

Euskal Etxeak

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# BASQUE CENTERS

## LEADERS IN RECOVERING HISTORICAL MEMORY



BAT

BASQUE COMMITMENT TO AMATEUR ELITE SPORTS

ALMANAQUE "LA BASKONIA"

1915

NUM. 30

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CENTRO VASCO, A. C. MEXICO.

1935-1936

MEMORIA DEL PERIODO DE 1935-1936

SEPTIEMBRE DE 1936

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JUNE

## BASQUE INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, IVAP, CELEBRATES 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In 2008 the Basque Institute for Public Administration, IVAP, celebrates a quarter of a century. To mark the event the institution has organized three full-day events on innovation in such areas as people management, public administration and Euskara. The three events will take place in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Bilbao and Donostia-San Sebastián, respectively.

## BASQUE ECONOMY EXPECTED TO GROW 2.7% IN 2008

In spite of the global economic slowdown, the Basque economic will continue to grow in 2008. According to Idoia Zenarrutzabeitia, Basque Vice-lehendakari and Minister for Treasury and Public Administration, the Basque economy will grow by 2.7% this year. However, due to the economic deceleration, the figure will be lower than in 2007.

## BILBAO HOSTS THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Third International Congress on Human Rights was held this year in Bilbao. At the event Lehendakari, Juan José Ibarretxe, said: "We need new ideas and instruments to



Juan José Ibarretxe at the IVAP event.

resolve new problems." The event was opened by the prestigious French sociologist, Alain Touraine.

## BASQUE CABINET OF MINISTERS PASSES PENSION SUPPLEMENT BILL

In its weekly meeting, the Basque Cabinet of Ministers passed Pension Supplement Bill. The bill will grant a new economic proviso for people on the lowest pension incomes, bringing the total amount perceived to equal 100% of the official minimum wage. Close to 20,000 people will benefit from the measure.

## EUSKARA ON THE RISE ACCORDING TO 4<sup>TH</sup> SOCIOLINGUISTIC SURVEY

Basque Minister for Culture, Miren Azkarate, Deputy Minister for

Linguistic Policy, Patxi Baztarrika, Director of Coordination for the Department of Language Policy, Erramun Osa, and Director of the Public Institution for the Basque language in Iparralde, Jean-Claude Iriart presented the 4th Sociolinguistic Survey in Donostia. According to the study the number of Euskara speakers has increased by 140,000 since 1991.

## THE BASQUE PARLIAMENT BACKS PROPOSAL BY LEHENDAKARI

In an extraordinary session, the Basque Parliament passed a law that allowed the referendum put forward by Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe to go ahead. The consultation, scheduled for October, would put two questions to vote:

1. "Do you agree to support a negotiated end to violence, if ETA declares unequivocally its wish to put an end to violence once and for all?"
2. "Do you agree that Basque political parties, without exclusions, should initiate a negotiation process to reach a Democratic Agreement on the right of the Basque People to decide their own future, and to put the agreement to a referendum before the end of 2010?"

## 2008: YEAR OF INNOVATION IN EUSKADI

The Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Council held a meeting, during which the following agenda items were discussed: the creation of an Innovation Award, the definition of the Scientific Advisory Committee; major progress in the "Euskadi + Innova" program; compliance with the Business Competitiveness and Social Innovation Plan 2006-2009; analysis of the first steps in attracting researchers; creation of a new Basque Excellence Research Centre (BERC); follow-up of the Innobasque project; and, lastly, monitoring the development of the project "2008: Year of Innovation in Euskadi."

## JULY

### ALTXERRI, EKAIN AND SANTIMANIÑE DECLARED WORLD HERITAGE SITES

The cave paintings of Altxerri, Ekain and Santimamiñe have been

declared World Heritage sites by UNESCO. Gurutz Larrañaga, Deputy Minister for Culture, Youth and Sport, underscored the importance of this declaration, as it will increase the international recognition of Basque heritage. The caves now join the ranks of the Biscay Transporter Bridge, which until now was the only Basque monument to have been given this distinction.

### THE ETXEPARE BASQUE INSTITUTE BEGINS WORK

In a press conference held at the Office of the President, the "Instituto Vasco Etxepare Euskal Institutua" Board of Trustees was announced. The act was presided over by Lehendakari Ibarretxe, who is also a member of the board. In his speech the Lehendakari insisted on the need "at dawn of the 21st-century, today more than ever, for the Basque Country to be open to the world - *jaldi adi mundura*."

### CHEF JUAN MARI ARZAK, UNIVERSAL BASQUE

Donostia-based chef Juan Mari Arzak received the 2008 Universal Basque Award, granted by the

Basque Government office on overseas affairs and the Caja Laboral-Euskadiko Kutxa savings bank. Basque Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Iñaki Aguirre, said that Arzak has made "Euskadi second to none."

## SEPTEMBER

### EUROPEAN COURT BACKS BASQUE TAXATION

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruled that the Basque "foral" (provincial) treasuries can establish a different tax system from the Spanish system. Therefore, the Basque taxation system is not at odds with European legislation. The decision ends the dispute that began in 2005, when the Basque treasuries set the Corporate Tax rate at 32.5%, as opposed to 35% established by the Spanish treasury.

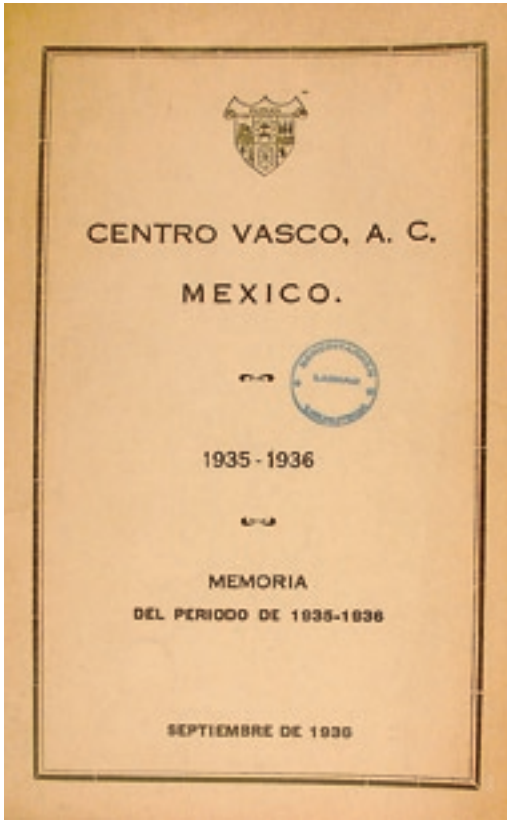
### ZINEMALDIA FEATURES BASQUE FILM DAY

As in previous years, the San Sebastian Film Festival, Zinemaldi, dedicated a day to Basque filmmaking. Thirteen films were shown, in addition to a series of short films produced by Kimuak. The event wrapped up with a gala awards ceremony. The winners of the Ibaia award were Néstor Basterretxea and Fernando Larruquert. The Ama-Lur award went to Marivi Bilbao.



Cave painting in Ekain





# BASQUE CENTERS: LEADERS IN RECOVERING HISTORICAL

Eusko Jaurlaritzak euskal etxe zein munduan barrena bizi diren euskaldunen historia berreskuratzeko programa martxan jarri zuen aspaldi. Programa honek atal ezberdinak ditu. Lehenik kanpoan argitaratzen ziren euskal aldizkari eta euskal etxeen artxiboen digitalizazioari ekin zion. Gaur egun harrera herrialdeko egunkarietan euskaldunei buruzko artikuluak bilatzen eta digitalizatzen ari dira Amerikako unibertsitate batzuekin elkarlanean. Etorkizunean lan hau beste herrialde batzuetara hedatu nahi da, argazki zaharren digitalizazioari ekin eta ahozko testigantzak jaso.

