamber for their "invaluable work", calling himself a "huge champion" of our institution.

The drinks reception which followed the event was kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Bodegare and Mahou San Miguel.

Bodegare

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Official picture (from left) of Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber; Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber; Mr. Kevin Hollinrake MP, Minister for Enterprise, Markets, and Small Business; Mr. Jordi Torres, EMEA Managing Director at Veridas; and H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the I Premio PYME del Año.



Mr. Jordi Torres, EMEA Managing Director at Veridas, accepting the award presented by Mr. Kevin Hollinrake MP, Minister for Enterprise, Markets, and Small Business.



Guests attending the I Premio PYME del Año.



INTERVIEW WITH VERIDAS, WINNER OF THE I PREMIO PYME DEL AÑO



Mr. Jordi Torres (Veridas) at the I Premio PYME del Año awards ceremony.



This award has opened doors for us to form strategic relationships with other companies that are Members of the Chamber, which has been a fantastic and enriching experience.

Mr. Jordi Torres
Managing Director EMEA at Veridas

Mr. Jordi Torres, Managing Director EMEA at Veridas, speaks with our team about the impact the I Premio PYME del Año has had on their performance in the United Kingdom, as well as the company's projects in this country.

Q: What does receiving the Premio PYME del Año from the Spanish Chamber of Commerce mean for Veridas, and how does it impact your reputation in the UK market?

A: Receiving the Premio PYME del Año from the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK marks a significant qualitative leap for Veridas in this market. This recognition substantially strengthens our presence and reputation in the UK, establishing us as a leading player in identity verification technology. Moreover, from a positioning and brand recognition perspective, the impact has been pivotal, not only locally but also in Spain, helping us stand out even further as leaders in innovation and biometrics. Additionally, this award has opened doors for us to form strategic relationships with other companies that are Members of the Chamber, which has been a fantastic and enriching experience. These connections not only expand our collaboration opportunities but also strengthen our position in such a competitive and dynamic market as the UK.

Q: Can you briefly share your experience in the British market? When and how did you expand your business into this market?

A: Veridas began its presence in the UK market over five years ago, actively participating in major international fintech (Money20/20) and gaming (ICE London) trade fairs. These events have been crucial for building solid relationships with the clients who now trust us, as well as for creating a network of strategic partners that reinforce our position in the market. The UK has not only been a key place for acquiring new clients but also a hub where "important things happen". Thanks to these international fairs, we have been able to connect with clients and opportunities from Europe, America, and Asia, consolidating the UK as a strategic region for Veridas' global growth.

Q: What opportunities do you foresee arising from this award to accelerate your growth in the UK and internationally? How will this impact your operational strategies?

A: Being recognised as the SME of the Year 2024 has acted as a catalyst for multiple opportunities, both in the UK and internationally. Over the past year, we have participated in more than five events organised by the Chamber of Commerce, in addition to leading a workshop on critical topics such as identity fraud and deepfakes, which has expanded our visibility in key sectors.

Thanks to this award, milestones such as our revolutionary biometric access system at the Monumental stadium of River Plate, the largest in the world, have gained exceptional exposure through the Chamber's communication channels. This level of exposure not only positions us as leaders in innovation but also allows us to strengthen relationships with other Members from the financial sector, with whom we hope to continue growing in 2025.

In terms of operational strategy, this award reinforces our focus on collaboration and international expansion, taking advantage of every opportunity to strengthen our partner network and consolidate our presence in key markets such as the UK.

Q: Can you share any specific milestone in the UK that has helped achieve this recognition?

A: More than a single specific milestone, we believe the key to receiving this recognition has been maintaining a consistent and close relationship with our stakeholders, which has allowed us to build trust and credibility in the UK market. This sustained and strategic approach has helped us establish a solid foundation in such a competitive environment.

In 2024, we also achieved a threefold increase in our global business figures compared to 2022, a growth that reflects not only the quality of our solutions but also our ability to adapt to the market's and our clients' needs. This achievement reinforces our position in the UK and drives us to continue striving for excellence in identity verification and the use of innovative biometric technologies.

Q: What innovations have you introduced in biometric technology since 2017, and how do you ensure these solutions are accessible and user-friendly for different demographics?

A: Since 2017, Veridas has made remarkable progress in innovating our biometric solutions. It all started with a pioneering use case in Spain, where we implemented our digital onboarding solution for BBVA, enabling remote client registration. Since then, we have expanded our capabilities and today have over 250 use cases worldwide. Our solution portfolio covers the entire customer relationship lifecycle, from creation to authentication across various channels: digital, phone, and physical. Additionally, we have deployed a robust anti-fraud layer, tailored to emerging threats due to the exponential rise in identity fraud in recent years.

One area in which we have been particularly proactive is combating deepfakes, an increasingly prevalent issue. We have been working intensively in this area for eight years, positioning ourselves as leaders in detecting and preventing these attacks.

We ensure that our solutions are accessible and easy to use for different demographics through continuous evolution of our interfaces and processes. Our technology is designed to be intuitive and efficient, enabling a smooth and secure experience for users of all ages, cultures, and levels of technological familiarity. We are not new to this field; we are more than prepared to continue leading innovation in identity verification.

Q: What are Veridas' long-term objectives for innovation in identity verification, particularly in the UK, and how do you plan to maintain your leadership position in the face of challenges?

A: In the long term, Veridas' primary goal is to continue driving a real and secure digital transformation for businesses and public administrations, seamlessly and fearlessly, especially regarding identity fraud, which remains the leading cause of fraud in the digital environment. We want digitalisation to be an opportunity, not a barrier, to providing a safe and seamless experience for both users and organisations.

To achieve this, we have a team of over 100 highly qualified engineers and an exciting product roadmap that is very much aligned with the emerging needs of the market. In particular, AI-generated identity fraud has become the central topic of conversations with our clients, both in the UK and globally. This challenge should not hinder businesses' commercial activities, and at Veridas, we are fully prepared to detect and combat it effectively.

In fact, for every fraud attack we detect, we see a growth opportunity, with over 70 new clients trusting our technology and solutions. We will maintain our leadership position by committing to constant innovation and adaptability, adjusting to new challenges and offering increasingly sophisticated solutions to ensure security and trust in identity verification.

Q: What lessons or ideas can you share with other Spanish SMEs seeking success in the UK market based on your experience?

A: One of the most important lessons we can share with other Spanish SMEs looking to succeed in the UK market is the importance of leveraging the resources that Spain provides to facilitate internationalisation. Institutions such as the Chamber of Commerce and ICEX have been instrumental in our global expansion, offering constant support and opportunities to connect with key markets.

To become one of the global leaders in digital identity, we have worked closely with the Chamber of Commerce in strategic markets such as the UK, Italy, the Netherlands, the United States, and Mexico. This collaboration has not only helped us consolidate our international presence but also provided us with a key tool to get grounded, open new contacts, and understand each market's realities and specifics.

Without a doubt, having these support networks and being well-informed about each region's characteristics is essential for successful growth and adaptation in dynamic international markets like the UK.

NEW YEAR'S DRINKS RECEPTION

The 2024 **New Year's Drinks Reception** took place at the home of diplomacy in the UK, the iconic **Dunbar Court in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office**, located in the heart of Westminster.

The New Year's Drinks Reception is one of the Chamber's most prestigious networking events, held to thank our Members and collaborators for their support over the year. The event also celebrated the close relationship between the Chamber and its institutional partners.

We were delighted to hear from the **Vice-President of the Chamber, Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto**, as well as **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco** and **EU Director at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Mr. Olaf Henricksson-Bell**. They all highlighted the vital role that the Chamber plays in facilitating, advancing and maintaining trade and business between Spain and the UK.



Mr. Olaf Henricksson-Bell, EU Director at the FCDO, during his speech at the New Year's Drinks Reception.

The Chamber would like to extend a special thanks to our Patron, Iberia, for collaborating with us on this event.



This event kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Mahou San Miguel and Raventós Codornú.





(From left) Mr. Olaf Henriksen-Bell, EU Director at the FCDO; Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber and H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the New Year's Drinks Reception.



Guests attending the New Year's Drinks Reception.



The Iberia team at the New Year's Drinks Reception.



Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, addressing guests at the New Year's Drinks Reception.



H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, speaking with guests at the New Year's Drinks Reception.



(From left) Ms. Raquel Barrera (Diversitas Institute); Ms. Alicia Pacho and Ms. Kate Walton (Spanish Chamber); and Mr. Marc Guitar (Brandlond) at the New Year's Drinks Reception.

PATRONS' CLUB EVENTS

Patrons' Club events are the Chamber's most exclusive and prestigious gatherings, offering our most valued Members a special opportunity to connect and network in an exceptional setting. These events are designed to build meaningful connections and celebrate the spirit of our Spanish-British community.

ANNUAL PATRONS' DINNER

Once again, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce hosted its **Annual Patrons' Dinner**, an exclusive event celebrating the dedication of our Patron companies, at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London.

The dinner, hosted by **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, is the most prestigious event in our Patrons' Club calendar. We were privileged to have our President, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, in attendance. His presence, alongside that of our esteemed Patrons, made the evening truly special. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our Patrons for their continued support and for joining us in making this occasion memorable.

Our Patrons represent **the strength of Spanish investment in the UK** and play a pivotal role in showcasing **the importance of Spain in this dynamic market**. The Patrons' Club continues to grow, not only in size but also in diversity, now **encompassing Spanish, British, and international** companies from a wide range of sectors, reflecting the global nature of our business network.



Official photo of representatives from Patron Members of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK.

For the Chamber, the loyalty and commitment of our Patrons are essential in fostering **valuable business relationships**, **inspiring** other companies, and **strengthening** the ties between our nations. Their contributions have been instrumental in driving **the growth of Spanish investment in the UK** over the past year.

The Chamber would like to extend a special thanks to our Patron, Natura Bissé, for collaborating with us on this event.

Natura Bissé
Barcelona

The drinks for this evening were kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Mahou San Miguel and Raventós Codorníu.



Guests toasting at the Annual Patrons' Dinner.



H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, addressing guests at the Annual Patrons' Dinner. Next to the Ambassador, (left) Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto (Banco Sabadell) and (right) Mr. Thierry d'Argent (Société Générale).



Ms. Aurora Rotes and Mr. Ricardo Fisas (Natura Bissé) at the Annual Patrons' Dinner.

ELECTION ANALYSIS: HOW WILL PIVOTAL ELECTIONS IMPACT THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE EU AND MEXICO?

For this event, the Spanish Chamber had the pleasure of collaborating with Patron Member **Signum Global Advisors** to host an exclusive event for Chamber Patrons and Benefactors. During the session, held in April, experts from **Signum Global Advisors** discussed **the possible outcomes and implications of the upcoming EU and Mexico elections**.

