

## UDI 8: Contemporary history: Spain in the 20th and 21st centuries.

### THE REIGN OF ALFONSO XIII (1902-1931)

At the beginning of the 20th century, in 1902, **Alfonso XIII** was proclaimed King of Spain.

During his reign, there were many social and **political** conflicts: La semana Tragica, The general strike of 1917, The war in Morocco.



### The dictatorship of Miguel Primo de Rivera

#### Dictadura de Primo de Rivera (1923-1930)

En 1923, durante el reinado de Alfonso XIII, el general Primo de Rivera dio un golpe de Estado e instauró una dictadura.

Primo de Rivera asumió todos los poderes, suprimió la Constitución y prohibió los partidos políticos: el rey perdió casi toda su importancia.

En 1930, Primo de Rivera dimitió.

In 1923, General Primo de Rivera led a coup and established a **military** dictatorship and abolished the **constitution of 1876**.

King Alfonso XIII supported the dictatorship, but he was not part of the government. Spain won the war in Morocco.

In 1930, Primo de Rivera lost the support of the army and had to resign.

### The end of the monarchy

Alfonso XIII brought back the Constitution and held general elections in 1931. The political parties won in the big cities and Alfonso XIII went into exile.

### The Second Spanish Republic (1931- 1939)

#### Segunda República (1931-1936)

En 1931, se proclama la Segunda República, tras el resultado de las elecciones municipales.

#### Reformas

Se elaboró una nueva Constitución, en la que se recogió entre otros el derecho al voto de las mujeres.

Se repartieron tierras entre los campesinos.

Se construyeron escuelas públicas.

Aumentaron los salarios.

Se aprobaron los Estatutos de Autonomía de Cataluña y el País Vasco.

#### Problemas

Enfrentamientos entre partidarios y contrarios a las reformas.

El 18 de julio de 1936, el general Franco dio un golpe de Estado.

In 1931, the Second Spanish **Republic** was proclaimed.

A new Constitution was approved, and a democracy was implemented:

- Universal suffrage
- The separation of church and state
- The creation of autonomous regions

During the first years, there were many reforms in **Land, Education** and **Labour**. These reforms were not accepted by everyone, and violent conflicts.

## The Spanish Civil War.



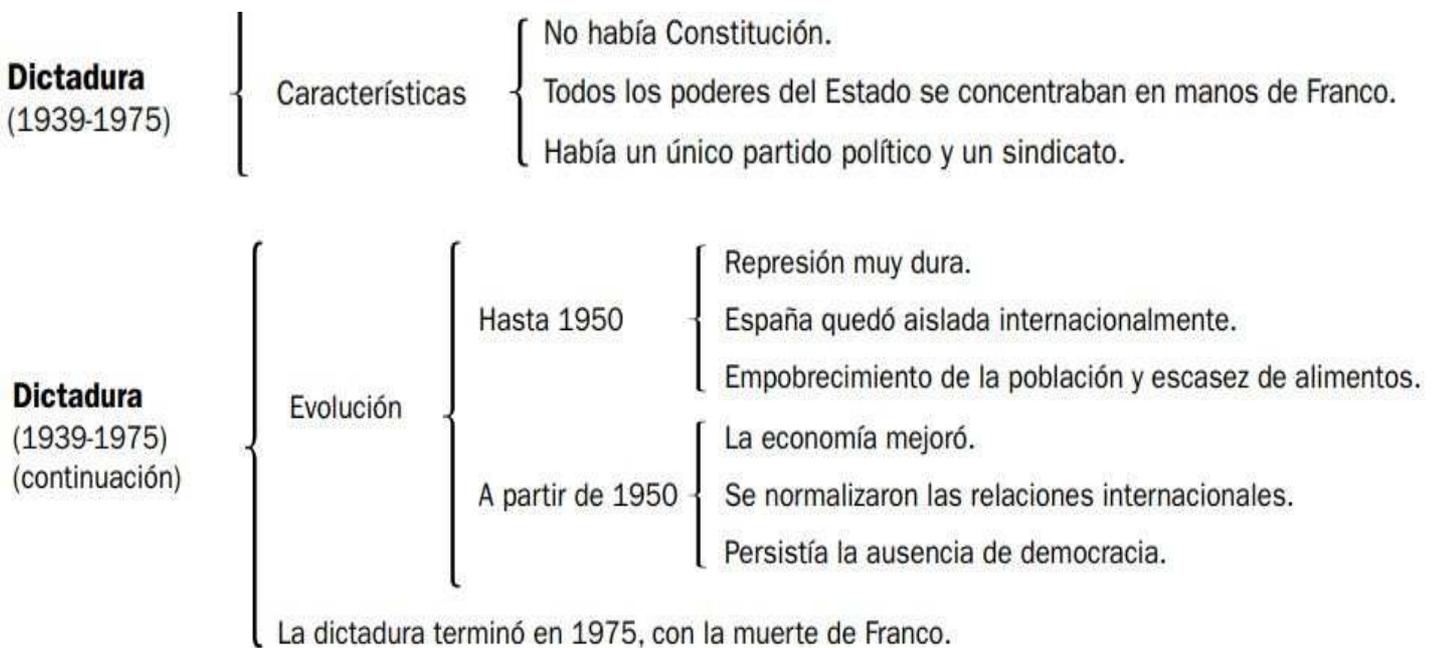
In 1936, General **Francisco Franco** led a coup against the government, and the Spanish **Civil War** started.