In history books about the Basque Country the subject of Basque emigration and exile has never been regarded as a relevant factor. But no one would deny the important impact it has had on the country itself and the various places where for centuries the Basque people have settled.

Nowadays, information is much more than knowledge; never before has the slogan "if you don't inform you don't exist" been so true.

The Urazandi project has several aims: to compile the historical memory of the Basque presence on an international level, reducing the risk of losing highly relevant historical information; provide new generations of Basques from the *euskal etxeak* with the opportunity to learn more about the history of their ancestors; enable researchers and Basque society itself to gain a better understanding of an important part of our history as emigrants; and to use this knowledge

to encourage feelings and attitudes of support and cultural coexistence with immigrants who decide to make their homes in Euskadi. Urazandi is a marvelous project that helps shed light on our past; but at the same time it is an innovative project, a project with a future, both for the new generations of Basque center members and for Basque society itself. We live in a global and globalizing world, a world of major technological developments and significant migratory flows. In very few



# MEMORY

years Euskadi will be a different country. Your collaboration in the development of this project is vital. You are part of this country, and as such we invite you to participate with your ideas and information about your families. This initiative promoted by the Basque Government Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities has an eight-year history. From 2000 to 2003 research projects were published on the history of the important Basque centers in Bahía Blanca, Boise, Buenos Aires, Madrid, Mar del Plata, Mexico, Montevideo, Paris, Rosario, and Tandil; along the same lines, relevant doctoral theses were published including dissertations presented by Gloria Toticaguena, Matteo Mafredi and F. Xabier Medina, and a collection of articles on Basque

«Urazandik gure  
iraganaren ezagutza  
errazten du»

emigration by William Douglass. This first phase also saw the initiation of the process of digitizing archival material and publications. Two DVDs were made, one with documents from the Basque Office archive in Mexico, known as the "Archivo Azua," and another of the magazine "La Baskonia."

The most recent research publications were presented to the delegates of the Fourth World Congress of Basque Communities, as was the

project of digitizing all of the Basque publications in the Americas in the past 100 years. The countries involved in the project are Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, the United States, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay and Venezuela.

In addition to publications originating in the Americas, there have also been Basque publications in such places as Algeria (a magazine published entirely in Euskara), France and England. The latter two are examples of digitalization projects focusing on European sources.

This project would not have been possible without the generous help and expertise of our Uruguayan friends, Alberto Irigoyen and Adriana Patrón.

So far a total of 220,000 pages from American publications have been



digitized as part of the project. In recent months an additional 100,000 pages from European publications have also been digitized.

#### URAZANDI DIGITAL – PART TWO: "BASQUES IN THE AMERICAN PRESS".

This program, known as "Basques in the American press," is a continuation of Urazandi Digital. The first stage involved the digitalization of 134 Basque newspapers and magazines published outside of Euskadi, with the idea of seeing what Basques communities wrote about themselves. Now the focus is on compiling and digitizing information on what others had to say about the Basques.

The project was initially implemented as a pilot scheme. An agreement was signed between the Basque Government General Secretariat for Foreign Action, the Federation of Basque-Argentine Entities (FEVA), the University of the Basque Country, and the National University of the South in the city of Bahía Blanca, Argentina.

The results of the pilot project were presented at the Fourth World Congress of Basque Communities in Bilbao in July 2007 by professors Óscar Álvarez Gila and Alberto Angulo Morales from the University of the Basque Country, and José Marcilese from the National University of the South. The presentation resulted in the green light for the initial phase of the project, providing a basis for participation by Basque centers and universities from other countries.

**DIGITALIZATION PROCESS.** Each of the digitized documents comprises two parts. The first is a factsheet or index card with basic information on the publication: type of media, date, geographical names, people's names, etc. The second is a digital photograph of the document in question. The criteria followed in the selection of

«Egitasmo honen

gakoa agente

ezberdinen arteko

elkarlanean datza»

news items was based strictly on scientific principles to prevent elements of subjectivity from being introduced.

#### A BEACON TO THE FUTURE.

"Basques in the American press" is not the only program the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities has in mind. Initiatives are also under way aimed at digitizing and compiling photographs from the Basque diaspora.

But the key to success for this fantastic project will be our capability to encourage the various stakeholders to work together and to create a far-reaching team. We can all do our small part to contribute photographs, printed material and other types of documents, by working with our Basque centers and families to preserve the history of Basque people abroad.

The aim over the next three years is to create a photograph archive with 50,000 pictures which bear witness to the presence of Basque people around the world. Also in the preparatory stages is an oral history archive and a major video library of audio-visual documents (films, video, etc.) pertaining to Basque-related events. In November the international federations of Basque centers, in collaboration with the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities, will launch a website where interested parties can share and make use of the various documents. The website will be a powerful research tool for scholars of Basques around the world and will

provide an extensive archive of different types of documents.

**THE REAL HEROES.** There are some very special people involved in the process of reconstructing our historical memory. They are the young people of the Basque diaspora (some of whom are members of Basque clubs) who actually do the fieldwork and follow the orders of the "Basques in the American press" project coordinators.

Bárbara Azpiriz is one of them. Bárbara is from Tandil, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina, and is a member of the Gure Etxea Basque center. She explains that her work on the project is "to collect photographs from newspaper clippings that refer directly or indirectly to 'things Basque.' Then we complete an index card for each photograph with a brief description of the content of the article, including any places, people, companies or that sort of thing mentioned in the article."

The initiative sparked a good deal of interest in Bárbara. "It's also a great way of bringing the importance of Basque culture and history to people's attention," she said. "This work is going to be very important for researchers, and will enormously facilitate their search for information on Basque topics," she added.

Carolina Elisabet Iribarne is originally from Necochea but is currently a student living in Tandil. She is a member of the Necochea Eusko Etxea and teaches Basque dance to the youngest members of the Gure Etxea in Tandil. Her job, as she explains, is "to concentrate explicitly on newspapers, so that the information can then be categorized."

Her interest in 'things Basque' was what prompted her to take part in the project. But she also points out that "it's a great way for students to earn a bit of pocket money. It's pretty difficult here to be able to work and study at