The discussions were led by **Mr. Nico FitzRoy, Senior UK/Europe Analyst and Partner at Signum**, who focused on the upcoming EU Parliament elections, and their potential impact on policy, and **Mr. Rafael Ch, Senior Analyst for Latin America and Emerging Markets at Signum**, who detailed the possible outcomes of the Mexican elections.

The Chamber would like to extend our warmest thanks to the Signum team for collaborating with us on this event, especially to the two speakers for sharing their expert insights, and to **Mr. Stefan Griffiths, Partner** at the firm, for moderating the discussion.



(From left) Mr. Nico Fitzroy and Mr. Stefan Griffiths speaking at the event.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE GALEÓN ANDALUCÍA

The Spanish Chamber invited its **Patron Members** to the inauguration of the **Galeón Andalucía**, which was docked at St. Katharine Docks in London. On this special occasion, our Patron Members had the **exclusive opportunity** to visit the ship on its very first day open to the public. This event was a unique chance to discover an extraordinary **replica of the legendary 17th-century Spanish galeón**, considered a floating museum, with exhibitions spread across five distinctive decks.

The Galeón Andalucía, that once sailed transoceanic routes between the 16th and 18th centuries, arrived in the British capital as part of a tour across **Europe's most important ports**. These majestic vessels historically connected Spain with the **Americas and Asia**, playing a crucial role in **global trade and cultural exchange**.

Built in 2010 by the Fundación Nao Victoria, the Galeón Andalucía is a faithful reconstruction of the legendary ships that once braved the oceans. With its impressive wooden structure and intricate rigging, the vessel offers visitors a chance to step back in time and experience the grandeur of Spain's maritime history.

Among other institutional representatives, **Mr. José María Robles Fraga, Minister Counsellor for Cultural and Scientific Affairs in London**, and **Mr. Víctor Ugarte Farrerons, Director of Instituto Cervantes London**, were in attendance.



The Galeón Andalucía, docked at St. Katharine Docks in London.

**We empower organisations
to embrace sustainable
and authentic *Equity, Diversity*
and *Inclusion* practices.**

Our roadmap for transformation

Establishing impactful and meaningful EDI strategies that turn words into action.

Developing cultures where diversity and inclusion thrive on innovation.

Incorporating proactive and sustainable inclusion practices.

Why It Matters?

Embracing diversity and inclusion drives success.

Diversity fuels creativity and innovation.

In a world in constant change, stakeholders demand authenticity, transparency and smarter policies.

**Let us help you
lead the change**

Raquel Barrera
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MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFASTS

Our popular **Business Breakfast** series returned for another great series this year, held in partnership with Chamber Patron **Meliá Hotels International**. The **Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK** proudly hosted **three editions** of this event in 2024, featuring esteemed guest speakers. Attendees gained valuable insights directly from **policymakers and diplomatic representatives**, with each session followed by an opportunity to ask questions and network over a **traditional Spanish breakfast**.

26TH FEBRUARY

MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFAST WITH MR. ANDY BURNHAM, MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER

The first Meliá Business Breakfast of the year proudly welcomed **Mr. Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester**, as the guest speaker. Hosted in the stunning **Meliá White House Hotel**, the Mayor discussed his visions for Greater Manchester and the UK, as well as UK-Spain bilateral relations from 2024.

He provided insight into **the opportunities on offer in the region**, and the ways he is working to develop the city to be a leading destination for foreign investment in the UK. The Mayor then highlighted **the existing relationship between Manchester and Spain**, as well as Manchester's economic growth and commitment to renewable energy.

This event was a great opportunity for **guests from different sectors** to come together and explore the exciting possibilities in the North West region. The talk was followed by a Q&A session, after which attendees had the opportunity to network over a traditional Spanish breakfast.



Mr. Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, during his speech at the Meliá Business Breakfast.

21ST MARCH

MELIÁ BUSINESS LUNCH WITH THE SHADOW MINISTERS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND EUROPE

The Spanish Chamber hosted a lunchtime edition of this hugely popular series to welcome two special guests:

Mr. Gareth Thomas MP, Shadow Minister for International Trade, and Mr. Stephen Doughty MP, Shadow Minister for Europe, North America, and UK Overseas Territories.

As Shadow Ministers from the Official Opposition, Mr. Gareth Thomas MP and Mr. Stephen Doughty MP spoke of their **respective policy areas** and the **trade policies** that the Labour Party was seeking to implement.

Following the speeches, guests had the opportunity to ask questions, and the audience engaged in a very active Q&A session with the Ministers. Guests then had the chance to network over a light **lunch**.



(From left) Mr. Stephen Doughty MP, Shadow Minister for Europe North America, and UK Overseas Territories; Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, and Mr. Gareth Thomas MP, Shadow Minister for International Trade, at the Meliá Business Lunch.



(From left) Mr. Antonio Casado (Spanish Embassy), Mr. Juan Pablo Pérez Royo and Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-Presidents of the Chamber, at the Meliá Business Lunch.

10TH DECEMBER

MELIÁ BUSINESS BREAKFAST WITH MS. CATHERINE WEST MP, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE FCDO

In December, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce was delighted to welcome **Ms. Catherine West MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the FCDO**, to the final edition of our popular Meliá Business Breakfast series in 2024.

As **the first representative from the new Labour government** to participate in this event, Ms. West offered insightful perspectives on critical issues, including the **EU-UK relations**, as well as **the role of the Chambers of Commerce** in fostering bilateral trade, among other topics. After the Minister's talk, attendees participated in a Q&A session, followed by a Spanish breakfast and an opportunity to **network**.



(From left) Ms. Catherine West MP (FCDO) and Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber at the Meliá Business Breakfast.

Mr. Nicola Scarparo (Ontario) at the Meliá Business Breakfast with Ms. Catherine West MP.



Guests at the Meliá Business Lunch with the Shadow Ministers for International Trade & Europe.





Guests enjoying lunch at the Meliá Business Lunch with the Shadow Ministers for International Trade & Europe.



(From left) Ms. Raquel Barrera (Diversitas Institute) and Ms. Justyna Lawniczak (European Commission) at the Meliá Business Breakfast with Ms. Catherine West MP.

The **Spanish Chamber of Commerce** in the UK is dedicated to promoting **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace**, and it is with this in mind that it is included in its Strategic Plan as one of its core objectives. Throughout 2024 we have proudly collaborated with a variety of companies from different sectors to host events such as *Proud of our Pride*, *Women Who Inspire: Finance*, and the *International Women's Day networking reception*.

II INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY NETWORKING RECEPTION

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, in partnership with the Embassy of Spain, welcomed Chamber Members to the second edition of our **International Women's Day networking reception**. The event was held at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence as part of our **EDI Events Series**.

The Chamber welcomed **Ms. Raquel Barrera, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) expert and Board Member of the Chamber**, who presented the "Women's Voice report". This report included the results of the Women of the Spanish Chamber survey, the key takeaways and the next initiatives that will be carried out by the Chamber.

The Chamber's EDI commitment is reflected in a range of initiatives, including the annual International Women's Day networking reception. The event's primary goal is to **provide a platform for the female talent within Chamber companies** to share their views and experiences. It promotes social and corporate discussions on the benefits of gender equality while raising awareness of the challenges and opportunities women face in a business environment.

This event was kindly sponsored by Chamber Patron Ibérica, as well as Benefactors Mahou San Miguel and Raventós Codorníu.



Official photo of guest speakers. (From left) Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber; Ms. Amy Clemitshaw (FCDO), and Ms. Raquel Barrera, Board Member of the Chamber.



Ms. Raquel Barrera, Board Member of the Chamber, during her speech at the International Women's Day networking reception.

WOMEN WHO INSPIRE: FINANCE

The third edition of our **Women Who Inspire** event series focused on the **financial sector**, following successful events in 2022 and 2023 that spotlighted the journalism and construction sectors.

This event featured a panel discussion with accomplished women who have reached the **highest ranks of management in financial services companies** in Spain and the UK: **Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto**, UK Country Manager at Banco Sabadell, **Ms. Silvia Holgado Gomez**, Head of Commercial Banking at BBVA, **Ms. Gabriela Martínez de Aragón**, CaixaBank UK Country Manager, **Ms. Louisa Murray**, Chief Sales Officer at Railsr, and **Ms. Elsa Pekmez Atan**, Director of Customer Strategy at Santander UK.

The panel's moderator was **Ms. Carla Vargas Puccio**, **International Communications Director at Roman PR Consultants**. The event was held at the Spanish Embassy, where guests were welcomed by **H.E. the Spanish Ambassador to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, and **Ms. Cristina Ginés**, **Director of Business Development Europe at Sener and Board Member of the Chamber**.

Afterwards, attendees had the chance to network while enjoying drinks and canapés with other Members of the Chamber and representatives from major companies in the financial sector in the UK.

This event was kindly sponsored by Chamber Benefactors Bodegare and Mahou San Miguel.



Official photo of guest speakers with H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco (middle). (From left) Ms. Raquel Barrera (Diversitas Institute), Ms. Louisa Murray (Railsr), Ms. Cristina Ginés, Board Member of the Chamber, Ms. Carla Vargas Puccio (Roman PR Consultants), Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto (Sabadell), Ms. Silvia Holgado Gómez (BBVA), Ms. Gabriela Martínez de Aragón, (CaixaBank) and Ms. Elsa Pekmez Atan (Santander UK).



Guest speakers at the Women Who Inspire: Finance event.



Guests attending the Women Who Inspire: Finance event.

II PROUD OF OUR PRIDE

For the second consecutive year, the Spanish Chamber in the UK partnered with the **Spanish Embassy in the UK and Chamber Patron, Deutsche Bank**, to host the II Proud of Our Pride event at the Spanish Ambassador's Residence in London.

Events like this highlight **Spain's unwavering commitment to LGBTQIA+ rights, strengthening its ties with the United Kingdom** in a field where Spain continues to lead the way. They serve as a powerful platform to unite the Spanish-British business community around this important cause, fostering dialogue and providing an opportunity to engage with insightful speakers.

The Chamber was delighted to welcome **Ms. Raquel Barrera, EDI expert and Board Member of the Chamber**, as well as **Ms. Marie-Jeanne Deverdun, COO of the Corporate Bank and Investment Bank, and Head of Client Strategy and Relationship Management at Chamber Patron Deutsche Bank**, who opened the event. **H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, then introduced the evening's keynote speaker, **the Rt. Hon. Lord Smith of Finsbury, Member of the House of Lords**.

Following this, **an expert panel of professionals** offered invaluable insights and inspiring narratives. The speakers were **Mr. Julio Bruno**, author and founder and CEO of Chamber Patron BeBeMe; **Ms. Monika Dissen**, Global Head of Internal Corporate Governance Principles and Board, Branch, and Committee Governance at Deutsche Bank; and **Mr. Arjun Nagarkatti**, Head of the Private Bank - Central Europe and the US at Deutsche Bank, and Chairman of Deutsche Bank Switzerland. The panel was expertly moderated by **Mr. Marco Greco**, Director of Development at Open for Business (OFB).

