

No. 48126

**Spain
and
Iceland**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement between the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Iceland on participation in municipal elections by the nationals of each country who are resident in the territory of the other (with annex). Madrid, 31 March 2009, and Paris, 31 March 2009

Entry into force: *1 December 2010 by the exchange of the said notes*

Authentic texts: *English and Spanish*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *Spain, 11 January 2011*

**Espagne
et
Islande**

Échange de notes constituant un accord entre le Royaume d'Espagne et la République d'Islande relatif à la participation aux élections municipales des ressortissants de chaque pays résidant sur le territoire de l'autre (avec annexe). Madrid, 31 mars 2009, et Paris, 31 mars 2009

Entrée en vigueur : *1^{er} décembre 2010 par l'échange desdites notes*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et espagnol*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *Espagne, 11 janvier 2011*

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

I

Madrid, March 31 2009

H.E. Tómas Ingi Olrich
Ambassador of the Republic of Iceland

Excellency:

Considering the wish to strengthen the excellent relations that have always existed between the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Iceland, and the close bonds of friendship that have traditionally united their peoples;

Considering the increase in migrations and the ensuing mobility of persons, and inspired by the ambition to facilitate the integration of the nationals of each country who are resident in the territory of the other;

Considering that these relations of friendship should be reflected in greater social and political participation by the nationals of both countries in their place of residence;

Considering that in Spain there are three types of elections: general elections for national Institutions, elections to the Assemblies of the territories endowed with a Statute of Autonomy and, finally, municipal elections; the latter municipal elections are considered essential to promote the participation of the nationals of both countries in their places of residence, hence, the present Note refers to these latter elections;

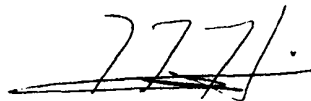
Considering that participation in municipal elections by the nationals of each country who are resident in the territory of the other would enable their better integration and would better ensure their political and social rights:

1. The Spanish Government requests the Government of the Republic of Iceland to grant, in accordance with its legislation, Spanish citizens the right to vote in municipal elections in the Republic of Iceland.
2. The Spanish Government, in accordance with the provisions of the Spanish Constitution and other applicable legislation, shall grant the citizens of the Republic of Iceland the right to vote in Spanish municipal elections.

3. The conditions applicable to exercising the right to vote in Spanish municipal elections by citizens of the Republic of Iceland are set out in the Annexe to this Note.
4. Provided that the voting rights recognized in this Agreement are maintained, both Parties reserve the right to amend the aforesaid conditions and laws. Such amendments shall be notified through diplomatic channels.
5. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the fulfilment of the constitutional requirements for its entry into force.
6. Any denunciation of this Agreement shall be performed in writing, through diplomatic channels. The Agreement shall cease to be in force thirty calendar days following the date on which the other Party receives the notification of said denunciation.

I have the honour to propose to Your Excellency that, should the Republic of Iceland accept the content of this Note and its Annexe, the present Note and its Annexe, together with Your Excellency's reply, shall constitute an Agreement between the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Iceland.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Your Excellency, to reiterate the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Moratinos', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

MIGUEL ÁNGEL MORATINOS CUYAUBÉ
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

ANNEXE

Conditions for citizens of the Republic of Iceland to exercise the right to vote in Spanish municipal elections:

1. Citizens of the Republic of Iceland may exercise the right of active suffrage in Spanish municipal elections.
2. To do so, they must possess the corresponding Spanish residence permit.
3. They must have resided in Spain, legally and uninterrupted, for at least the five years immediately prior to their request for registration on the electoral roll.
4. Their right to vote shall be exercised in the Municipality where they habitually reside; to do so, they must be registered on the municipal census of residents.
5. Registration of foreigners resident in Spain on the electoral roll is essential for the right of active suffrage to be exercised, and this shall be effected at the request of the interested party. Said application shall be presented in the Municipality where the interested party is registered on its census of residents. The time period available for said presentation shall be determined for each and every municipal election

II



EMBASSY OF ICELAND

His Excellency
Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
of the Kingdom of Spain

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Paris, 31 March 2009

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Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note dated 31 March 2009, together with its Annexe, which states the following:

[See note I]

In this regard, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Iceland, Spanish citizens have the right to vote in municipal elections in the Republic of Iceland, under the conditions set out in the Annexe to this Note.

In consequence, and as indicated in your Note mentioned above, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Republic of Iceland accepts Your Excellency's proposal and that this Note of reply and its Annexe, together with Your Excellency's Note and its Annexe, shall constitute an Agreement between the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Spain, which shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the fulfilment of the constitutional requirements for its entry into force.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Your Excellency, to reiterate the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Olrich'.

Tómas Ingi Olrich,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Iceland