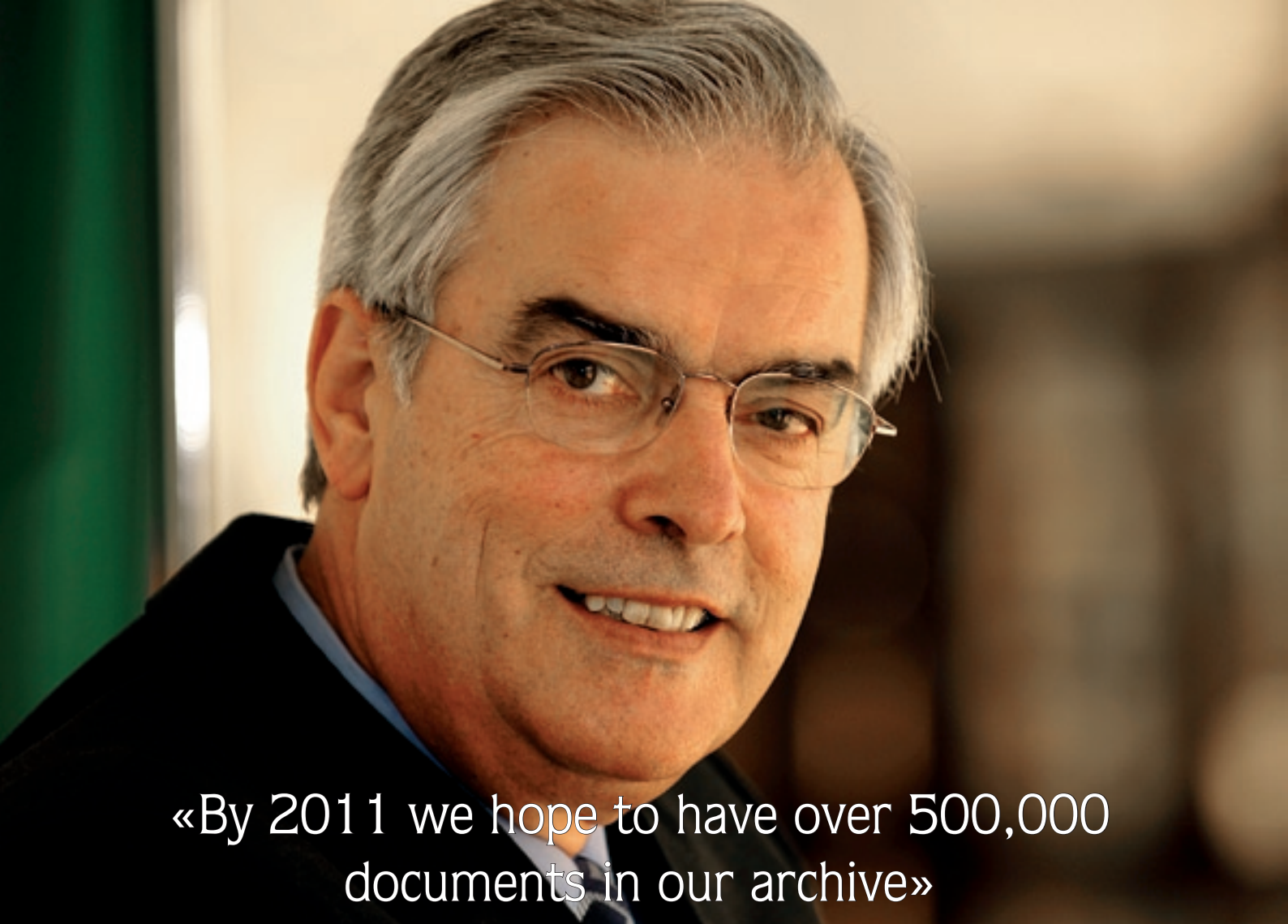


the same time." Carolina is pleased with the work-study combination. "I'm thrilled to be involved in the project," she said.

Florencia Bossi is from La Plata, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. Working with the Public Library of the National University of La Plata, her job is to coordinate the people carrying out the fieldwork in La Plata and Chascomús (Buenos Aires Province).

Florencia feels that the work being done is "important for recovering the historical memory of the Basque community." Although she is not a member of the Basque club, Florencia explained that she was very interested in the subject. "I feel proud to be taking part in the recuperation of historical memory, to help bring to the forefront the history and collective efforts of the Basque people, and to enhance research efforts on the diaspora," she added.





«By 2011 we hope to have over 500,000 documents in our archive»

## Josu Legarreta

Eusko Jaurlaritzaren Kanpoko Euskal Gizataldeekiko Harremanetarako Zuzendaria

**E**usko Jaurlaritzaren Kanpoko Euskal Gizataldeekin Harremanetarako Zuzendaritzak atzerrian bizi diren euskaldunen historia mantendu eta berreskuratzeko hainbat dinamika martxan jarri ditu aspaldian. Lehenik hainbat historialarik euskal etxe garrantzitsuen historia jasotzeari ekin zioten, hauen lanak Urazandi bilduman argitaratu ziren. Bigarrenik euskal etxe zein kanpoan biziz ziren euskaldunek argitaratutako aldizkarien digitalizazioa burutu zen. Lan garrantzitsua izan zen, historia handiko hainbat artxibo galtzeko arriskuan baitzeuden. Gaur egun "euskaldunak Amerikako prentsan" egitasmoa martxan da. Helburua euskaldunen harrera tokian argitaratzen diren egunkarietako euskaldunei buruzko informazioak digitalizatzea da. Etorkizunean argazki artxibo erraldoi bat osatu nahi da. Horretarako funtsezko lanabesa izango da [www.euskaletxeak.net](http://www.euskaletxeak.net) atari berria. Guzti hau eta gehiago azaltzeko Josu Legarretari elkarrizketa egin diogu

**How important is the role of Basque communities around the world in the recovery of historical memory?**

Historically speaking, Euskadi is a country of emigrants. Over the centuries thousands of Basque people have left their homeland to settle in countries



*«Etorkizunean argazki artxibo*

*erraldoi bat osatu nahi da.*

*Horretarako funtsezko lanabesa*

*izango da [www.euskaletxeak.net](http://www.euskaletxeak.net)*

*atari berria»*

on different continents. The reasons have been many, from work to religion to political motivations. Therefore we could say that an important part of Basque history is a history of emigration and/or exile.

In general terms, however, history books do not reflect this reality or if they do, the subject is only just touched upon.

Today migratory movements are increasingly prevalent, and as a result more and more research is being dedicated to the phenomenon, including comparative aspects of different waves of migration.

In the case of the Basques we're finding that in order to conduct research and disseminate information, we first have to first develop a project directed at gathering the largest possible collection of documents. Right now this documentation is dispersed among different organizations, both public and private. And even worse, we know that part of the documentation (written documents, photographs and audio recordings) run the risk of being lost forever. Not to mention the lost opportunities to record the oral histories of older Basques who live outside Euskadi.

### **When did the historical memory preservation project get started?**

The project began in 1999 when the priority areas of activity were defined:

1) Promote research projects carried out by the most significant Basque institutions abroad.

2) Digitize periodical publications (magazines) published outside the Basque Country.

3) Digitize official archives of the Basque Offices and Basque Centers.

4) Digitize Basque-related news published in American press.

5) Create a photograph archive.

6) Gather oral testimonies.

7) Collect other audio documentation: films, videos.

### **What type of projects have been done so far?**

Over 30 publications have been produced; all of the Basque magazines published over the past 100 years outside of Euskadi, including Africa, the Americas and Europe, have been digitized. Basque news published in America is currently being digitized - so far we have over 12,000 digitized news articles; and our goal is to have some 20,000 photographs by the end of 2008.

### **How do you see the future of the project?**

The aim of this project is to have an archive of over 500,000 documents and/or pages of information on the Basque presence around the world by 2011.

Based on all of this material we will then promote projects to publicize the information. This project may become a benchmark, an example for other groups to follow.

### **How can a Basque person living outside Euskadi become involved in this project and what type of tools are available?**

Collaboration of this type is essential. We would appreciate any photographs, letters, documents, videos, films, and so on, from both private family collections and organizations. We'd be happy to explain to any interested parties how they can collaborate in this way. It is important to remember that the owners will always retain the rights to their documents. And even worse, We never ask for the originals, but rather a digitized copy. If anyone should have difficulties with digitizing, the Directorate will be glad to digitize any documents and make sure all originals are returned to their rightful owners.

Another interesting project going on right now is called "Basques in the American press." Forty young people from 12 different universities are involved in the project. It is funded by the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities and anyone interesting in getting involved should feel free to contact us.



Official welcome for Basque athletes

# BAT: BASQUE COMMITMENT TO AMATEUR ELITE SPORTS

Herri txikia izan arren Euskal Herria beti izan da nazioarteko kirol lehiaketetan. Aurtengo Joko Olinpikoak ez dira salbuespen izan eta bertan izan dira euskaldunak ere, Beijing 2008an, Euskal Herriaren izena dagokion lekura eramaten. Eliteko kirol ez profesionala bultzatzeko EITB eta Eusko Jaurlaritzak Basque Team (BAT) egitasmoa martxan jarri dute. Helburua elite mailan diharduten euskal kirolariei laguntza ematea da.