The event concluded with music provided by **Lío Group**, creating an atmosphere of celebration and solidarity. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for our Members to connect, share experiences, and celebrate diversity within our community.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to our Patron, Deutsche Bank, for collaborating with us on this event.

Deutsche Bank 

This event was kindly sponsored by Lío London and Suntory Global Spirits.

Lío
LONDON

SUNTORY
GLOBAL SPIRITS



Guest speakers at the Proud of our Pride event. (From left) Mr. Marco Greco (Open for Business), Mr. Julio Bruno (BeBeMe) Ms. Monika Dissen (Deutsche Bank) and Mr. Arjun Nagarkatti (Deutsche Bank).



Official photo of guest speakers with the Ambassador of Spain to the UK. (From left) Ms. Marie-Jeanne Deverdun (Deutsche Bank), H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco; The Rt. Hon. Lord Smith of Finsbury, Member of the House of Lords, and Ms. Raquel Barrera, Board Member of the Chamber.

Guests attending the Proud of our Pride event 2024.



Guests attending the Proud of our Pride event 2024.





Attendees of the Proud of our Pride Event 2024.



Guests at the Proud of our Pride Event 2024.

22ND FEBRUARY, 12TH SEPTEMBER & 6TH NOVEMBER ELEVATOR PITCH | SPEED NETWORKING EVENTS

In 2024, the Chamber organised **three new editions of our highly successful Elevator Pitch speed networking event**. The events took place at the Chamber's London office,, welcoming representatives of different companies from a variety of sectors.

Each guest must give **a brief presentation about their company** to representatives from various industries. These sessions are an opportunity for participants to present their **services, engage with other professionals** and build **a strong network** both in Spain and the UK. This was followed by an engaging Q&A session, and a light breakfast.



Ms. Mandeep Khroud (Irwin Mitchell) speaking at the Elevator Pitch! speed networking event.



Guests networking at the Elevator Pitch! speed networking event.



Attendees participating in the Elevator Pitch! speed networking event.

13TH NOVEMBER

SEMINAR | FRAUD, IDENTITY & AI: NAVIGATING RISKS AND UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES

In November, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, in collaboration with Patron Member **Veridas**, hosted an **in-person seminar** at the Chamber's office in London. Led by **Veridas' Regional Director Ms. Sabrina Gross**, the session explored **how leading industries are using artificial intelligence** to protect against sophisticated cyberattacks, enhance customer trust and drive secure digital transformation.

This session provided **vital insights on how to stay ahead of the curve**, ensuring both business growth and resilience in the face of an evolving threat landscape. This **interactive seminar** covered theory and practice on identity fraud, including major threats like impersonation and deepfakes, and shared best practices in prevention and detection using AI and biometrics. It also assessed readiness to detect AI-generated deepfakes and explored how fraud risks can be transformed into opportunities to build trust and drive business growth.

The seminar concluded with an insightful Q&A, followed by a light networking breakfast.



Ms. Sabrina Gross (Veridas) during her presentation at the seminar.

WORKSHOPTS AND SEMINARS

27TH FEBRUARY, 26TH APRIL, 6TH SEPTEMBER & 29TH NOVEMBER WORKSHOP | MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SPANISH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

These **online workshops**, hosted by the Chamber's Team, offered new and prospective Members **an opportunity to explore the benefits of joining our association** and to understand the **services available** at each membership tier.

In these interactive sessions, **guests were invited to share information about their business and commercial needs**, allowing the Chamber Team to provide **tailored guidance**. Non-Members learned how a Chamber membership could benefit them, while existing Members received guidance on how to maximise the advantages of theirs.



28TH NOVEMBER WORKSHOP | BRIDGING BORDERS: UK-SPAIN BUSINESS & IMMIGRATION

In November, the Chamber collaborated with immigration experts from **Irwin Mitchell** to host an in-person seminar in London. Led by **Ms. Mandeep Khroud, Partner at Irwin Mitchell**, and **Mr. Hugo Bittencourt De Oliveira, Solicitor at Irwin Mitchell**, the session offered valuable insights into the **UK's transition to online immigration status** and the government's increased focus on **Sponsor Licence compliance**.

The workshop also addressed the latest developments regarding **Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETAs)** and eVisas, along with best practices for ensuring adherence to Sponsorship Licence duties.



Mr. Hugo Bittencourt De Oliveira (Irwin Mitchell) during his talk at the workshop.

WEBINARS

14TH FEBRUARY

WEBINAR | CYBERSECURITY THREATS AND THEIR IMPACT ON BUSINESS. HOW TO PROTECT OUR COMPANIES?

For our first webinar of the year, the Chamber was delighted to collaborate with Member **Stratesys**, a digital hub connecting Europe and America, to discuss **cybersecurity threats** and transforming and securing businesses' digital operations.

The webinar provided **insights on main cyberattacks for 2023 and trends for 2024**, understanding cyber security threats, the **potential impact** on business (operational, regulatory, reputational, financial, among others) and how to protect your company.



20TH FEBRUARY

WEBINAR | HOW UK AND SPANISH MULTINATIONALS CAN OPTIMISE TRANSFER PRICING AND INTERNATIONAL TAX OUTCOMES IN A TURBULENT GLOBAL ECONOMY

For this session, Chamber Member **PKF Littlejohn**, UK and Spain tax specialists, discussed **topical cross-border tax issues** and **potential solutions** for UK and Spanish **multinationals**.

The webinar focused on **transfer pricing and international tax outcomes**, and the Chamber was pleased to be joined by **Mr. Farhan Azeem**, **Mr. Jesús González Ruiz-Jarabo**, and **Ms. Catherine Heyes**, who shared valuable insights on achieving optimal results in a global economy.



26TH FEBRUARY

WEBINAR | NAVIGATING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES POST-BREXIT: INSIGHTS FROM UK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS AND TRADE

The **Council of Foreign Chambers of Commerce (CFCC)**, of which the Spanish Chamber is a proud Member, collaborated with the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the UK to deliver an exclusive webinar on the topic of **Navigating Business Opportunities post-Brexit**.

This session featured distinguished speakers **Mr. Kevin Hollinrake MP**, **Parliamentary Under Secretary of State** (Minister for Enterprise, Markets, and Small Business), along with his **Senior Private Secretary**, **Mr. Guy Brindle**.

The webinar offered significant **insights into handling business possibilities and challenges in the UK market** amidst the changing **post-Brexit trade and commerce landscape**, as well as first-hand knowledge of **market trends**, governmental **policies** and **commercial strategies** for success in the ever-changing business environment.



WEBINARS

21ST MAY

WEBINAR | HIRING STAFF FROM OVERSEAS

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK teamed up with **Member Immigration Advice Service (IAS)** to deliver a highly requested webinar on the topic of **hiring staff from overseas**.

The Chamber was joined by a **UK corporate immigration expert** who delved into how UK companies can navigate the complexities of hiring staff from abroad. With the UK market presenting increasing challenges in recruitment, it is imperative for companies to **explore options for sourcing skilled talent from beyond the UK borders**.

This webinar addressed the **post-pandemic and post-Brexit landscape**, shedding light on the **difficulties faced by UK employers** and offering **solutions** to overcome recruitment struggles.



20TH JUNE

WEBINAR | HOW TO MEASURE AND INTERPRET YOUR ORGANISATION'S GENDER PAY GAP

This workshop, held in collaboration with Chamber Member **Diversitas Institute**, focused on how organisations can better understand and address their gender pay gap.

Led by **Ms. Raquel Barrera, EDI expert and founder of Diversitas Institute**, the session provided participants with key insights into the **distinction between the gender pay gap and unequal pay**, the **factors** contributing to pay disparities, and practical tools for **measuring** and interpreting their own data. Strategies for **narrowing the gender pay gap** were also discussed, emphasising the benefits of **fostering a fairer workplace**. Following the session, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions directly to the speaker.



10TH JULY

WEBINAR | WHAT IS NET ZERO AND WHY DOES IT MATTER? HOW DOES EU SUSTAINABILITY LEGISLATION SHAPE CLIMATE ACTION?

This session, held in collaboration with **Chamber Benefactor Irwin Mitchell**, explored how companies can lead in the fight against climate change.

In this webinar, the Chamber welcomed **Mr. Keith Davidson, Environment Partner at Irwin Mitchell and corporate climate action expert**, who shared valuable insights on topics such as mandatory and voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reporting, ESG performance, and the responsibilities of professional service providers.

Following the session, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions directly to the speaker.



WEBINARS

5TH NOVEMBER WEBINAR | POST-AUTUMN BUDGET ANALYSIS

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK partnered with **Member Blick Rothenberg** to deliver a webinar which explored **the key outcomes of the UK's Autumn Budget announcement**.

Leading the in-depth discussion were experts from Blick Rothenberg, **Mr. Alan Tam, Partner**, and **Mr. Alejandro Abad Algarra, Corporate Tax Senior Manager**. They explored how the announced **measures** would impact both individuals and businesses, provided insights to help navigate the **proposed changes** as well as **how to plan effectively for the future**.

After the presentation, attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with the speakers during a Q&A session.



✔ Editing ✔ Translation ✔ Writing ✔ Language consultation

Olivia Segal

English Language Specialist

🇪🇸 | Helping Spanish- and Catalan-speaking organisations connect with their target audiences in English
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III ANNUAL BUSINESS COCKTAIL IN MADRID

In September, the third edition of our **Annual Spanish-British Business Cocktail Reception** was celebrated **at the historic Palacio de Santoña in Madrid**. Our Members and friends were warmly invited to this reception held in the stunning 19th-century palace, which hosted **a special evening of networking amongst the broader Spanish-British business community**. Attendees included both Member and non-Member companies, as well as representatives from other Chambers of Commerce across Spain and relevant institutions.

The **Chamber's Vice-President, Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto**, emphasised the importance of our network as an essential tool for creating opportunities for our Members both in UK and Spain during her welcoming remarks.

During her keynote speech, **Ms. Alicia Varela, International Trade and Investment Director at the Spanish Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Business**, highlighted the cooperation between institutions in both countries to facilitate trade. Finally, our special guest speaker, **His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, Mr. Chris Barton CMG**, emphasised Spain's role as a key ally of the UK within the EU and underscored the importance of strengthening trade relations and cooperation.



Official photo of Ms. Alicia Varela, International Trade and Investment Director at the Spanish Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Business; HM Trade Commissioner, Mr. Chris Barton CMG and Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, at the III Annual Spanish-British Business Cocktail.

OTHER EVENTS

The evening proved to be a successful gathering of all the key institutions that work together to assist in the development of commerce and investment between both nations.

This event was held in collaboration with our Patron Iberdrola.



This reception was kindly sponsored by our Patron Bodegas Marqués de Cáceres, Benefactor Mahou San Miguel, and Member COVAP.



