

# The Patronat Catalunya Món



Patronat  
CatalunyaMón

## **Catalonia in the World**

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Catalonia's privileged location between Europe and the Mediterranean has made Catalan soil a crossroads for the exchange of ideas and people which over the years has shaped our country's unique personality and our explicit desire to reach out and interact beyond our borders.

Over time, Catalonia has earned the recognition of its neighbouring countries and become a known entity in faraway countries, turning into a major player on the international political, economic, social and cultural scene. A vast number of Catalans living abroad have unquestionably contributed to projecting Catalonia's image beyond its borders.

The Catalan model reflects an enterprising, innovative, open, integrative society that is committed to a fairer, more socially conscious world with growing international outreach.

Its own history, language and cultural, political and legal traditions have shaped the personality of both the country and its people. Catalonia has its own governing institution, the Generalitat de Catalunya.

## The legal personality of the Patronat

The Patronat Catalunya Mòn was founded as the revamped version of the Patronat Català Pro Europa, once the latter's goals had been met and the success of its model as a representative consortium of civil, economic, university and territorial society of Catalonia was validated. It is still a consortium with its own legal personality that is made up of the following institutions and entities, which are its patrons:

- The Generalitat de Catalunya;
- The town halls and provincial councils of Barcelona, Girona, Lleida and Tarragona;
- The Catalan Association of Municipalities and the Federation of Municipalities of Catalonia;
- The following universities: Abat Oliba University, Autonomous University of Barcelona, University of Barcelona, University of Girona, International University of Catalonia, University of Lleida, Open University of Catalonia, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Pompeu Fabra University, Ramon Llull University, Rovira i Virgili University and the University of Vic;
- ESADE Business School;
- IESE Business School;
- The following savings and loans (*caixes*): Barcelona, Catalunya, Girona, Laietana, Manlleu, Manresa, Penedès, Sabadell, Tarragona and Terrassa;
- The Chambers of Commerce of Barcelona, Girona, Lleida, Manresa, Palamós, Reus, Sabadell, Sant Feliu de Guíxols, Tarragona, Tàrraga, Terrassa, Tortosa and Valls.

## The Patronat's mission

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In our globalised, interdependent world, internationalisation is the key to Catalonia's social and economic development.

In view of this challenge, it is both an opportunity and a need for Catalonia to strengthen its presence abroad. The Patronat Catalunya Món plays a strategic role in achieving this goal.

The Patronat's mission, then, is to promote the internationalisation of Catalan society by providing support to both public and private bodies. One of the **Patronat's most important activities is the support it lends to the Regional Ministry of External Affairs and Cooperation, a Catalan governmental body in charge of action abroad** with which the Patronat is legally linked. The Secretary General of the Patronat, who is also the Vice Minister for External Affairs and Cooperation of the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya, aims to seek the maximum synergies and foster mutual understanding and efforts.

## The functions of the Patronat

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By following the guidelines set by the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya yet remaining faithful to its patrons, the Patronat carries out the mission of contributing to promoting the internationalisation of Catalan society through the following functions:

- **To advise the Catalan administrations**, as well as any other public or private entity in Catalonia, in an effort to help promote their internationalisation. To this end, the Patronat participates directly in the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya's external affairs via actions such as the External Action Plan of Catalonia.
- To set up **networks of key personalities** in projecting Catalonia around the world with whom the Patronat can promote exchanges, especially in the institutional, professional and cultural realms.
- To gather, process and **disseminate information** on areas of interest through specialised publications.
- To organise, promote and coordinate **courses, lectures and seminars**, awareness-raising campaigns and activities involving documentation, study and research in the realm of Catalonia's internationalisation.
- To promote the **training of specialists** in international studies and to award grants and funding to encourage the training of professionals who may be useful for Catalan society.
- To organise or participate in any **other activity**, in both Catalonia or abroad, that is within the Patronat's scope of action and of interest to its patrons or to Catalan society at large.

In all the previous functions, the Patronat particularly ensures that the **Catalonia brand** is promoted overseas by exporting the Catalan model to the rest of the world.

Furthermore, in order to ensure optimal interaction with society, it links its activities with those of other public or private entities in Catalonia.

Another of the Patronat's responsibilities is to pay **special attention on Catalonia as a whole** by working with the different institutions and economic and social stakeholders in all the Catalan regions. In order to conduct its activities in all the regions of Catalonia, the Patronat has offices in the cities of Girona, Lleida, Tarragona and Tortosa whose mission is to foster the international outreach of the different regions in conjunction with the most prominent local institutions and entities.

## The organisation of the Patronat

In order to carry out its assigned functions, the Patronat is organised as follows:

- **The Honorary President.** This is the President of the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya, the Honourable José Montilla i Aguilera.
- **The President of the Patronat.** This is the member of the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya who holds the competences in foreign affairs, currently the Vice President of the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya, the Honourable Josep-Lluís Carod-Rovira.
- **The Plenum.** This is the governing body of the Patronat. The Plenum is made up of representatives of its member institutions.
- **The Secretary General.** This person spearheads the Patronat's representation. The Secretary General of the Patronat is the honourable Roser Clavell i Soldevila, who is also the Vice Minister for External Affairs and Cooperation of the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya.
- **The Director.** The Director runs the internal organisation of the Patronat as delegated by the Secretary General, and when necessary stands in for the Secretary General. The Director of the Patronat is Josep Manuel Barberà i Úbeda.
- **The Consultative Council.** The Consultative Council is made up of personalities from either Catalonia or abroad with recognised prestige in the realms of economics, politics, international affairs or other areas of interest for the fulfilment of the Patronat's functions.

## The Barcelona headquarters and regional offices

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The headquarters of the Patronat is the Casa de les Punxes, an emblematic building that combines tradition and modernity, designed by architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch and built in 1905. This building is an icon in the city of Barcelona.

### **Barcelona**

Casa de les Punxes. Av. Diagonal, 418, 1r 2a. 08037  
Barcelona  
Tel.: +34 93 445 71 00 - Fax: +34 93 554 16 14  
info.pcm@gencat.cat

### **Lleida**

Carrer d'Anselm Clavé, 2, 6è. 25007 Lleida  
Tel.: +34 973 23 02 60 - Fax: +34 973 23 92 84  
info lleida.pcm@gencat.cat

### **Tarragona**

Rambla Nova, 118, 2n 1a. 43001 Tarragona  
Tel.: +34 977 24 59 58 - Fax: +34 977 22 84 34  
infotarragona.pcm@gencat.cat

### **Terres de l'Ebre**

Cervantes, 7. 43500 Tortosa  
Tel.: +34 977 44 38 08 - Fax: +34 977 22 84 34  
infoterresebre.pcm@gencat.cat

[www.patronatcatalunyamon.cat](http://www.patronatcatalunyamon.cat)



Av. Diagonal, 418, 1r 2a  
08037 Barcelona  
Tel.: +34 93 4457100  
Fax: +34 93 5541614

Anselm Clavé, 2, 6è  
25007 Lleida  
Tel.: +34 973 230260  
Fax: +34 973 239284

Rambla Nova, 118, 2n 1a  
43001 Tarragona  
Tel.: +34 977 245958  
Fax: +34 977 228434

Cervantes, 7  
43500 Tortosa  
Tel.: +34 977 443808  
Fax: +34 977 228434