



Erasmus+

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy

Andorra



UNIVERSITAT
D'ANDORRA

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Historical Background: Andorran institutional design since 1278: Coprincipality and neutrality



Photos: Consell General

Historical Background

Before 1993: Coprincipality based on usages and customs.

Andorra is a **UPO (Unidentified Political Object)**

Andorra is not an international recognized state.

- **Diplomacy:**

- **Coprinces lead the external policy,**

- ***Consell General* (parliament) have some powers**

- **Andorran politician uses indirect diplomacy instruments to have some .**

- **Neutrality and** ballance between France and Spain.

- ***Síndic*** is the head of the Parliament, but when a *Conseller* negotiates something outside Andorra, he is also a *Síndic*.

- There were no Embassies in Andorra.

- Andorra tried to join some international bodies: **The League of Nations** and the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**: refusal.

1993: Constitution.

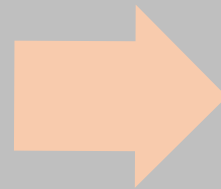
Parliamentary Coprincipality. Becomes a Democratic and Social independent State abiding by the Rule of Law.

Andorra is recognized by the International law as a state.

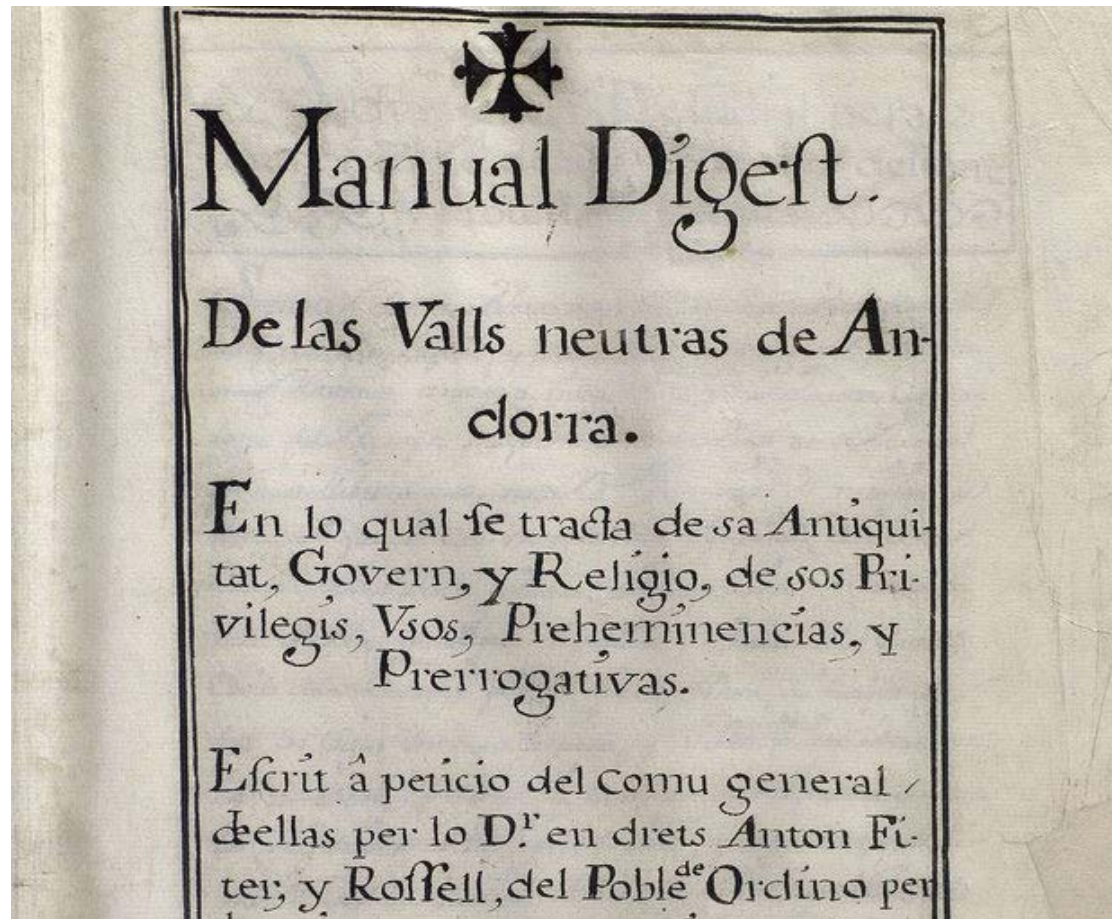
- **Diplomacy:**

- Government leads the independent external policy: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Andorran diplomatic missions. Spain and France stablish embassies in Andorra.

- *Coprinces* still have formally (by the Constitution) and *off the record* a role. The previous *Coprince* approval is required for the ratification of some international treaties and they have to participate in the negotiations. International treaties affecting the security and the territory of Andorra. Important role for the negotiations with the EU.



Historical Background: Andorran values inspiring external policy



Manual Digest is a compilation of the history, government, and customs and traditions of Andorra. Handwritten in Catalan and in Latin in 1748, by the Andorran lawyer Antoni Fiter i Rossell. Until Constitution of 1993, it was the most important written compilation of the traditional usages and customs of Andorra.

It includes a series of moral rules Andorran politicians should comply with, grouped under the name "Màximes". Being moderate, neutral during conflicts or cautious.

Maxima 37: Refers to not take any part or express anything during a conflict between France And Spain.