Mr. João Sebastião (Department for Business and Trade) at the III Annual Spanish-British Business Cocktail.



Guests attending the III Annual Spanish-British Business Cocktail.



Guests attending the III Annual Spanish-British Business Cocktail.



NEW MEMBERS' DRINKS RECEPTION

This year, the **New Members' Drinks Reception** was kindly hosted by Chamber Patron **BiBo Shoreditch** at their contemporary Spanish restaurant.

Attendees were introduced to the Vice-President of the Chamber, **Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto**, along with **Members of the Executive Board, Chamber staff**, and fellow **new Members**. Guests enjoyed drinks and a selection of delicious tapas while networking in a relaxed setting.

Chamber Benefactors Bodegare and Mahou San Miguel kindly sponsored this event.

Bodegare

m MAHOU
SANMIGUEL



Guests attending the New Members' Drinks Reception.

Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, speaking with guests at the New Members' Drinks Reception.



Mr. Óscar Casero (Bodegare) at the New Members' Drinks Reception.



CHARITY 10K RUN FOR THE CRIS CANCER FOUNDATION

In September, the **Chamber's Team**, along with over 60 **Members** and **friends**, proudly participated in the **Gateley Global Chase the Sun 10k race** at Battersea Park. The Chamber's goal was to raise funds to support the **CRIS Cancer Foundation**, an international non-profit organisation committed to investing in cutting-edge research to improve treatments for cancer patients.

Thanks to the commitment of our Members and friends, we surpassed our £5,000 fundraising goal for the CRIS Cancer Foundation. We would like to extend a special **thank you** to all the runners who took part in the race, including the Chamber's staff and various Member companies.

Participating Members: BBVA, CaixaBank, Dragados, Gateley, IDOM, Language Matters, Lopez Landa Interiors, Banco Sabadell, Uría Menéndez and Quabbala Abogados y Economistas, as well as the Spanish Embassy in London, Economic and Commercial Office of Spain in the UK and the Club de Ejecutivas Españolas.



Participants in the Gateley Global Chase the Sun 10k race.



(From left) Ms. Andrea Minnsart, Ms. Alicia Pacho González and Ms. Rebecca Wall from the Spanish Chamber with Ms. Marta Brime (Cris Cancer Foundation) and her daughter.

THE FOREIGN CHAMBERS SERIES – CONNECTING YOU WITH THE WORLD FROM THE UK: SPAIN AND BRAZIL

The Spanish Chamber is committed to **expanding its reach and connecting its Members** with the world from the UK through its innovative Foreign Chambers Series. In April, the **Foreign Chambers Series** kicked off by focusing on **Brazil**, a nation rapidly increasing its **global prominence** and serving as a **key economic and commercial partner** for both the UK and Spain.

In collaboration with the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in the UK, the Chamber hosted a series of **high-level panel discussions featuring prominent representatives from various sectors across the three countries**. We were delighted to welcome **Mr. Eduardo Puebla**, Head of Investment Banking Europe at Itaú BBA; **Mr. Pedro Barreiro**, Banking & Expansion Regional Latam Lead at Wise; **Mr. José Ivars-López**, Country Manager at Ria Money Transfer; **Ms. Hazel Gulliver**, Director of Engagement at ScottishPower; **Mr. Javier San Basilio Pardo**, Deputy General Manager and Chief Underwriting Officer at MAPFRE RE, and **Mr. Daniel Feliu Vera**, Retail & Business Banking COO and Customer Innovation at Santander UK, as the panel speakers at this event.



(From left) H.E. the Ambassador of Brazil to the UK, Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota and H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco, at the Foreign Chamber Series event.

The panel discussions were moderated by **Mr. Simon Davies, Chairman of the Financial Services Committee of the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain**, and **Ms. Daniella Carneiro, Chair of the Energy and Decarbonisation Committee of the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain**.

The event was attended by **H.E. The Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, and **H.E. the Ambassador of Brazil to the UK, Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota**.

Chamber Benefactors Bodegare, Mahou San Miguel and Raventós Codorníu generously sponsored this event.



Speakers at the Foreign Chamber Series event.

TECHNICAL ROUNDTABLE WITH THE UK DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS AND TRADE | LONDON



Attendees at the technical roundtable with the UK Department of Business and Trade (DBT) in London.

At the beginning of September, the Chamber hosted a **technical roundtable in collaboration with the UK Department for Business and Trade in London**, focusing on **short- and medium-term business mobility**.

The meeting brought together **several companies**, offering a platform to share their experiences and insights with representatives from the government. Discussions centered **on the challenges businesses face when moving staff between the UK and EU countries**, highlighting practical approaches and strategies employed by the participating companies.

The Chamber would like to thank the representatives of the Department for Business and Trade for their interest in the perspectives of Spanish companies, as well as our Members who took part in the roundtable: Blick Rothenberg, COVAP, Del Canto Chambers, Economic and Commercial Office of Spain in the UK, Evelyn Partners, IDOM, Mevalco Fine Foods, Moore Kingston Smith, and TYPASA.

TECHNICAL ROUNDTABLE WITH THE UK DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS AND TRADE | MADRID

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom organised a second **technical roundtable with the UK Department for Business and Trade in Madrid**. This event provided **Spanish companies** with a valuable opportunity to **share their experiences directly with the UK government**.

The insights gathered during the session helped the Department for Business and Trade gain **a clearer understanding of the issues regarding the current arrangements between the UK and EU**, as well as identify potential **areas for improvement**.

The Chamber would like to extend our thanks to the representatives of the Department for Business and Trade, the British Embassy in Madrid, and the participating companies: Cámara de Comercio e Industria de Madrid, Deloitte, EBF Consulting (European Business Finance), Iberdrola, Iberia, Indra, INECO, Banco Sabadell, and ZADAL.



(From left) Mr. Taslim Ahmad (DBT), Mr. Oliver Nicholls (DBT), Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, Ms. Rosalind Tickle (DBT) and Ms. Paola Lugari (British Embassy in Madrid) at the Technical Roundtable in Madrid.



INTERNATIONAL TASTING: WINE, SPIRITS & BEER 2024

This year, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK participated in the **14th edition** of the highly popular **International Wine, Spirits, and Beer Tasting & Networking Event**, in collaboration with the **Council of Foreign Chambers of Commerce in the UK (CFCC)**.

The event, a highlight of the Chamber's annual calendar, brought together members from **nine international Chambers of Commerce in the UK** for an evening of global flavours at the historic Drapers' Hall.

Attendees had the opportunity to sample **a curated selection of wines, spirits, and beers** from Argentina, Belgium, Luxembourg, Canada, the Caribbean, France, Italy, South Africa, Spain, and Sweden, making it a memorable and engaging networking experience.

Attendees at the International Tasting: Wine, Spirits & Beer 2024 event.



SPANISH STAR CHEFS AND THE INGREDIENTS THAT INSPIRE THEM



Guests hearing from Chef Nacho Manzano at the inauguration of the “Spanish Star Chefs and the Ingredients that Inspire them” course.

At the end of April, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK supported the inauguration of the “**Spanish Star Chefs and the Ingredients that Inspire Them**” course, which was hosted by H.E. the **Ambassador of Spain to the UK, Mr. José Pascual Marco**, together with the **Instituto Cervantes London**.

The event, held at the Embassy of Spain in London, featured a conversation between renowned **chef Mr. Nacho Manzano** and **food hunter Ms. Annette Abstoss**, where they explored Mr. Manzano’s favourite Spanish ingredients.

This marked the launch of a **six-session course**, each dedicated to a different Spanish region, celebrating the finest ingredients in Spanish cuisine. Curated by Ms. Annette Abstoss, the course also showcased the talents of distinguished chefs from across Spain.

TWO LANDS, ONE PASSION: SPAIN, THE UK AND FÚTBOL

LALIGA



Mr. Keegan Pierce, International Relations Director at LALIGA, who moderated this event.



Mr. Gaizka Mendieta, former footballer, speaking at the event.

This edition of “Two Lands, One Passion: Spain, the UK and Fútbol” took place in Manchester in May, organised by Chamber Patron LALIGA and the Instituto Cervantes.

Chamber Members attended a special event featuring a conversation between acclaimed journalist **Mr. Guillem Balagué** and former footballers **Ms. Toni Duggan**, who played for Everton, Manchester City, Barcelona and Atlético Madrid, and **Mr. Gaizka Mendieta**, known for his career with teams like Valencia, FC Barcelona, Lazio, and Middlesbrough, as well as being a two-time UEFA Champions League finalist. Together, they shared **their life stories and experiences in the world of football**, highlighting the connections between the United Kingdom and Spain.

Following the event, guests had the opportunity to network with other attendees whilst enjoying a glass of Spanish wine.

IE EXECUTIVE BREAKFAST

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK partnered with **IE University** to host an exclusive **Executive Breakfast** featuring **Dr. Lee Newman, Dean of IE University's Business School**, as the special guest speaker. The event focused on **Positive Leadership and Behavioural Fitness**.

Dr. Newman discussed creating conditions for **optimal performance**, the impact of workplace positivity and negativity, and strategies for turning workplace turbulence into opportunities for growth. He also emphasised **behavioral fitness** as a means to achieve lasting competitive advantage.

The talk was followed by a Q&A session, and attendees had the chance to network with fellow executives over breakfast before the discussion.



Guests attending the IE Executive Breakfast.

BARRAFINA DINNER



In August, **Chamber Benefactor Barrafina** hosted an exceptional evening celebrating the very best of **Spanish cuisine**. Organised in collaboration with the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom, the event brought together **professionals** from various **industries** to explore and enjoy the richness of **Spanish gastronomy**.

Guests experienced an evening of professional networking, complemented by expertly prepared traditional Spanish dishes, including croquetas, *banderillas*, Iberian chorizo, and sea bass. **Ms. Anna Watkins, Managing Director of Barrafina**, shared the inspiration behind the restaurant, highlighting **her deep connection to Spain**, particularly to the beautiful island of Mallorca, which dates back to her childhood.



Ms. Anna Watkins, Managing Director of Barrafina, speaking to guests at the Barrafina Dinner.

CAMINO PARTY



Guests attending the Camino Party.

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK was delighted to attend **Camino Restaurants** in October for a memorable evening at the inauguration of their **Aperitivo Bar in King's Cross**.

The event brought together **professionals** from **various companies** to enjoy a selection of delicious pintxos, paired with Spanish beers, wines, and sherries. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to making the evening unforgettable, and a special thanks to Camino and their outstanding team for hosting the Chamber's Team and fellow Chamber Members.