2008 is an Olympic year and once again Euskadi has not been represented as such, although many Basque athletes have taken part in this great sporting occasion in both individual and team sports. Most participated with the Spanish or French teams, although in some cases Basque athletes competed in the Olympics for other countries under dual citizenship.

Despite being a small country, we have always made our presence felt in world sports to the point of being fundamental in some, creating our own place in history. This includes our cyclists' achievements in the Tour de France, the traditions upheld by Athletic Club de Bilbao, our mountaineers scaling the highest mountains in the world, and many more.

Nobody can imagine the most important cycling competition in the world, namely the Tour de France, without tens of thousands of Basques lining the route and turning the roadside orange with the team color; world mountaineering without Juanito Oiarzabal, Ederne Pasaban or Alberto Iñurritegi; or climbing without impressive ascents by the Pou brothers up the most emblematic walls of the "seven continents." What about one of the most important leagues in the world, the Spanish Liga, without Athletic, the only team in this globalized and merchandising-hungry world of soccer made up entirely of Basque players? Or European basketball without Baskonia from Vitoria-Gasteiz? They have reached the Final Four every year for the last four years, the only European club to ever manage this feat.



## Nearly 60 athletes have already received help from BAT

To date, 59 athletes and three sports organizations have received grants, but more are expected to be able to rely on financial support in the future. Among the beneficiaries are popular sportsmen and women, such as pole-vaulter Naroa Agirre, climbers Josune Bereziartu, Patxi Usabiaga and the Pou brothers, surfer Aritz Aranburu (very popular due to his participation in the latest world championships) and kayaker Oier Aizpurua, among others. Grants are awarded to sportsmen and women from a wide variety of disciplines: sailing, gymnastics, badminton, martial arts, rowing and snowboarding, among others.



The Minister for Culture and the Lehendakari with three Basque medal winners.

These are just a few examples without touching on what our people have contributed to sport in general. Many sports invented in this small country are played all over the world such as Basque pelota or the *herri kirolak* (rural sports).

**BEIJING 2008 – BASQUE PRESENCE GUARANTEED.** Coinciding with this sporting year, the Basque Government, along with EITB (Basque Public Television and Radio station), has presented BAT, the Basque Team project. This will be the brand representing Fundación Euskadi Kirol Fundazioa, aiming to promote the participation of Basque athletes in top-level competitions within amateur sport.

BAT was created to keep our name among the sporting greats. Within the aims of the Fundación Euskadi Kirola Fundazioa, it will support top level sportsmen and women and their trainers to optimize their training and, in the same respect, it will work with groups of sportsmen from different disciplines and the very highest levels of sporting entities.

This initiative was presented at an event on June 2nd, although the foundation has been working since last November. This presentation was held in the Ensanche building in Bilbao and was presided over by the Lehendakari, Juan José Ibarretxe. It was also attended by many people associated with sporting activities in the Basque Country: athletes, executive agents, technicians and trainers, specialized journalists, etc.

Despite the fact that there are two founding sponsors, the Basque Government, via the Department of Culture, and Basque TV station Euskal Irrati Telebista, this initiative is open to all types of private sponsorship. It is estimated that the impact of sport on the Basque economy represents 1.9%

of its GDP, putting it in front of traditional activities such as agriculture or fishing, or even sectors such as transport.

One of the athletes participating in this project is Maider Unda from Olaeta, Alava. Maider competed in the women's 72 kg wrestling category at the latest Olympic Games in Beijing, obtaining an Olympic diploma for her fourth place, just outside the medals. We can add to this a fifth place in the last World Championships, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, which earned her classification for the Olympics and a twelfth place in the Europe Championship held in Tampere, Finland.

For Maider, there are many differences within elite sport depending on the discipline. According to the Alava-born wrestler, "minority sports need to show results in order to receive any financial backing. I believe that our dedication and effort should be valued," she adds. She considers BAT's help as very positive, "as far as BAT is concerned, I believe that it is a well thought-out project which will help many sportsmen and women both financially and technically, from the CPT (Technical Perfection Centre)."

The Technical Perfection Centre (CPT) in Fadura (Getxo, Bizkaia) is a service provided by the Basque Department of Culture that Maider has been working with for many years. "Their team of technicians and doctors is the best you can find, giving you continuous support," assures the Basque Olympian.

As far as the Olympics are concerned, Maider Unda affirms that "they are the pinnacle of what a athlete can aspire to and just getting a place on the team makes you forget how many hard years you've worked and everything you've been through." There can be no doubt that getting fourth place has compensated for her effort and injuries over the last few years.



## Joseba Agirre Ikobaltzeta

**Born in Zaratamo, Bizkaia**

**Bachelor's degree in History**

**Currently working as an intern for the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities Abroad.**

## «I have no regrets about the decision I made!»

After a year of experience as intern with the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities, there's one thing I know for sure: I have no regrets about the decision I made!

The different programs offered by the Directorate have allowed me to better understand the Basque diaspora from different perspectives.

Gaztemundu gives us an idea of the future of the Euskal Etxeak by bringing young people to Euskadi to learn about the country and culture. And at the same time the program provides the Directorate with information about the doubts, impressions and needs of the Basque diaspora in the future.

The grant proposals for Euskal Etxeak activities give us an idea of the current situation and circumstances of the diaspora, the day-to-day needs of the people. The Basques have been emigrating from their homeland for years, settling in many places around the world. They always take with them a feeling of pride in being Basque, a feeling that is handed down from generation to generation, promoted through Basque culture. The Euskal Etxeak are the indestructible forts that protect, safeguard and nourish our culture, bringing it safe and sound into the twenty-first century.

We're not free from complications today but now we have new tools, such as the Internet, which for the first time allow us all to interact simultaneously - all

Basques, both here and around the world. Now there are tools that bring us closer together, keep us informed and educated us, tools that help us better understand what it means to be Basque, what we are now and what we have been in the past.

The Directorate knows a lot about what we have been. As a graduate in History, it was a delight to have been able to see all of the material published and digitized. I even had the pleasure of taking part in editing and following up on the last issue dedicated to Chile. Urazandi digital is an authentic work of art in the recovery of historical memory and will be extremely useful to researchers who study the Basque diaspora.

And the best part of it all is the effort everyone is making to increase the amount of material by collecting photographs, newspapers and magazines related to Basque topics and digitizing all the material to keep it from falling into oblivion.

There's a lot of work still be done but between all of us, we'll make it happen. As I mentioned before, the flame of the Basque diaspora still shines brightly as we move into the twenty-first century, and I'm convinced it will keep on shining. The tenacity and struggle of the Basque people have proven it.

I'll be taking part in this great project one more year as an intern and, who knows, maybe one day I'll be part of the diaspora.

**Eskerrik asko guztioi!**



# gazte txokoa



GAZTEMUNDU  
2008





# Gaztemundu 2008, starting point for new music projects abroad

**Aurten ere Gaztemundu programa burutu da. Amerikako estatu ezberdinetatik etorritako 30 gaztek parte hartu dute. Bi helburu ditu, alde batetik Euskal Herria ezagutu eta bestetik gai ezberdinetan formakuntza ikastaro bat jaso. Aurtengo gazteak musikariak dira eta programa gai honen inguruan gauzatu da. Musika tresna ezberdinen eskolak jaso dituzte Gasteizko Folklore Eskolaren eskutik.**

**Y**et another year the Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities has implemented the Gaztemundu program, an initiative that has been in place since 1996.

Every year a group of young people from Basque clubs around the world take part in cultural activities, visit different places in Euskal Herria and take classes on different topics. The idea is for participants to then return to their communities and become active members in their Euskal Etxeak, teaching their newly acquired skills to fellow club members.

