



Opportunities for foreign buyers of Spanish real estate

London, 2014/12/01

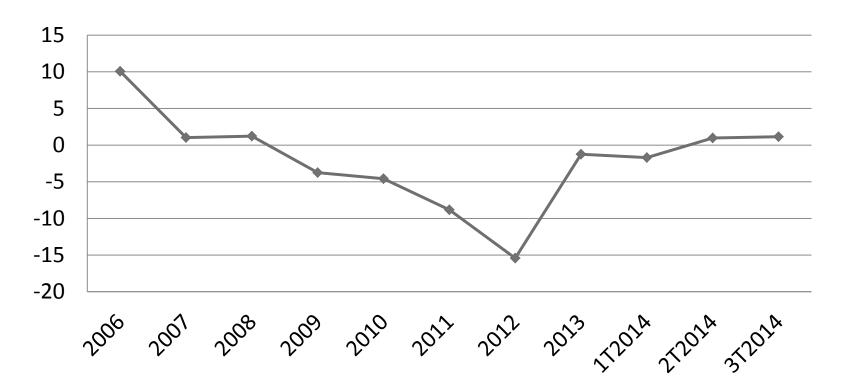
### **STATISTICS**

#### **Current situation: signs of stabilization**

- ➤ Prices rose by 1,15% in the Q3 of 2014. Second year-on- year increase in a row since 2008.
- ➤ The number of transactions still shows low figures, but there are signs of a timid increase. In Q3 almost 80.000 purchases were registered an increase of 1.4%.
- > During the last three months the number of mortgages taken has increased.
- ➤ Real Estate acquisitions by foreign citizens in Spain accounted for 13,10% of all registered transactions in Q3 2014, setting a new all time high

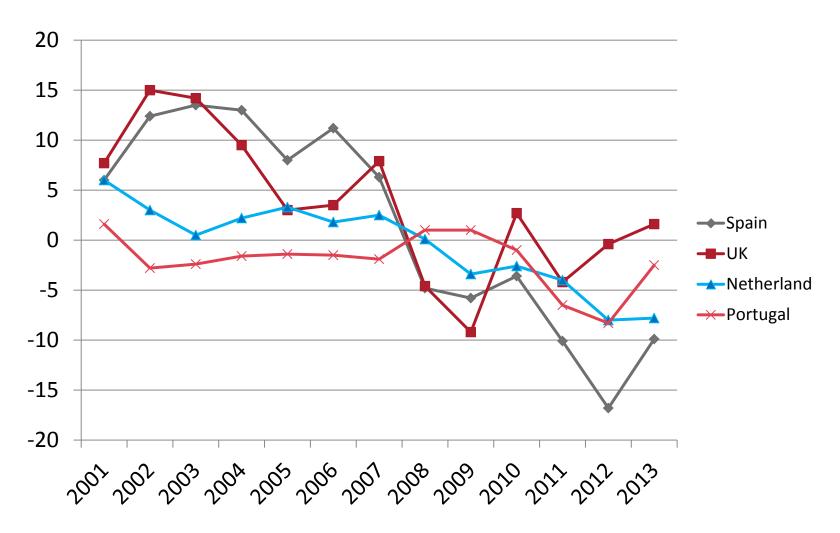
#### Annual average rate of change in house prices

- Housing prices soared 200% from 1997 to early 2008
- Subsequently prices have dropped by 32%



Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain

#### **House price index - deflated - 1 year % change**

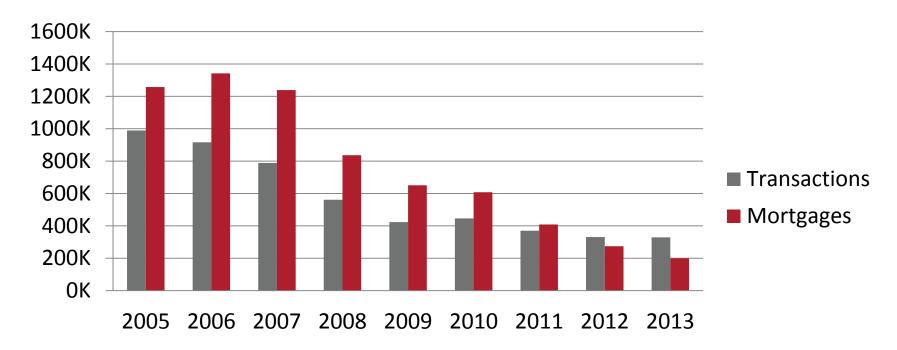


Source: Eurostat



#### Transactions registered and mortgages (thousands of units)

- In 2005-2006 nearly 1 million sales were registered. Last year only 329.000 transactions were registered
- The number of mortgages taken out to purchase homes tripled from 1997 and 2006. Since that year the number has reduced 7-fold.