OMETER



VI BAROMETER ON THE CLIMATE AND LOOK FOR SPANISH INVESTMENT IN THE UK

Tuesday 31 November 2024, 08:15h
Spanish Ambassador's Residence, 1, 24 Belgrave Square / London SW1X 8DA

ISTRATION AND BREAKFAST
STITUTIONAL WELCOME

Pascual Marco, Ambassador of Spain to the United Kingdom
Barrachina, President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK
SH ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
Douglas Alexander MP, Minister for
ERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS
López Senovilla, Minister for
INDINGS OF THE
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HM'S GOVERNMENT



Foreign Trade Department

FOREIGN TRADE SERVICES

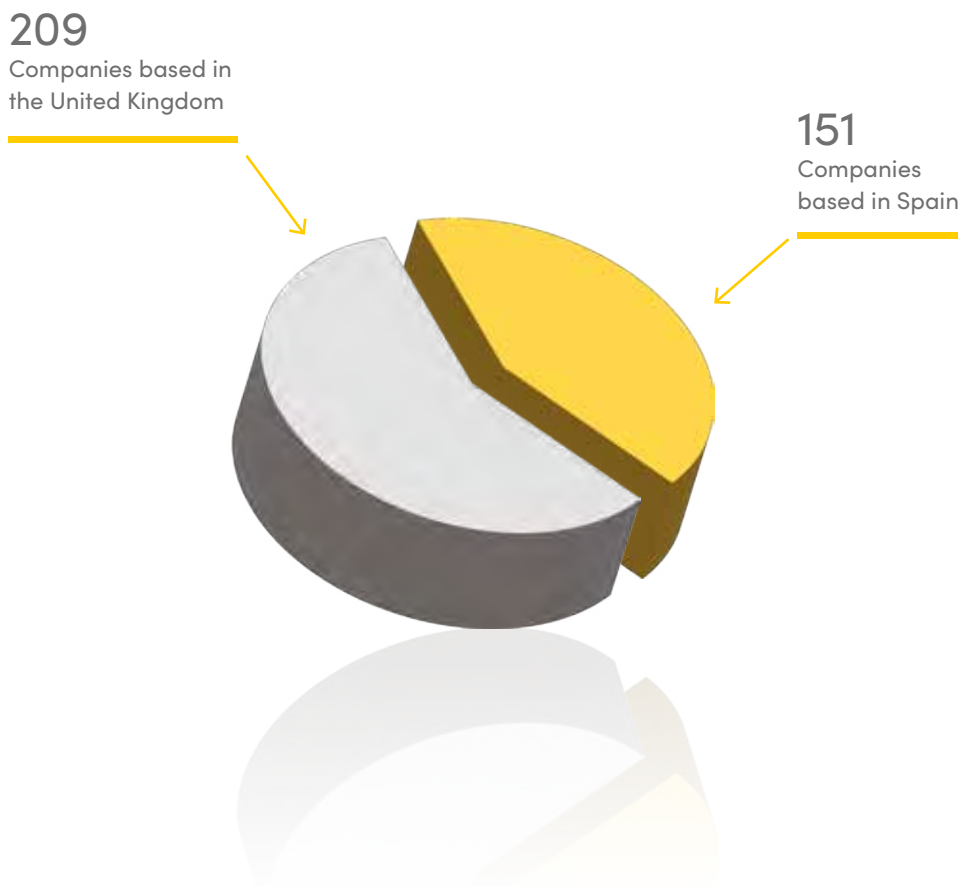
The Chamber's Foreign Trade Department offers **expert advice and tailored support** to our Members, while also providing a range of business services to both Members and non-Members. Our Team plays a pivotal role in **strengthening the commercial and economic ties between Spain and the UK.**

Our staff addresses business enquiries and provides guidance by facilitating **connections** with our Member companies. Additionally, we manage a dedicated business line focused on delivering **tailored projects** for both Spanish and British companies. These include **services** such as organising business agendas, trade missions, and other initiatives. Our Team also provides key information related to market regulations, industry evolution, and relevant trends.

Moreover, our Team actively participates in numerous **events** and regularly attends **trade fairs** across various sectors. The following section outlines the services delivered to clients, as well as the events and conferences that the Foreign Trade Department has attended or organised.

SUPPORT FROM OUR FOREIGN TRADE DEPARTMENT

Our Foreign Trade Department handles enquiries from both Spanish and British companies. These include requests from both Member and non-Member companies seeking services, requesting contacts within our network, or other specific questions. In 2024, our Team successfully managed a total of 360 enquiries.



PROJECTS CARRIED OUT FOR SPANISH COMPANIES

In 2024, the Foreign Trade Department was commissioned by four regional Chambers of Commerce to carry out projects with different Spanish companies, in addition to collaborating with two enterprises that contacted the Chamber directly.

In total, our Team prepared 3 lists of companies, 9 commercial agendas, 2 inverse trade missions, 1 trade mission and 1 commercial presentation. This allowed Spanish companies to expand their business in the British market.

A CORUÑA

4 projects | Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de A Coruña

ASTURIAS

4 projects | Asturex

BURGOS

1 project

MADRID

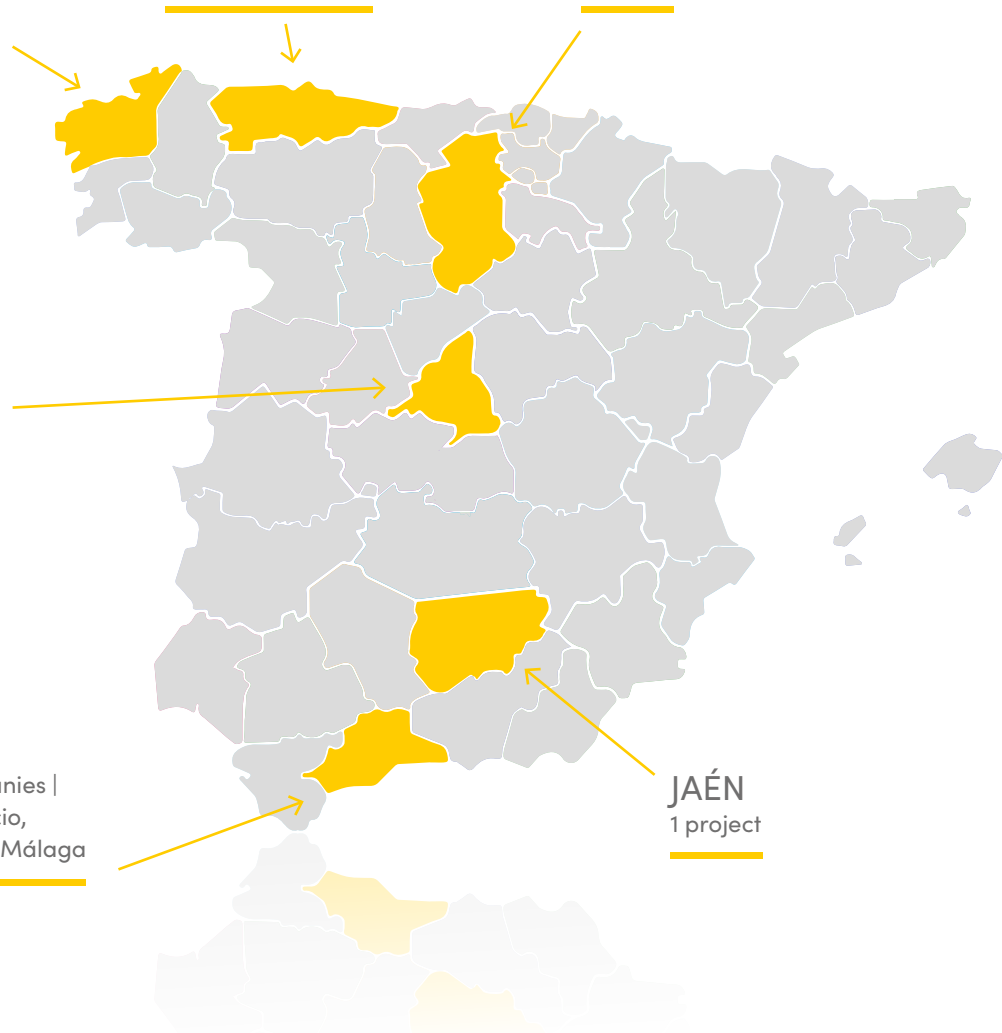
4 projects | Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Servicios de Madrid

MÁLAGA

1 project involving 7 companies | Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Málaga

JAÉN

1 project



PROJECTS CARRIED OUT FOR BRITISH COMPANIES

This year, our Foreign Trade Department carried out projects for British companies looking to enter the Spanish market. This demonstrates our **Team's expertise in bilateral trade**, enabling them to deliver tailored solutions for companies looking to enter either the Spanish or the British market.

THE CHAMBER'S PROJECTS IN 2024

The following section highlights **specific projects** carried out by the Chamber's Foreign Trade Department in 2024.

INVERSE TRADE MISSION AND COMMERCIAL AGENDA FOR CÁMARA OFICIAL DE COMERCIO, INDUSTRIA Y SERVICIOS DE MADRID | MADRID 7 ESTRELLAS

The **Madrid Chamber of Commerce** launched a project aimed at promoting Madrid as a shopping destination for luxury retail tourism. To support this initiative, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK facilitated a **Inverse Trade Mission** and curated a tailored **Commercial Agenda**, connecting the Madrid Chamber with British tour operators. The goal was to secure five key professionals from the target profile to participate in activities designed to showcase Madrid as a "7-star destination".

Our role involved reaching out to an initial list of travel agency contacts that our Team sourced. Through persistent follow-ups and targeted phone calls, we identified decision-makers, proposed meeting opportunities, and gathered valuable feedback regarding the relevance of the client's services.

Mr. Miguel Bufalá (Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Servicios de Madrid) with our Head of Foreign Trade, Mr. Miguel Flavián, at the Chamber's office in London.



“

The international Chambers' in-depth knowledge of the foreign market, both in terms of business networks and cultural insights, is essential for regional Chambers like ours. Moreover, the flexibility and adaptability of these organisations allow us to deliver results to end-user companies promptly and effectively.

Mr. Miguel Bufalá, Coordinator of the International Department, Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Servicios de Madrid.

COMMERCIAL AGENDA FOR ARTLINE

ArtLine sought to expand its client base in the United Kingdom, specifically targeting companies in need of marketing and online training services. To support this, our Foreign Trade Department developed and executed a tailored **Commercial Agenda** designed to connect ArtLine with potential clients in the UK.

We followed our usual methodology: first, we identified target companies that matched ArtLine's service offerings. Then, we reached out to them via email and phone calls to arrange meetings and discuss how ArtLine's marketing and online training solutions could benefit their businesses. By connecting ArtLine with key prospects, we created valuable **opportunities to showcase their expertise in the UK market**.

“

The Spanish Chamber has provided us with a more realistic, approachable, and sector-specific perspective for the field we are targeting. Having professionals who understand the idiosyncrasies of the country and our potential clients has greatly facilitated our entry into this market.

Mr. Santiago López-Urrutia Lorente, Partner-Director (ArtLine).