The focus of this year's Gaztemundu program was traditional Basque instruments. The 30 young people who came to Euskadi already had a certain degree of music training and some were actually teachers at their Basque centers. They came from five countries (Argentina, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay and the United States) and 20 different Basque clubs.



The education part of the program was coordinated by the Vitoria-Gasteiz School of Folklore under the leadership of Pedro Elozegi, and supported by teachers in different areas including txalaparta, txistu, percussion, Basque dance and traditional songs.

The mornings got underway with a voice class taught by Ms. Aiala, in which all of the students took part. After a series of warm-up exercises typically done by choirs in Euskadi, the students learned a variety of traditional Basque songs. Not only did the students learn how to sing the songs, but they also focused on the actual meaning of the songs and the lyrics.

After the morning voice sessions, the participants divided into groups according to language and level of music aptitude. Different classes were organized for different disciplines. Perhaps the most notable were the txalaparta classes, in which students not only learned how to play the instrument but also took notes so they could build their own txalapartas back home. The txistu students ranged from experienced players to beginners. For the latter it was very important to learn to play the instrument so they could try and revive the txistulari tradition which had all but disappeared back home.

Every day the participants also took classes in traditional Basque dance. The project coordinator pointed out how important it is for Basque dance musicians to be familiar with the dances themselves.

The evenings were filled with a variety of concerts at which the students had the chance to ask the performers questions about their areas



of expertise. The student spent one of the most interesting evenings with Juan Mari Beltran, who showed them a wide variety of musical instruments.

## Cultural excursions and tourism

Of course not everything took place in the classroom. The participants were also taken on cultural excursions and guided tours for a more in-depth look at Euskadi. Some of the trips focused on the main theme of this year's program, while others were purely recreational.

The first excursion was to the flatlands of Alava known as the "Llanada Alavesa." After lunch at the Ulibarri-Ganboa reservoir, the group went to the town of Larrea to watch the traditional "El Barte" dances. They then enjoyed dinner at a local restaurant.

The next day the young people visited the Rioja Alavesa, where they had the chance to taste the prestigious wines made in this part of the Basque Country. The following day's activities included a trip to Gernika, where they saw the famous oak tree, the General

Assembly Hall and the Gernika Peace Museum, and an afternoon excursion to the Urdaibai nature reserve. But that wasn't the only place in Bizkaia they visited. The agenda also included an afternoon in Bilbao, where the Gaztemundu participants visited the San Mamés stadium, home of Athletic Club Bilbao soccer team, the Biscay Transporter Bridge, locally known as the "hanging bridge," Bilbao's Old Town, and the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao.

Excursions were also scheduled for the last weekend of the program. On Saturday the group went to Pamplona to take in a day of the world-famous San Fermin fiestas. On Sunday they visited Herri Musikaren Txokoa (Museum of Traditional Instruments) in Oiartzun, Gipuzkoa, enjoyed a concert by the Municipal Txistulari Band of Donostia, and took a boat ride around Santa Clara island in La Concha bay.

## Welcome from the Lehendakari

One of the emotional highlights of the program was when the group was welcomed by Lehendakari Juan Jose Ibarretxe at his official residence in Ajuria enea. The Basque President

referred to Basque the diaspora as "the eighth province of Euskal Herria" and asked the participants to help "put Euskadi on the world map."

The Gaztemundu students played their txistu and sang "Ikusi Mendizaleak," before enjoying appetizers with the Lehendakari.

## An unforgettable experience

Without a doubt, this has been an unforgettable experience for the people involved, and has served to further develop their Basque music skills and expand their cultural understanding of Euskadi. For some of the participants this was their first time visiting the country, while others were enjoying a more extended stay in Euskadi.

Lorenzo Bucci from Bahía Blanca, Argentina, was one of this year's participants. "I had never been to Euskal Herria before, so for me it was a really unique experience. I found everything fascinating, from the smallest street ads to the most majestic buildings," said the young Argentine. But what impressed him the most was how well-kept up the towns were and the importance attached to history. As for the people, Bucci said that everyone was very nice and ready to help whenever he needed it.

Bucci already played the txistu before he came, but said that his time here helped to improve his technique. He also said that his Basque club was building a txalaparta for people to learn how to play, and was conducting an inventory of Basque instruments. "We're planning to organize music workshops for the local Basque centers and others that might be interested. The first workshops will concentrate on the txistu. That way every center can have its own musicians and we

won't always have to use CDs," he added.

Helena Zudaire is a member of the euskal etxea in Rauch, near the city of Tandil, Argentina. Helena had been to Euskadi on a previous trip, but had only spent three days in San Sebastian. "What surprised me the most," she said "were the landscapes, and the fact that there were no phone booths anywhere!" As for the specific activities, her favorites were traditional dance and txistu. "Since I work with children, dance is probably what I'll be able to use the most at my Basque center. I also teach the little ones Basque folk songs. I might even start up a music program at some point," Helena added.

Javier Iturrizagastegui is from Valparaíso, Chile. It was his first time in Euskadi. "I'd never been to Euskal Herria, but I was surprised to find that I felt like I really belonged." Regarding the program, Javier said "I thought it was very good and very well rounded. In a limited amount of time we were able to see a lot of Euskal Herria and learn about the culture." Javier was also pleased with the group itself. "The experience helped bring the Basque

**«Euskal Herria bisitatzen lehenengo aldia zen eta bertakoa sentitu nintzen»**

culture a little closer to Chile," he said, "a culture that was slowly being lost."

Marcos Tiscornia is a member of the Haize Hegoa Basque centre in Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay. What surprised Marcos the most about Euskal Herria was "how carefully they look after their historical heritage in terms of buildings and traditions." As for the program, Marco said "It's really important, especially for those of us who are involved in an euskal etxea, since it's our role to keep Basque culture alive and explain to others what Basque society is like today. Seeing it for yourself helps you to understand the culture and overcome some of the preconceived concepts we have of Euskadi."



**Voice warm-up exercises**





## Martin Urquijo Unzurrunzaga

**Born in Getxo, Bizkaia**

**Bachelor's degree in Law**

**Currently an intern at  
the Basque Office in Argentina**

# «I feel very lucky to be here representing and working for Euskadi»

I remember perfectly the day I found out I'd been selected to come to Buenos Aires. My family and friends were also pleased since they knew what this opportunity meant to me.

The job is really interesting and I get to meet a lot of people. I'm learning a lot and try to keep up as much as possible with current events, especially things going on in South American and Euskadi.

In addition to working and becoming familiar with a number of Basque clubs, I've also had the chance to go to several events and fairs. I've also written up a number of reports, some together with the SPRI technician, answering requests from companies in Euskadi about the Argentine market, and other reports on a range of current political and economic issues.

Argentina treats me very well. I've adapted quite nicely to the people and their customs, which aren't all that different from our own. I like living in Buenos Aires. It's a city full of contrasts with a lot of cultural activities to choose from. I'm also meeting a lot of people from all over the world, and have had the chance to travel to other parts of the country.

Almost everyone knows about us "euskaldunes," and many of the people I've met speak very proudly of their Basque ancestry.

This is a country full of opportunities and possibilities. I feel there's still a lot left for me to do here. I feel very lucky to be here representing and working for Euskadi.

**IDOIA ZENARRUTZABEITIA BELDARRAIN** comes from Usansolo, Bizkaia, in 1999 she was named Basque Vice-President and Treasury and Public Administration Minister. She was also a Member of Parliament during previous legislations in 1986-90 and 1990-94. In January 1995 she was given the position of Secretary General for Co-ordination and Administrative Modernization of the Basque Government.