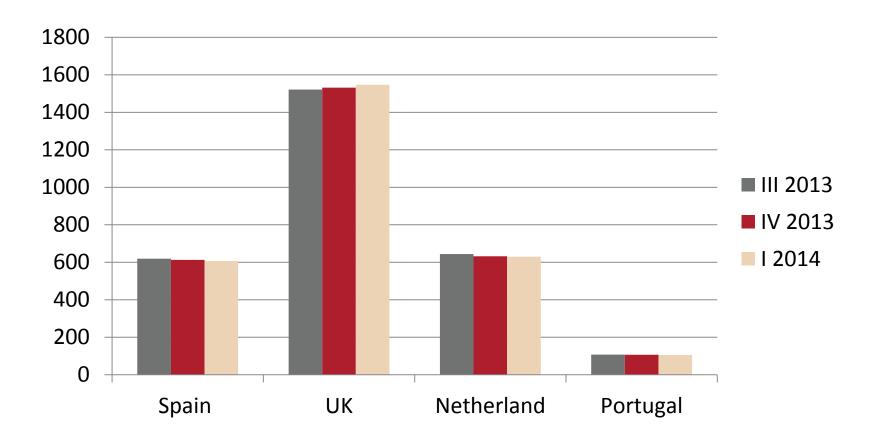
(thousands of units)

Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain and National Institute of Statistics (INE)



#### **Total Outstanding Residential Mortgage Lending (Million EUR)**

- In most EU countries the credit crunch persists
- A timid increase in the number of mortgages can be seen in UK, Germany and Belgium

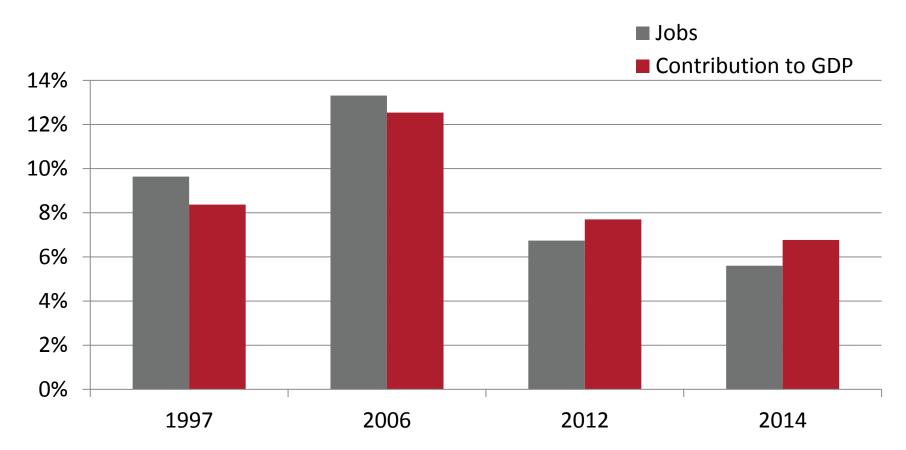


Source: European Mortgage Federation



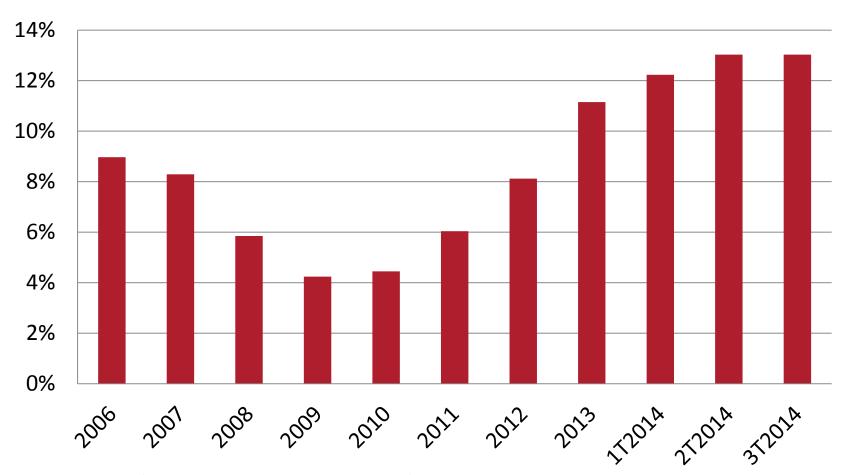
#### **Construction Sector (Jobs and contribution to the GDP)**

- The contribution of the Construction Sector to the GDP of Spain reached 12,5% in 2006
- In 10 years 1,3 million jobs were created in the Construction Sector. However, since then, 1,8 million jobs have been destroyed.