COMMERCIAL AGENDA FOR EXPORT PLAYERS

Export Players aimed to achieve two main objectives: securing group tickets for a Premier League match and establishing connections with private schools in the United Kingdom to organise sports trips.

Our Team developed a tailored **Commercial Agenda** to support these goals. First, we identified the target companies and key profiles within those organisations. We then introduced the Spanish company via email, explaining the purpose of the contact and the goal of arranging a meeting.

Follow-up emails were sent to gauge interest and confirm the details for scheduling the meetings. These meetings were set to take place via virtually, with final confirmation on the date, time, and platform for each. We also prepared a final report outlining the outcomes and next steps.

“

The Chamber has added enormous value to our project, especially in terms of market insight. They have done work that, for small SMEs like ours, would have meant hiring an additional person. In addition to market insight, the fact that contacts are made through an official body like the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK adds a level of credibility and trust that is very important.

Mr. Adrián López, Export Players CEO.

TRADE INITIATIVES FOR CÁMARA OFICIAL DE COMERCIO, INDUSTRIA Y NAVEGACIÓN DE LA PROVINCIA DE MÁLAGA

The **Málaga Chamber of Commerce**, in collaboration with the Diputación de Málaga and Sabor a Málaga, is promoting the region's food products in international markets. The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK supported their efforts by **connecting** them with British importers and potential clients through a **tasting event held at our premises**.

Eight companies from Málaga showcased a selection of gourmet foods and had the opportunity to engage with nearly 30 professionals from the premium food sector in the United Kingdom. Our Team also organised two training sessions: one featured a presentation on accessing the British market, highlighting what importers and British consumers value, as well as providing updates on regulatory changes following Brexit. Additionally, **Mr. Marc Guitart**, from Chamber Member **Brandlond**, delivered a masterclass on adapting brands to appeal to UK consumers.

The programme also included a two-day retail tour, enabling Málaga professionals to visit premium and mainstream grocers to observe firsthand how gourmet food is marketed and sold in the United Kingdom.



Attendees taking part in the retail tour.

“

For us, having a network of organisations abroad is essential in terms of being able to rely on a trusted body at the destination. Being Chambers of Commerce, we share many similarities in the way we work and maintain close contact.

Mr. Iván Cortés, International Department (Cámara Oficial de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de la Provincia de Málaga).



Products on display at the Trade Initiatives event organised by the Spanish Chamber.



Guests participating in the Trade Initiatives event.

TRADE EVENTS

Our Foreign Trade Department actively engages in a wide range of **events** to **foster collaboration and promote business opportunities** between **Spain** and the **UK**. By both attending and organising such initiatives, we strengthen **connections**, showcase **expertise** across various sectors, and create valuable **opportunities** for our Members to expand their reach and explore new markets.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY WORKSHOP IN ARAGÓN | JANUARY

Our Head of Foreign Trade **presented** at the British Agricultural Machinery Market and provided **information** about the Chamber's services.

JORNADA CÁMARA DE ZARAGOZA | MAY

This event provided an opportunity to **introduce** the Chamber's services to companies in Zaragoza. Our Team highlighted **the evolution of the British market and the business opportunities** available in the UK for companies in the region.

Our Head of Foreign Trade, Mr. Miguel Flavián.



SABOR A MÁLAGA EVENT IN LONDON | MAY

The Chamber's goal was to **connect exporters from Málaga with British importers** and provide **insights** into the UK market. Our Team advised small businesses and artisanal producers on how to enter the UK market. The event covered key topics such as regulations, current trends, and an assessment of each participant's potential for success in this market.

BANCO SANTANDER EVENT | JULY

Our Team raised awareness of the Chamber among horticultural companies in **Múrcia** and **Alicante**. Our Head of Foreign Trade, Mr. Miguel Flavián, delivered a presentation on recent legislative updates and provided an in-depth analysis of the agrifood sector.

SANTANDER NAVIGATOR WEBINAR | JUNE

Our Team discussed the bilateral trade relationship and highlighted opportunities for British companies to do business in Spain. The webinar showcased the Chamber's expertise in **supporting internationalisation strategies** and identifying **potential investments**.



Ms. Candela Rodríguez (Foreign Trade Assistant) and Mr. Miguel Flavián (Head of Foreign Trade) participating in the Santander Navigator Webinar.

JORNADA CAMBRA DE BARCELONA | OCTOBER

The Foreign Trade Department explored **business opportunities** for Spanish companies in the UK market. This event was an opportunity to showcase the Chamber's services in investment guidance and international strategy support.



Mr. Kieran Naidoo (Foreign Trade Assistant) speaking with Ms. Desirée Odulaja (Foreign Trade Manager) at the presentation of the VI Barometer.

FAIRS

Our Foreign Trade Department regularly attends **industry fairs**, providing a valuable opportunity to stay **informed** about the latest **trends** and **developments** in various sectors. This year, our Team attended **15 different industry fairs**, covering **key sectors** such as food and beverage, health and wellness, fashion, kitchen and bathroom design, e-commerce, packaging solutions, and construction.

These events allow us to assess the **current state of specific industries**, enabling us to gauge **market trends** and identify **potential areas** for growth. Additionally, fairs are an ideal platform to discover **new companies** and connect with **key players** in important sectors.

Attending these fairs also allows us to actively **seek business opportunities for Spanish companies** by identifying potential partners, suppliers, and clients in international markets. It helps us support Spanish businesses in expanding their presence and establishing a strong presence abroad.

Ms. Raquel Barrera (Board Member of the Chamber) and Mr. Miguel Flavián (Head of Foreign Trade) attending the TourSpain event at the World Travel Market in London.





Ms. Candela Rodríguez and Mr. Ignacio Perinat (Foreign Trade Assistants) attending the International Food Exhibition.



Ms. Andrea Minssart, Ms. Candela Rodríguez and Mr. Miguel Flavián (Spanish Chamber) attending Imbibe Live 2024 with one of the exhibitors.



Mr. Miguel Flavián (Spanish Chamber) with Ms. Encina Barragán (Chamber Member The Ojos Foods).



Ms. Desirée Odulaya (Foreign Trade Manager) and Mr. Miguel Flavián (Head of Foreign Trade) at Exploring European Markets for Growth, organised by the Grow London Global programme.



The Chamber's Network

THE CHAMBER'S NETWORK

The **Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK** is an official institution recognised by the **Spanish Government**, playing a **key role** in fostering trade and business relations between **Spain and the UK**. As a vital **bridge** between **companies and public institutions** in both countries, the Chamber is at the center of bilateral relations, facilitating collaboration and dialogue. While operating **independently**, the Chamber maintains **strong relationships** with both the Spanish and UK governments, the Spanish Embassy, and other official institutions, ensuring effective communication and support for businesses in both markets.

The Chamber is committed to supporting businesses in their international expansion by **creating opportunities and overcoming barriers** for companies seeking to enter either the UK or Spanish markets. We achieve this through a combination of **networking, tailored advice, and services** that promote bilateral trade and investment. Our extensive **network** of industry contacts and partnerships enables us to connect businesses with the right local partners, clients, and suppliers, ensuring a smooth and successful market entry.

In addition, the Chamber **collaborates** regularly with other Chambers of Commerce, both within Spain and internationally, to strengthen our reach and amplify our impact. These collaborations, combined with our strong **relationships** with key **institutional** representatives and stakeholders, allow us to provide invaluable resources, insights, and connections to our Members. As a result, the Chamber serves as a trusted partner for businesses looking to expand and thrive in global markets.



Ms. Mónica Fernández-Mejuto, Vice-President of the Chamber, addressing the audience at the I Premio PYME award ceremony.

ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL SPANISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN EUROPE, AFRICA, ASIA, AND OCEANIA (FEDECOM)

The Association of Official Spanish Chambers of Commerce in Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania (**FEDECOM**), is an international association, established in 1996, which comprises the 23 official Spanish Chambers of Commerce located throughout those four continents.

FEDECOM was created with the aim of **promoting the development of the economic, commercial and cultural relations between Spain and the continents where it has a presence**, acting as an interlocutor with public and private Spanish institutions, as well as international organisations.

The governing body of the entity is its board of directors, which is currently chaired by **Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, who is the President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom.**

The three Vice-Presidents representing Europe, Africa and Middle East, and Asia and Oceania are:

Mr. Pablo López-Álvarez, President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Belgium and Luxembourg; **Mr. Guillermo Cobelo**, President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Arab Emirates; and **Ms. Marisa Flores**, President of the Official Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong.



FULL LIST OF FEDECOM MEMBERS:

Full list of the FEDECOM members:

EUROPE

- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Alemania
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Bélgica y Luxemburgo
- Cámara de Comercio e Industria Luso-Española
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en el Reino Unido
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Malta
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Francia
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Italia
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en la República Checa



ASIA AND OCEANIA

- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Corea
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Australia
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Japón
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Hong Kong
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio e Industria en Filipinas
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Singapur
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en India
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Tailandia



AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Emiratos Árabes Unidos
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Casablanca
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Marruecos-Tánger
- Cámara Oficial de Comercio de España en Senegal
- Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Sudáfrica
- Cámara Hispano-Tunecina de Comercio e Industria
- Cámara de Comercio de España en Catar



COUNCIL OF FOREIGN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (CFCC)



The **Council of Foreign Chambers of Commerce (CFCC)** is a UK-based association representing foreign Chambers of Commerce. The Spanish Chamber is a **board member** of the CFCC, and **Mr. Igor Urrea, the Secretary General of the Chamber**, serves as its **Treasurer**. With 41 Members, the CFCC's primary mission is to **foster trade and investment between their respective countries and the UK**.

The Council convenes quarterly to **advance and safeguard the business interests** of its members, **strengthen relationships** within the network, and **provide a platform** for exchanging ideas, addressing shared challenges, and sharing best practices. Ultimately, the CFCC aims to support **a network of over 10,000 Member companies** while helping each Chamber expand its connections and opportunities for growth.

COUNCIL OF IBEROAMERICAN CHAMBERS IN THE UK (CIAC)



The **CIAC** is an independent business-to-business (B2B) network **comprising UK-based Chambers of Commerce** renowned for their specialised knowledge and extensive connections in **Latin America and Spain**.

The Spanish Chamber is a member of the CIAC **board**.

The association represents a core membership of Spanish and Latin American bilateral Chambers of Commerce, collectively encompassing **a network of over 600 businesses operating across Latin America, Spain and the UK**.

The primary goal of the CIAC is to **actively promote trade, investment, and multilateral collaboration** between the UK, Spain, and Latin America.

CIAC members convene regularly throughout the year to:

- Address **shared concerns** affecting their respective business communities and develop collaborative initiatives.
- **Exchange knowledge and expertise**, while organising and participating in joint events.
- **Strengthen and grow their collective network** of business contacts across the UK and Latin America.
- **Provide mutual support and cross-promotion** for each member Chamber within the CIAC network.