## «We are forging a path and there is no turning back»

**B**asque Member of Parliament, Minister and Vice-Lehendakari. How have you felt since you joined the Basque Parliament?

The emotions it stirs up are enthusiasm and hope. Enthusiasm and hope because I know that despite all the setbacks we are forging a path and, as the Lehendakari says, there is no turning back. Enthusiasm and hope that sooner rather than later we will achieve peace in Euskadi and also set the basis for political standardization founded on recognizing the Basque People's right to decide.

**What does it mean to you to be the Basque woman with possibly the most political responsibility?**

I think that you are giving me more credit than I am actually due and surely more than I deserve. But I would say, in any case, that you always try to live up to your

circumstances or at least what is expected of you. Whether I actually achieve that or not is not my place to say.

**You are Treasury Minister, doubtlessly one of the pillars of self-government, but at the same time one of the most questioned ...**

That's right and I don't really understand why. I imagine that this is referring to the Economic Agreement between Euskadi and the Spain. Its main problem is that it has not been really, truly been politically assumed to its fullest consequences by numerous State authorities, from State Administration to the Autonomous regions adjacent to Euskadi, including, for example, different levels of the Spanish Judiciary. And I would like to emphasize that I do not understand why this is happening if we are talking about a political pact derived from the very core of





constitutionalism (Constitution and Statute). What is the problem? Well the problem, as I said, is that people who are supposedly supporters and firm defenders of the Agreement, nominally at least, have not really assumed it. I am, of course, talking about the two major Spanish political parties, the PSOE and PP, who say that they are defending it whilst all the time lodging appeals, questioning it and retrench it because, at the end of the day, they cannot accept it for it is, a political pact between Euskadi and Spain.

#### **How does the Basque Economic Agreement translate into wellbeing for society?**

I think that the evolution of our economy over the last few years speaks for itself. Thirteen years of sustained, balanced, stable growth with an annual average greater than 3%. An unemployment rate which, in less than fifteen years, has gone from affecting 25% of our active population, expressed as a technical breakdown, to a situation where our latest information puts unemployment at 3.5% of the active population.

Recovering our self-government institutions, including the Economic Agreement of course, has doubtlessly had a decisive influence in all that. And this is also the result of the collective effort made by all Basque society, hardworking and entrepreneurial people, creating a lively, dynamic society. I also think that our management from these public institutions has had something to do with this,

at least helping to bring together this collective effort made by the country as a whole.

#### **Numerous studies put Euskadi at the forefront of wellbeing, economic growth, and so on. How much of this data is due to self-government and management over the last 30 years?**

That is just what I was pointing out. Now this might also be a good time to clear up one matter. Regarding our tax and financial relations with the State, the Agreement System is a unilateral risk system. This means that we collect and manage our taxes and from there, we finance our public policies and we defray a quota to the State. This is essentially the Economic Agreement. What I mean is that, independently of our tax collection, whether it is higher or lower, and independently of the higher or lower level of spending which we incur in our actions, the State Quota always has to be paid. So our own financial capacity, which we use to design and develop our own policies, depends exclusively on us, on how we manage it, because we do not have the State behind us to compensate us if "we can't make ends meet."

#### **Now it seems that there is a deceleration in the world economy. What measures are being adopted by the Basque Government?**

Along with the mid- and long-term measures envisaged in core actions which have already been planned, in



*«Ekonomia globalizatuan  
konpetitiboak jarraitzen  
izateko ikerkuntza eta  
garapenean inbertitu  
behar dugu»*

integration policies, etc., in other words, without affecting social spending.

**Some analysts say that we are at the gates of a new economic reconversion and it seems that the Basque Government has this straight, looking at its commitment to research and development. Would you explain these policies to us?**

Presented very succinctly and simply, our reflection is as follows: in the EU-27, in the global economy with its boost for emerging economies such as China or India, in the era of this third technological revolution, in the digital era, our products can no longer compete in terms of costs, nor our workforce in terms of salaries. In other words, we have to compete in terms of quality, in added value, and nowadays improving quality and added value involves offering the market products with a high technological component, products which nobody else knows how to make, or that nobody can make better than you. And for this to happen, meaning to continue being competitive in the globalised economy, we must focus on research and development, on innovation.

From here on in, the reflection has been made, the bases for our actions have been stabilized and now all of us, institutions, production fabric, education and training systems, we all have to be very aware of this and get to work. As I said before, we have already started doing this and I am absolutely convinced that Basque society will once again be able to meet the challenge set before us and pass the test with flying colors.

government action, focused on increasing competitiveness and productivity in our economy, we are already adopting more immediate measures in order to minimize the effects of deceleration and as far as we can, bring forward the forecast recovery of activity rhythm.

So, in Euskadi we have also applied taxation initiatives that have been approved for the whole State – deflation of the income tax rate, returning 400 euros – or in anticipation of the predicted effects on tax income we have already estimated the possible need for a greater volume of debt than in previous fiscal years, as long as this is compatible with our goal of budgetary stability and balance.

We have recently agreed an inter-institutional plan with the three Provincial Governments to energize public investment to activate the economy and guarantee employment, which involves bringing forward the most significant actions that have already been planned, and undertaking new projects of special interest that had not been specified initially. An agreement for the 2008-2012 period with an overall budget topping 12.8 billion euros.

And all this, obviously, without neglecting basic universal services such as health, education, social



- The Government will abide by the Constitutional Court decision to prohibit the Consultation but will not "give up"
- PNV, EA, EB and Aralar pass a manifesto in defense of the referendum, which includes initiatives and legal actions in international forums

## The Lehendakari wants the right to opinion to be part of the international agenda.

"We will observe the ruling but we will not give up." This was the Basque Government's resounding response to the decision handed down by the Constitutional Court to prohibit the October 25th referendum previously approved by the Basque Parliament. Convinced that the right to express one's opinion and be consulted is a fundamental right for all people, the Lehendakari wants this issue to be put on the international agenda and discussed in European and international forums. Therefore, he proposed that the violation of this right be denounced before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

As soon as the Spanish high court decision was announced, the Basque Cabinet met in an extraordinary session to analyze the ruling. The Government passed an official declaration, which was later read to the press. The statement described the banning of the referendum as "an affront to democracy," since it prohibits a legally non-binding consultation of public opinion. From an institutional perspective, the prohibition shows "utter contempt" for the Basque Parliament and its legal regulations.

### Unheard-of in Europe

In the opinion of the Lehendakari, the Constitutional Court ruling introduces into the Spanish political system "maneuvers difficult to understand in modern Europe" and which put Spain in an "unusual situation" in the Europe of the 21st century, where "consulting society is normal practice and strengthens democracy."

In a recent interview with a European news outlet, Lehendakari Ibarretxe said "Spain is going to have to explain very clearly to Europe why it doesn't allow the Basques to express themselves democratically and why they are being



Emergency meeting of the Basque Cabinet of Ministers

deprived of something that is considered normal in other European Union countries." He went on to say that "Any citizen living in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Germany could do what wouldn't be possible to do if they were living in Spain. What is wrong with giving the people the chance to speak their mind?"

Therefore, the Basque President is in favor of turning to the European authorities "confidently and without fear" to defend the right to be consulted. In the declaration approved after the extraordinary meeting, he urged Basque society, political parties in particular, to take the lead and spearhead a citizen's initiative to adopt "whatever measures are needed to defend their right."

### Legally active response

Ibarretxe's initiative was welcomed by the three parties in the coalition government (Basque Nationalist Party, Eusko Askatasuna and Ezker Batua), which, together with Aralar, released a manifesto in defense of the consultation. The Lehendakari encouraged all people who feel that their right to be consulted has been "prohibited and amputated" to embrace the manifesto as individuals.