The Spanish population was divided into two areas: the **Republican area**, which supported the Republic, and the **Nationalist area**, which supported General Franco.

The war finished in 1939 with the defeat of the Republicans.



## THE FRANCOIST DICTATORSHIP



Franco established a **dictatorship** that lasted from 1939 to 1975

Consequences:

- The Constitution was abolished
- All power was concentrated in one person.
- Political parties and labour unions were banned.
- Censorship
- The Statutes of Autonomy were revoked.
- Spanish was imposed as the official language.

After the death of General Franco in 1975, Juan Carlos I, was crowned King of Spain. A **democracy** was established.

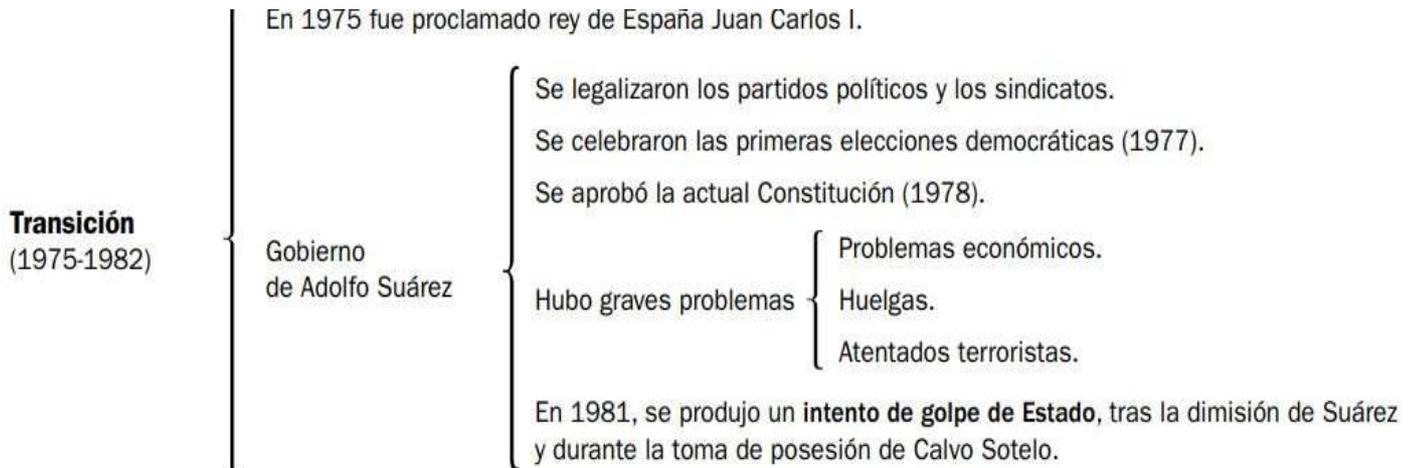
- Political parties and labour unions were legalized.
- Political prisoners were released.
- People in exile returned to Spain.
- The first democratic elections since 1936 were held.
- Elections took place in 1977 and the Central Democratic Union (UCD) was elected, the party led by Adolfo Suárez.

## THE TRANSITION AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS

The transition was the period of political changes that were made to move from the dictatorship of General Franco towards democracy.



Adolfo Suárez



## The Constitution of 1978

In 1978, a new Constitution was approved in a referendum. It establishes:

- Spain is a democratic state
- Sovereignty resides with the Spanish people
- A parliamentary monarchy
- Fundamental rights
- Autonomous communities and cities

## The governments of the Transition

In 1979 the party of Adolfo Suárez, UCD, won the elections.

On **23<sup>rd</sup>** February 1981, some military officers led by Antonio Tejero attempted a coup. The coup failed.

After this, Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo was elected as prime minister.

## The governments of democracy



Since 1981, several presidents have headed the Spanish government.

- |                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| - Felipe González, PSOE               | - Mariano Rajoy from PP |
| - José María Aznar, PP                | - Pedro Sánchez, PSOE   |
| - José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, PSOE. | -                       |