PATRONS



Mr. Julio Bruno (BeBeMe) with Ms. Ida Gutiérrez de Escofet (Radisson Hotels) at the 2024 Annual Patrons' Dinner.



Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, President of the Chamber, with Mr. Jorge Alcover (Goldman Sachs) at the 2024 Annual Patrons' Dinner.



PATRON MEMBER INTERVIEW | SACYR

A global leader in infrastructure development, Chamber Patron **Sacyr** has over 20 years of experience managing concessions from design and construction to financing and maintenance. Ranked 6th globally for transport concessions, the company focuses on greenfield projects in regions with mature regulatory frameworks, including Europe, Latin America, and North America. We spoke with **Mr. Alejandro Mendoza, UK, Ireland and Sweden Country Manager at Sacyr** to gain insight into Sacyr's operations in the UK and how becoming a Patron has benefited the company.



Mr. Alejandro Mendoza, UK, Ireland and Sweden Country Manager at Sacyr.

Q: Could you provide a brief overview of Sacyr, including your key projects and presence in the UK construction market?

A: Ranked third among infrastructure developers globally (Public Works Financing, 2024), Sacyr has been present in the UK infrastructure market since 2015. With offices in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, and Belfast, Sacyr is a trusted and respected partner in the national infrastructure market.

Sacyr Group's strategy is geared towards the creation of long-term value, in particular through private-public collaboration (P3) schemes in the United Kingdom and North America. According to this strategy, Sacyr has grounded remarkable interest to actively participate in infrastructure opportunities in the UK as a priority market for investment.

In the last 5 years, Sacyr has successfully developed several infrastructure projects in the UK, such as the Edinburgh Tram (York Place to Newhaven), benefiting 16 million passengers yearly. Likewise, the new Velindre Cancer Centre (Cardiff), our first concession in the UK, is a state-of-the-art healing facility that advocates to become the greenest hospital in the country. Recognised with the European Healthcare Design Award (Future Healthcare Design category) for its sustainable approach, the new Velindre will serve over 1.7 million people with the latest technology for the treatment of cancer.

In Northern Ireland, Sacyr holds a comprehensive experience including the A6 toll road (a strategic route connecting Belfast to Londonderry), the University of Belfast and the Belfast Grand Central Station, the new multimodal Transport Hub project for enhancing national and international mobility in Northern Ireland.

Under a "better infrastructure, better lives" basis, Sacyr's transportation and social infrastructure projects in the UK currently serve several million people. Sacyr UK and Ireland has been recognised in the Sunday Times Best Places to Work Award for its continued efforts to create a vibrant and positive work environment for over 100 employees in Britain.

Q: What key values define Sacyr, and how are they integrated into your daily operations?

A: We are a company capable of generating value for our employees, customers, partners and shareholders. At Sacyr we focus on public-private partnership projects with revenue-risk mitigation mechanisms, located in countries with stable legal and economic frameworks. Our integrated team allows us to seamlessly manage all aspects of a P3 project lifecycle including its design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance. Vertical integration is our key to success. Sacyr's vertical integration creates value throughout the P3 asset's lifecycle. The seamless integration of Sacyr Concesiones with Sacyr Engineering and Infrastructures, our construction business line, provides a significant complicity and mutual understanding and the optimal allocation of risks during both the construction and operational phases.

Sacyr is involved in the entire process, from project development through operations. This streamlined and vertical integration ensures cost-effectiveness and successful on-time delivery.

During the construction phase, our development of innovative and cutting-edge technical solutions in the construction and design phase adds value both in the short-term (during the construction stage), and in the long-term, (during the operational stage).

As far as Operations is concerned, our vertical integration is key: in concert with Sacyr's Construction and Operation divisions, there is a significant reduction of risk during the whole project's lifecycle. Value creation at each business cycle stage is one of our main competitive advantages.

Q: In a rapidly changing global construction landscape, how does Sacyr maintain its competitive edge, particularly in terms of innovation and sustainability?

A: At Sacyr, innovation is the driver for value creation. At present, 66% of our innovation projects are sustainability focused.

As experienced innovators, we push the envelope with innovative design, cutting-edge management and solid commitment to enhance the best value for the clients and communities that we serve. We always look ahead to what needs might exist in the future. This has been the secret for us to consistently create the outcomes necessary for success.

In a constantly changing world, we understand how our projects impact people's lives. We create holistic environments by incorporating the best safety, user experience and sustainability standards in the business. At Sacyr, we truly believe in liveable infrastructure.

Our purpose is to increase efficiency, make the right decisions, stand out in the market and identify new business models to generate a positive social, economic and environmental impact for all stakeholders.

Q: As a valued Patron of the Chamber, what specific benefits have you experienced from collaborating with us, particularly in relation to the construction industry, and what additional advantages do you hope to gain?

A: As a Patron of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, Sacyr has significantly benefited from its wide resources, gaining access to high-profile networking events with contractors, clients, and key stakeholders in the UK and Spanish construction sectors.

The opportunity to connect with other Patrons, industry leaders, and government representatives constitutes an excellent way to foster partnerships and collaborations, paving the way for future alliances and upcoming projects. Furthermore, the market insights and knowledge shared by the Spanish Chamber of Commerce have provided us with regular updates on industry trends, regulatory changes, and opportunities in both the UK and Spanish markets. These insights help the market players to understand past, present, and future market trends, to anticipate and adapt strategies as needed.

In a highly competitive market like the UK, the promotion and visibility offered by the Chamber to its Patrons—enhanced through their publications, events, and online platforms—are invaluable. These initiatives provide Sacyr with the opportunity to showcase our projects, expertise, and achievements in the construction field to a targeted audience.

As a result of this fruitful collaboration, we not only aim to continue benefiting from these resources but also to strengthen our presence in the UK. Additionally, we aspire to act as a representative of our interests in discussions with policymakers and stakeholders in both the UK and Spain, sharing our expertise and perspectives to benefit other companies within the sector.

Q: What key opportunities and challenges has the construction industry encountered in the British market, and how have these influenced Sacyr's operations and strategic decisions?

A: After a slowdown in 2023, the latest reports indicate that the UK [construction] market is expected to experience a significant growth in the coming years, with forecasts predicting an 8% expansion in 2024. This anticipated economic recovery presents new business opportunities for Sacyr, which, as part of its strategic plan for the country, aims to strengthen its presence through additional DBOF/PPP projects. This opportunity appears to be actively pursued by some public sector clients, such as the NHS or Transport Scotland, and private companies in the water sector.

Moreover, there is a strong push for sustainability, with over 80% of industry players prioritising decarbonisation. This reflects a shift towards greener construction practices, driven by regulatory pressures and the industry's role in reducing carbon emissions, which is fostering the development of more environmentally friendly projects. Sacyr's sustainable experience, reflected in projects such as the Edinburgh Tram, an environmentally friendly mode of transport, or the new Velindre Cancer Centre, which is set to become the greenest hospital in the UK, presents a tremendous opportunity. Not only does this allow Sacyr to continue gaining valuable experience, but it also benefits both the public and private sectors, which will leverage the expertise Sacyr has accumulated over the years.

Perhaps the most notable challenges Sacyr has faced in recent years have been the increasing labour shortage and the high rising costs due to Brexit, COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine. The construction sector continues to face high material and labour costs, which strain profit margins. In response, Sacyr has become more cautious when selecting business opportunities and has limited the types of contracts it tenders for. The company has moved away from fixed-price contracts and prioritising contracts including inflation-mitigation mechanisms, as outlined in contracts like the NEC, and with a fair risk allocation.

Similarly, the UK economy has encountered periods of uncertainty due to inflation, interest rates, and the cost-of-living crisis, all of which have contributed to delays and cancellations of projects that Sacyr had been closely monitoring for years. This has impacted Sacyr's operations and strategic decisions, prompting the company to redirect its pipeline towards new opportunities arising from the government's reallocation of infrastructure budgets. Simultaneously, Sacyr has efficiently reallocated resources, aligning them with the new timelines caused by delays, while maintaining strong engagement with clients and contractors to stay informed about progress and future procurement strategy decisions.



PATRON MEMBER INTERVIEW | CITI COMMERCIAL BANK

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce was delighted to welcome **Citi Commercial Bank** as a **Patron** in 2024.

Citi provides global banking solutions tailored to companies seeking rapid growth and international expansion. With its vast global network, comprehensive solutions, and industry expertise, **Citi supports businesses across diverse industries and at most stages of growth**. We interviewed **Mr. James Morris, Head of UK Citi Commercial Bank**, to learn more about Citi's operations in the UK and their experience as a Patron of the Chamber.



Mr. James Morris, Head of
UK Citi Commercial Bank.

Q: Could you provide a brief overview of Citi and its presence in the UK market?

A: Companies these days are either born global or are going global at record speed. Macro factors are constantly reshaping the market and business environment, and clients now expect their banks to offer them a seamless service that emphasises connectivity, efficiency, speed and ease of use. Citi is uniquely positioned for companies that are looking to go global and navigate the complexities of today's world.

Through our vast global network and our on-the-ground expertise, Citi can connect the dots, anticipate change and empathise with the needs of our clients in ways that other banks simply cannot. Our global network has nearly \$5 trillion of financial flows each day across borders, currencies and asset classes; the bank has more than 19,000 institutional clients, including 85% of Fortune 500 companies and we serve our clients in more than 180 countries worldwide.

The UK is critical to Citi's global network and operations; in the UK we provide global financial services across all of our products – Markets, Banking, Services and Wealth – to clients based in the UK but also those looking to enter the market. Citi's presence in the UK is sizable and is again crucial to Citi's overall operations as we employ around 14,000 people across the UK, with around 10,000 in London, over 4,000 in Belfast, and hundreds more in Edinburgh.

As for Citi's Commercial Bank in the UK, we provide global banking solutions to mid-sized companies in the UK that are looking to grow rapidly and expand internationally and non-UK companies that are looking to come into this promising, burgeoning market.

Q: As a new Patron of the Chamber, what benefits do you hope to gain from our collaboration?

A: We're very much looking forward to working with the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK and furthering the existing deep ties between the UK and Spain as European economic powers and key markets in the region.

Both the UK and Spain are hubs for innovation in Western Europe with many digital and technology companies founded in both markets, as well as consistent trade taking place across industries.

By being a Patron of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, we hope we're able to enrich the existing activity across mid-sized corporates in both countries and empower, through a simplified and efficient banking experience, Spanish companies that are seeking to do business in the UK.

Q: What key values define Citi, and how are these values integrated into your daily operations and customer interactions?

A: Citi's mission is to serve as a trusted banking partner to our clients by responsibly providing financial services that enable growth and economic progress. We have set expectations for how we must act to bring our mission to life. These expectations are at the heart of our Leadership Principles – we take ownership, we deliver with pride, and we succeed together.