At recently held event, one by one, the Lehendakari himself and all of the members of his government, as Basque citizens, signed the document approved

by the four political parties. Ibarretxe publically expressed his appreciation to the parties for taking the demands in defense of the consultation to European and international authorities, describing their response as "enormously intelligent from political and strategic perspective."

Ibarretxe congratulated the three Government parties and Aralar for what he called their "socially pacific but legally active" response in defending the consultation. He also pointed out that the prohibition issued by the Constitutional Court did not affect "the Basque President's consultation, as they maliciously want to transmit. What it means is that every one of the men and women who live in this country has the right to give his or her opinion," he added, inviting all citizens to sign the manifesto.

Ibarretxe also denied that there were technical difficulties involved in presenting an appeal before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg against the prohibition, as some have suggested, and expressed his confidence that the European courts would support the Basque claims. "There are sufficient reasons to support our cause," he said.

"What is happening is that curiously enough, the people who have denied us the right to decide our future are the same ones who later denied us the right to express our opinion, and now they want to deny us the right to appeal."

## Basque Government representatives present at the Annual Convention of North American Basques

The Director of Relations with Basque Communities, Josu Legarreta, and adviser Joseba Arregi visited the town of Chino, California, to take part in the Basque Festival and the 2008 NABO Annual Convention. Also in attendance was the Basque Government Delegate in the United States, Aitor Sotes. On the first day of their visit, Legarreta and Arregi met with the Board of Directors for the 2008 Basque festival host, the Chino Basque Club. They were shown the facilities and invited to take part in the preparations for the event. Legarreta had the chance to converse in Euskara with a number of the club members and volunteers who worked so hard to make the multi-activity event a success. After a work meeting with NABO Facilitator John Ysursa, the representatives of the Directorate of Basque Communities took a tour of the Civic Center, where the Basque Festival was to take place over the following days. They were also taken to see a photograph exhibition on Basque instruments and farmhouses sponsored by the Directorate and with active participation from 40 Basque clubs in different countries. Another interesting exhibit was the multimedia presentation, "Kantuketan," which follows the history of Basque song over the past decades.

The second work day focused on the NABO convention, where Josu Legarreta presented the most recent projects on the recovery of historical memory and the upcoming creation



Saturday night volunteers dinner in Chino at the 2008 NABO Convention

of a new online space dedicated to Basques around the world. At the meeting Mary Gaztambide was reelected president of NABO, and a non-US Basque club, Zazpiak Bat of Vancouver, Canada, represented at the convention by the club's president Elena Sommer, was admitted into the fold. Bringing a Canadian-based Basque center into the organization is a step forward in the creation of a truly North American federation.

During the Basque Festival in Chino, a salute to "Klika in America" paid tribute to the clubs which for the past forty years have sponsored "klickas" at the euskal etxeak of San Francisco, Chino and Bakersfield. The klika tradition was born in Iparralde, where young Basque men who were drafted into the French army, were picked for military brass bands because of their natural musical talent. Special "Klika in America" awards were given to Mary Gaztambide, President of NABO, and to Basque club presidents Pierre

Etcharren (San Francisco), F. Iturriria (Bakersfield) and John Barcelona, (Chino). Both representatives of the Basque Government took part in the various official acts.

### LABURRAK

#### Basque Country Day at the 2008 Zaragoza World's Fair

Expo Zaragoza 2008, held this summer in Zaragoza, Spain, around the theme of water and sustainable development, dedicated a special day to Euskadi. Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe was present at the event. In a speech, the Lehendakari translated some "bertsos" written on the theme of water by Joxean Artze into Spanish for the audience "bebemos agua de la vieja fuente siempre. Bebemos agua nueva, siempre agua nueva de la vieja fuente de siempre".



## Barcelona hosts meeting of European euskal etxeak and kicks off International Basque Club Mus Championship

Director of Relations with Basque Communities, Josu Legarreta, took part in the meetings and officially inaugurated the mus tournament.

Several activities revolving around Basque centers were hosted in Barcelona over the weekend of September 5th to 7th. Two of the highlights included the annual meeting of European Basque centers (Berlin, Frankfurt, Montellier, Bordeaux, Paris, Mallorca and Barcelona) and the official kick-off of the International Basque Club Mus Championship.

The event celebrating the start of the International Basque Club Mus Championship was held at the El Corte Inglés department store. A number of the event organizers addressed the audience, including the president of the Barcelona Euskal Etxea, Aitor Arruti. Josu Legarreta was in charge of announcing the official kick-off. In



Concert given by tenor Josu Yeregui at the euskal etxea in Barcelona.

the evening singer Maddi Oihenart gave a concert at the Basque center. On Sunday all of the people taking part in the event and their companions were invited on a tour of Barcelona. Afterwards, they enjoyed lunch at the Euskaltzaleak

social club, catered by Taktika Berri, a Barcelona-based Basque restaurant. On Monday Barcelona Mayor Ramón Nicolau formally welcomed them to the city. The first games of the tournament were played that same day.

### Former Chilean President Eduardo Frei visits Euskadi

Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe received Eduardo Frei at Ajuria-Enea. The former President of Chile and current senator-for-life was visiting Euskadi to learn about innovation processes and new technologies.

### Basque Government creates and regulates Basque Office in Colombia and Venezuela

In its last meeting, the Basque Cabinet of Ministers approved the creation of a Basque Office for

Colombia and Venezuela. The duties of the new body will be to represent Euskadi in the matters concerning development cooperation, relations with Basque communities and the promotion of multi-sector interests in the scope of competences conferred on the Basque Autonomous Community.

### New euskal etxea in Concepción de Uruguay, Argentina

In its last meeting, the Basque Cabinet of Ministers approved the inscription in the Register of Basque Centers of "Asociación Vasca Ibai Txori," located in Concepción de

Uruguay, Entre Ríos Province, Argentina.

### Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Corrigan Maguire visits Euskadi

Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe received Mairead Corrigan Maguire, winner of the 1976 Nobel Peace. "We need more politicians like the Lehendakari who are willing to take risks for peace," said Corrigan. The Lehendakari assured his guest that the Basque people have learned from the Irish and from Corrigan herself. "We need more women around the world to become involved in conflict resolution," he added.

Abuztuan Chinon (Kalifornia) NABO-ren biltzarra ospatu zen. Berrero ere ikusi dugu ospakizun hau aurrera egin dezan egin behar den lan itzela eta horretaz harro gaude. Horrelako biltzar bat antolatzea auzolan erraldoia da eta boluntario asko behar dira.

# EUS

## «THEY A PURDY GOOD A'BUNCH" VOLUNTEERING TO BE BASQUE

My grandfather Benito Yursa and oldest brother years ago were speaking about the Notre Dame football team that had just lost a game to Purdue University. My brother Bernardo Jose stated: "You said that Notre Dame never loses." My grandfather replied: "Who did they lose to?" to which he was told "Purdue." My grandfather then quipped in his accented English: "they a purdy good a'bunch" ("they're a pretty good bunch" and thus there was no shame in losing to a team of that caliber). That line has lived on for years in our family, and I think it's appropriate to apply here in a different sense. It relates to those who step up and give of their time, treasure and talent to keep our Basque festivals going.

Putting on Basque festivals is labor-intensive, and it requires the work of numerous volunteers. One such example was just over Labor Day Weekend when the Chino Basque Club celebrated its 40th Anniversary and it served as host of the NABO Convention. It was impressive to see the number of people throwing in together to make for what was a great weekend slate of events. We can't cover it all, but below are some highlight photographs that gives you a glimpse of the amount of volunteer contributions on the part of workers and performers that it took to put this festival together. And while the photos are just from the Chino event, this same is played out all around our Basque communities from Salt Lake City to Fresno, from New York to Seattle ... as volunteers work together to keep the celebration of Basque heritage alive. The volunteer nature of it all adds a special dimension. Contributions large and small are required, and when that all comes together to yield a successful festival, it really is something to behold.