Maxima 46: Recommends to maintain communications and roads with France and Spain in a little bad condition (in order to avoid Spanish or French army to cross through Andorra).

Maxima 49: Never showing richness or power, always misery.

Historical Background: Coprinces avoiding the annex of Andorra

Article Isidre Bartumeu



1707

Felipe V king of Spain, Nueva planta decrees to centralize the Kingdom of Spain. Desire to implement them to Andorra



1881

Spain and France negotiation to divide and annex Andorra during the Andorran revolution of 1881



1940-1944

Franco desire to annex Andorra when France was occupied



Cortes of Cádiz (1810-1814) and Fernando VII King of Spain desire to annex Andorra (1814) after the war between France And Spain



Abolition of the agreement from the 31th may of 1841 approved by the Andorran parliament because of the Spanish pressure to maintain the order in Andorra because of the problems of the *carlist* refugees.

Source: Isidre Bartumeu

Episcopal Coprince

French Coprince

Historical Background: from trade arrangements between territories to a globalized and multilateral diplomacy



Photo: ANA



Photo: Diari d'Andorra

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy – Priorities / focus of Foreign Policy

Priorities:

- Human rights.
- Economical diversification: Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties, access to the EU single market or new tourism markets.
- Environment, sustainable development goals and climate change.

Principles:

- Neutrality.
- Andorra stands for International law, multilateralism and pacific dialog for conflict resolution.

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy – Institutions/Agencies

- 8 **Embassies** of Andorra and non resident ambassadors.
- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** around 70 workers.
- Parliament has a parliamentary commission for external policy and members of the Parliament participate in the Parliamentary Assembly of the **Council of Europe** and the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE.
- **Comuns** (*regional administrations*) also participates in The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.
- **Coprinces** still have a role (their previous approval is required for the ratification of international treaties affecting the security and the sovereignty of Andorra) and they participate in major negotiations (EU).



Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Bilateral Relations

Treaties

- **Trilateral treaties between Andorra, France and Spain.**
 - Treaty of good neighborhood, friendship and cooperation between the Principality of Andorra, the French Republic and the Kingdom of Spain (1993).
 - Agreement between the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic and the Principality of Andorra, concerning the entry, circulation, residence and establishment of their nationals (2002). Andorrans have the same right as EU citizen in France and Spain.
- **More than a hundred states established bilateral relations with Andorra:** Spain and France have embassies in Andorra. Portugal consular services. The rest: 80% of ambassadors accredited to Andorra established in Madrid and 20% in Paris. <https://www.exteriors.ad/en/bilateral-and-consular-affairs/bilateral-affairs>

Areas

- **Pyrenees** cooperation between territories (Working Community of the Pyrenees CTP). Research funds and projects: POCTEFA.
- **Spain, France and Portugal** and their language areas: **Francophonie** and the **Iberoamerican** Countries.
- **European countries.**

Topics

- **Economical diversification:** Signing **Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties** with other countries in order to help the economical diversification. Tourism market diversification.
 - Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties in force: France 2015, Spain 2016, Luxembourg 2016, Liechtenstein 2016, Portugal 2017, United Arab Emirates 2017, Malta 2017, Cyprus 2017.

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Multilateral Relations

- Since 1993, Andorra has ratified approximately **150 multilateral conventions** and is a **member of 25 international bodies**.
 - UN (UN Specialized Agencies: ICC, UNESCO, WHO, UNWTO, FAO, ITU, ICAO, OPCW, WMO, CTBTO, WIPO)
 - Council of Europe (COE)
 - Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
 - Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)
 - Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB)
 - Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
 - World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
 - European Organization of Telecommunications by Satellite (EUTELSAT)
 - International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)
 - World Customs Organization (WCO)
 - INTERPOL
 - Bureau International des Expositions (BIE)
 - International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
 - World Trade Organization (WTO)

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Multilateral Relations



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SOSTENIBLE - OBJETIVO 2030*

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SUSTENTÁVEL - OBJETIVO 2030*

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy –Diplomatic Types

- Tourism is important for Andorra in order to establish relations with some countries and areas:
 - For example the **UNWTO Academy** is based in Andorra: It's the operative arm of UNWTO for Education and Training.
 - Cooperation with many countries to foster tourism relations.

Major impact of Tourism

8.328.254 visitors for 76.177 inhabitants in 2018

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Societal Beliefs

- Some social reluctance and misunderstanding to the importance of diplomacy.
- Political cleavages and political debates between an **open view** to migration, Europe and economical diversification **VS** national protection. Keystone of the national political debates.

Small States International Relations and Diplomacy -Challenges

- Scarce economical and human resources. Need to develop the same diplomatic efforts but with limited resources.
- Continuous pedagogical exercise to make Andorra worldwide known. Need to explain Andorra's specificities.
- International bodies are not designed for micro states.
- Maintain the Andorran traditional neutrality in the international area. and the traditional balance between the powers of *Coprinces* and between France and Spain. Independent international voice.
- Be recognized on the knowhow of specific topics: Human Rights, mediation or water.

Sources

- Personal interviews
 - Oscar Ribas Reig: former Head of the Andorran Government.
 - Pere Caveró Muñoz: historian.
 - Meritxell Mateu Pi: former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Andorra.
 - Juli Minoves Triquell: former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Andorra.
 - Maria Ubach Font: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Andorra.

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