Taking Ownership, Delivering with Pride and Succeeding Together are our values and each and every business activity or client interaction is defined by these values. Whether that's in relation to safeguarding assets, lending money, making payments or accessing the capital markets on behalf of our clients – every action we take as a bank, we strive to embody these values and embrace the opportunities that come to us and our clients.

Q: What opportunities and challenges has the banking industry encountered in the British market, and how have these impacted Citi's operations?

A: London is, and will continue to be, a financial services powerhouse – it is a gateway to the world and a key player on the global stage. The UK remains one of the largest economies globally – ranking sixth in terms of GDP – and yet it is the third largest country in terms of total equity capital raised on its markets, so far, in 2024 according to the London Stock Exchange Group. The UK's deep markets and global connectivity sets it apart and companies are able to access pockets of investment, funding and liquidity that are perhaps shallower than other markets in this part of the world. The strong rule of law and the large pool of talent in the UK also makes it a very attractive market to expand into in terms of presence and operations. Its important gateway status also feeds into it being a good market to start with in Europe to test the viability of a product or service.

With every market there are opportunities and there are challenges – the goal in the UK is to ensure the market remains globally competitive and that it continues to attract and retain and enhance or augment the flow of capital and business activity. As with other markets worldwide, growth slowed in 2024, given the macro-economic backdrop, however, this is increasingly more positive for 2025 and we're cautiously optimistic about the outlook for business, trade and deal activity for the medium term as economic indicators begin to improve. We find that both domestic and international clients value political stability, which we now have post the UK General Election. The political stability fosters greater planning ability and should allow for additional investment into long-term opportunities and projects.

Q: How does Citi differentiate itself from competitors in the UK banking sector, and what specific strategies do you employ to enhance your market position?

A: As a leading global bank, we continue to play an important role for clients amidst unprecedented global challenges. Our global network and mindset uniquely position us to help clients, customers and communities around the world. With a physical presence in over 90 markets, no other bank has the vantage point we do or the ability to connect dots in the same way. Our fundamental globality is a unique strength in the UK. The UK is a springboard for us to utilise our global network, insights and capabilities to drive opportunities for clients.

Q: What is Citi's vision for the future, and what specific strategies or actions are you implementing to achieve it?

A: Our vision is for Citi to be the preeminent banking partner for institutions with cross-border needs, a global leader in wealth management and a valued personal bank in our home market of the United States. We are achieving this through a clear strategy and structure that align with:

- Being truly global – leveraging the insights and local knowledge to benefit our clients everywhere they are and everywhere they want to be.
- Simplification and a digital approach – we know that our clients, no matter who they are – a mid-sized corporate, a large corporate, a wealth client – operate in a digital world, so do we, and it is important that our business model is streamlined and that we evolve with the trends that shape how people want to bank: simply and efficiently.
- Increasing connectivity – our five core businesses – Banking, Wealth, Markets, US Personal Banking and Services – are working more closely than ever to deliver the full range of our expertise and services to our clients and customers.
- Emphasising and investing in our people – Citi is filled with talented individuals bringing their diverse experiences and perspectives to work. Together, we are building a high-performing culture that's passionate about our clients' success.

For Citi's Commercial Bank, our vision is to simplify global banking for mid-sized corporates and connect those clients to the same products and solutions that a large corporate would expect of a bank like Citi, while also doing this across our entire global network. We want to support mid-sized corporates, in the UK and globally, with improving their finances – their trade and working capital, capital or fund raising, maximising returns on the cash and investments, innovating to solve for their financing needs to support their growth. By doing so we support this client segment with achieving efficiencies, resilience in their treasury or financial operations and processes.

This vision for Citi Commercial Bank is achieved through a concerted global strategy and execution of that strategy that focuses on an enhanced client experience, client-centric solutioning and banking as well as select strategic scaling of the commercial bank's presence globally.

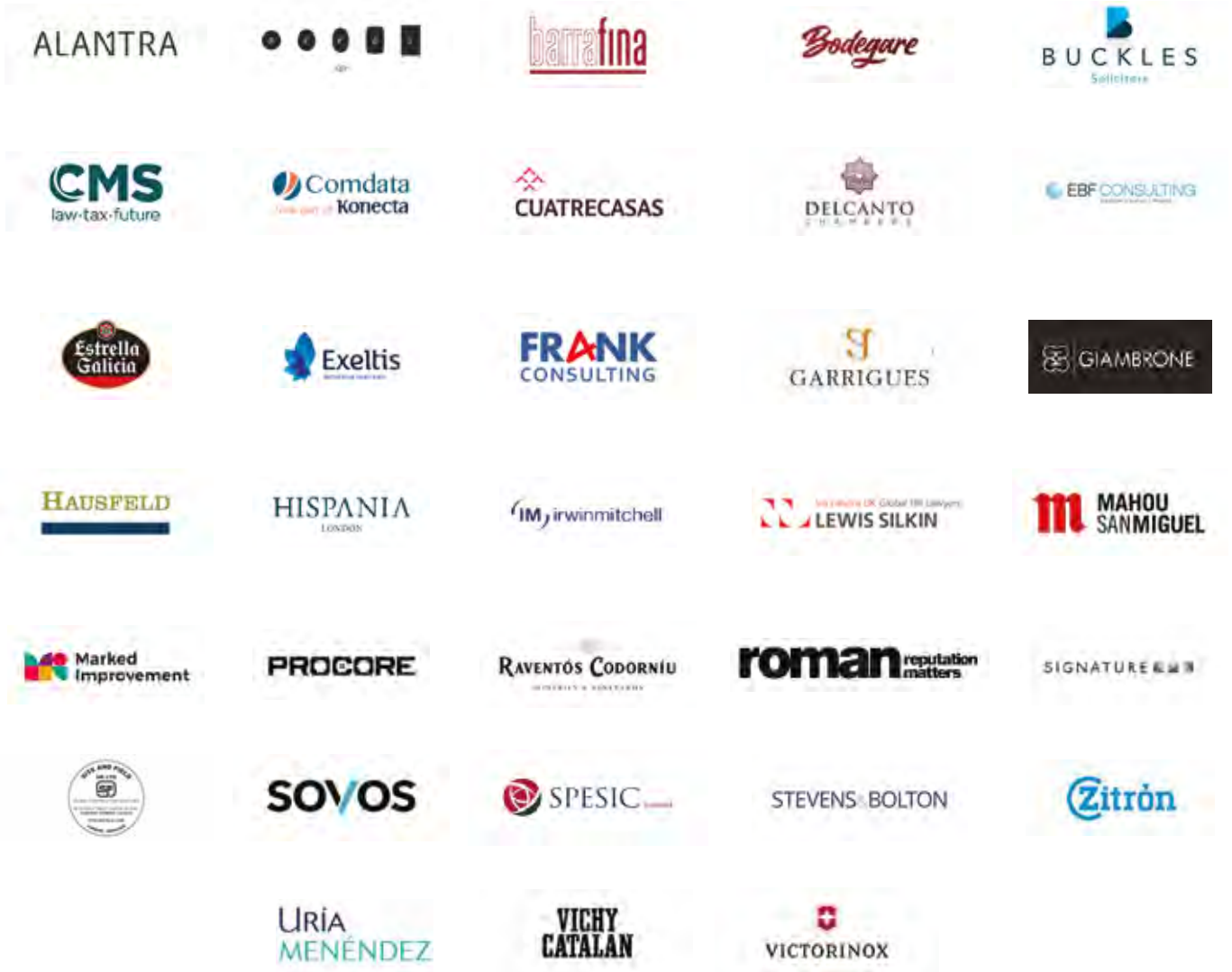
Q: What advice would you offer to Spanish companies seeking to enter the British market, particularly in relation to banking and financial services?

A: The British market continues to be an exciting place to do business. It is full of opportunity and drives innovation across all commercial sectors. It is a global talent hot spot and forges together diverse cultures and working practices in an almost unique environment. It is underpinned by a strong legal system and is always forward thinking from a commercial standpoint. The banking sector is highly advanced and welcoming to new companies and the various players work together effectively to support commercial clients as they go on their growth journey.

I would advise companies to ask for help and assistance when establishing their roots; and to treat their financial services providers as strategic advisers. Britain needs overseas investment to continue to flourish and the nation is well regarded on the international stage so this long-standing level of experience should be re-assuring for Spanish businesses as they look to expand.



BENEFACTORS



Member Directory

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RIBE SALAT BROKER

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Business Consultancy

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EC4N 7BE
vnotaries.co.uk
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EC2N 1DW
whitecase.com
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ZADAL ABOGADOS Y ASESORES TRIBUTARIOS

Alfonso XII, 22 4º I
MADRID
28014
zadal.es/
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Square, First Floor - Office 65
LONDON
W1J 6ER
ems-dmc.co.uk/
Leisure and Event Management

FESTELÓN

64 Southwark Bridge Road
LONDON
SE1 0AS
festivalspanishtheatre.co.uk/
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Calle Torrelaguna, 60
MADRID
28043
laliga.es
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drivenassociates.com/
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lansons.com/
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wearelotus.co.uk/
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LONDON
N8 9PH
qualityofspain.co.uk/
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SE1 2JE
romanrm.com
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E18 2EG
londongild.co.uk/
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londonpropertypartners.uk.com
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pontegadea.com
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languagematters.co.uk/
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08960
www.apfutura.com
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cellnextelecom.com/en/
Telecommunications/IT

DELONIA SOFTWARE

Avenida de Manteras 10,
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MADRID
28050
delonia.co.uk
Telecommunications/IT

EVENTSCASE

WeWork, 199 Bishopsgate
LONDON
EC2M 3TY
eventscase.com
Telecommunications/IT

FERMAX ELECTRÓNICA

Avda. Tres Cruces, 133
VALENCIA
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fermax.com
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indracompany.com
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ibuconsulting.com/
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paradox-partners.com
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BORMUJOS- SEVILLA
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safecomputing.es/en
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telefonica.com
Telecommunications/IT

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Unit 11, Hill Street Industrial Estate
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televes.com
Telecommunications/IT

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52 Grosvenor Gardens
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SW1W 0AU
veridas.com/en/
Telecommunications/IT

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LONDON
E14 5AB
xeridia.com
Telecommunications/IT

PAPI TRÁNSITOS

Polígono Industrial de las Atalayas
Calle del Rublo R-61
ALICANTE
03114
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Transport/Vehicles/Logistics

TRANSPORT/VEHICLES/LOGISTICS

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Peonías 12, 1ª Planta
MADRID
28042
aena-aeropuertos.es
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Volkswagen Group UK Ltd
Yeomans Drive
MILTON KEYNES
MK14 5AN
seat.co.uk/
Transport/Vehicles/Logistics

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New Harbour Road South
POOLE
BH15 4AJ
brittanyferriesfreight.com
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12 Avenida 29-22, Zona 5
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ejcleaningservices.co.uk
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HU9 5PB
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Waterside (Americas 2A), PO BOX 365
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Spanish Chamber
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