JOHN YURSA





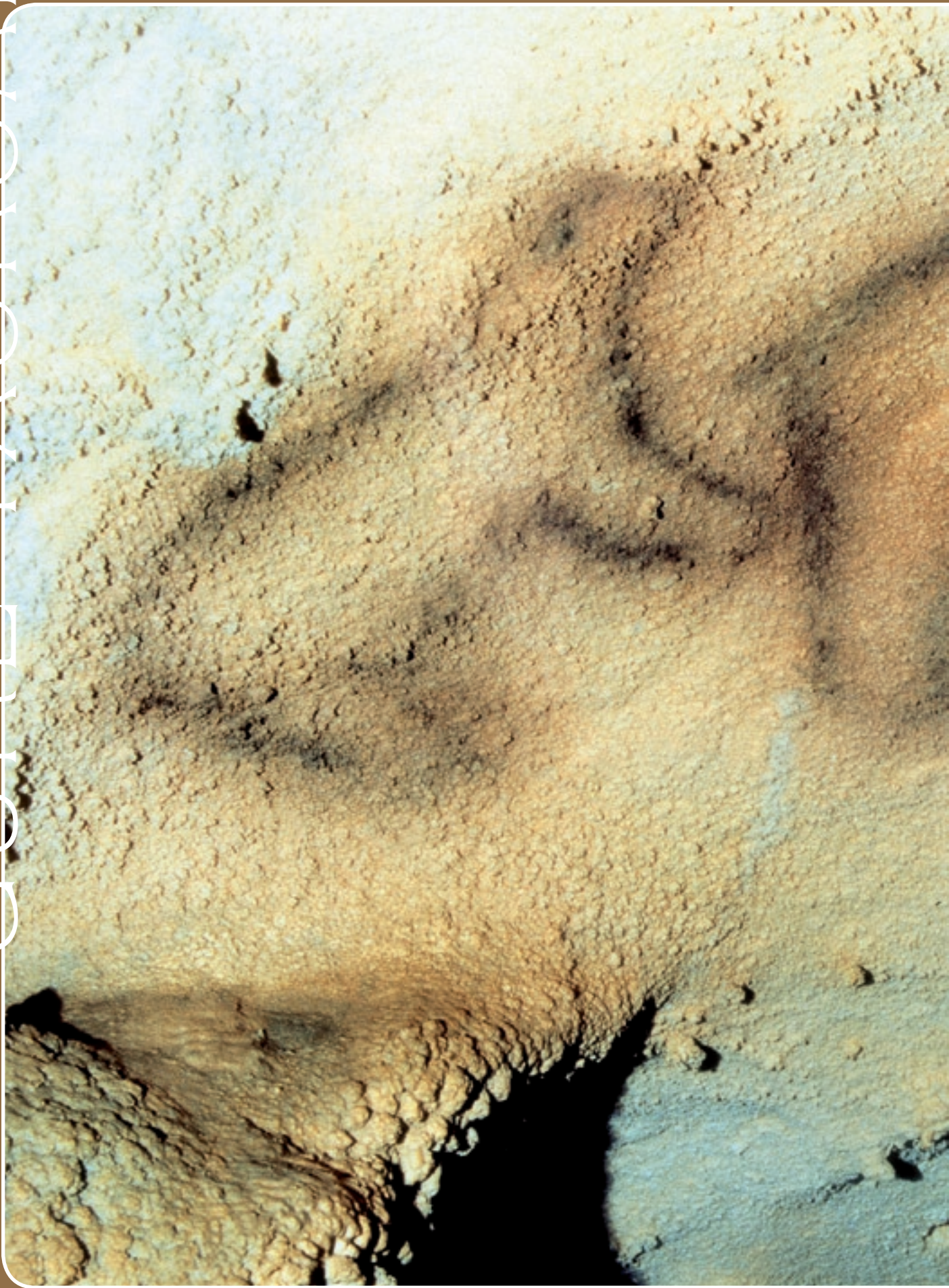
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GOBIERNO VASCO





## Branka Paseo Eduardo Chillida 13, 20008 Donostia

Following the Slow Food philosophy, Restaurante Branka might be defined as "Traditional Basque cuisine based on the season's finest local produce." The best locally-grown vegetables (tender peas, baby broad beans), tasty boletus and wild spring mushrooms, and the freshest Bay of Biscay shellfish are all staples on Branka's menu. The restaurant also specializes in wood grilled fish (turbot, sole, grouper and hake). Branka is situated at one end of Ondarreta beach, with fantastic views over La Concha Bay and the Bay of Biscay. It is also next to Eduardo Chillida's celebrated sculpture, "Wind Combs". To make the most of the stunning panoramic views the dining area is located on the second floor of the building, lending the space a bright, open feel with very special natural illumination set off by the blue of the sea. Two young stars of classic Basque gastronomy, Cristina Izaguirre and Pablo Loureiro, granddaughter and son of acclaimed local restaurateurs - founders of the Rodil and Zepai restaurants - are Branka's maitre and chef, respectively.

### TXANGURRO A LA DONOSTIARRA WITH PUMPKIN CREAM IN A SOUP OF PORRUSALDA.

#### PREPARATION:

##### Txangurro a la donostiarra

Finely chop the leek, carrot and green onion. Sauté vegetables slowly in butter and oil. When the vegetables are soft, add the tomato sauce and continue to sauté. Add the crabmeat, continue cooking. At the end, flambé the brandy and add to mixture.

##### Pumpkin cream:

Place cooked pumpkin, cheese wedges and butter in blender and blend until emulsified. Add salt and pepper.

##### Porrusalda soup:

Sauté the vegetables in the oil and butter. Add soup broth and cook down until the vegetables are soft. Blend the mixture and strain.

##### Vinegar-pumpkin seed crisp:

Whisk together flour, vinegar and sugar. Spread the dough out onto a Sil-Pat (or parchment paper) and



sprinkle the pumpkin seeds on top. Bake at 150° C for 8-9 minutes. (Bake until crispy but not overdone)

#### ASSEMBLE ON PLATE:

Fill a metal mold with 2/3 crabmeat and 1/3 pumpkin cream and bake. Place in center of dish with the crisp on top. Pour porrusalda soup around the bottom of the dish. The dish can be garnished with a basil leaf.

#### INGREDIENTS

##### (Txangurro)

500 g. crabmeat  
1/2 half cup tomato sauce  
2 leeks  
1 green onion  
1 carrot  
25 g. butter  
0.5 dl. sunflower oil  
Splash of brandy

##### (Pumpkin cream)

100 g. cooked pumpkin  
2 light laughing cow cheese wedges  
10 g. butter  
Salt and white pepper

##### (Porrusalda soup)

150 g. white leek  
100 g. potato  
100 g. carrot  
600 ml. soup broth  
15 g. butter  
15 ml. mild olive oil

##### (Vinegar and pumpkin crisp)

Pumpkin seeds  
100 g. flour  
100 g. Sherry vinegar  
50 g. sugar



This is a picture of Basilia Irigoyen and José Echaide, my great grandparents on my mother's side, with their children Marcelino, Modesta, María, and Juan Martín (my grandfather) in the picture.

The picture was taken in Europe, in my grandfather's home town of Igantzi in the Pyrenees. He goes back to visit regularly.

Graciela Iriondo

DO YOU HAVE A PICTURE FOR THE PHOTO ALBUM?

If you do, and would like to see it published here,  
send it by e-mail to: [ji-arregui@ej-gv.es](mailto:ji-arregui@ej-gv.es)

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