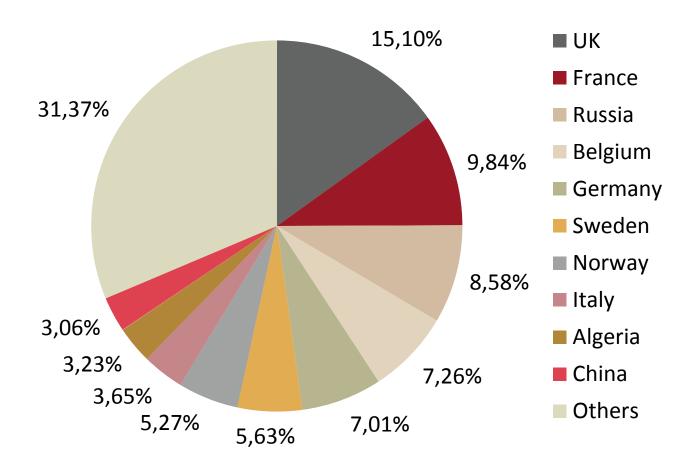
Source: National Institute of Statistics

#### % Transactions with foreign citizens involved



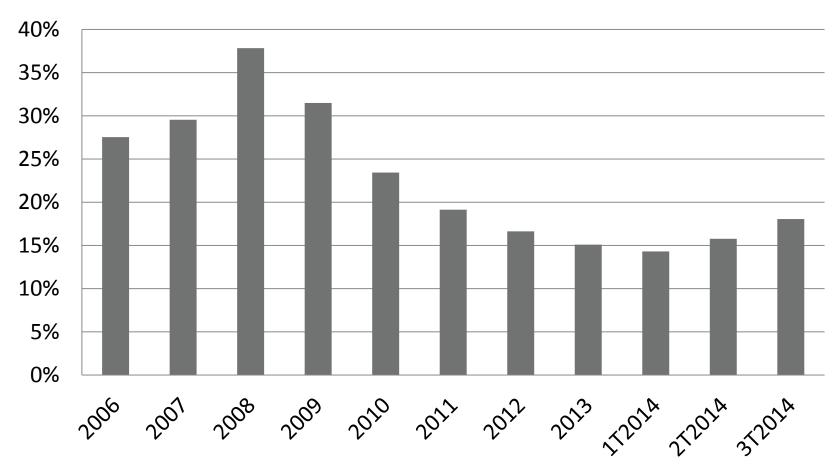
Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain

#### Most foreigners purchasing real estate in Spain do it for touristic reasons



Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain

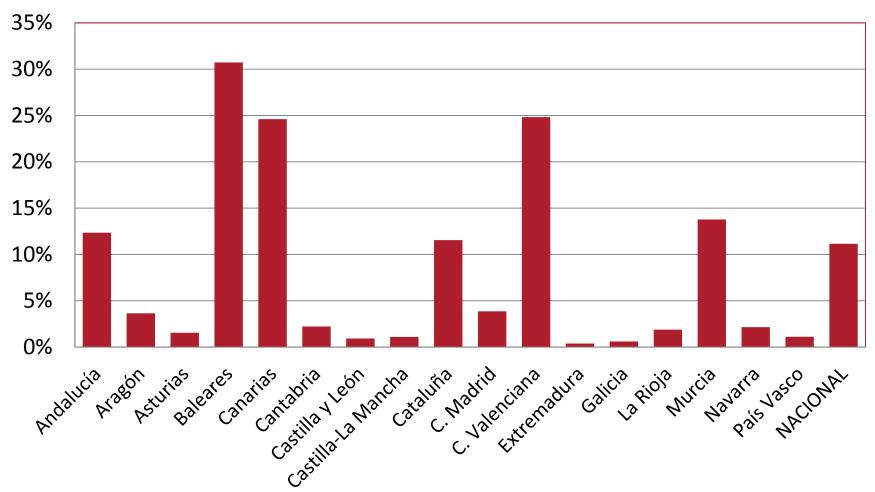
#### % transactions by British Citizens of all the homes purchased by foreigners



Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain



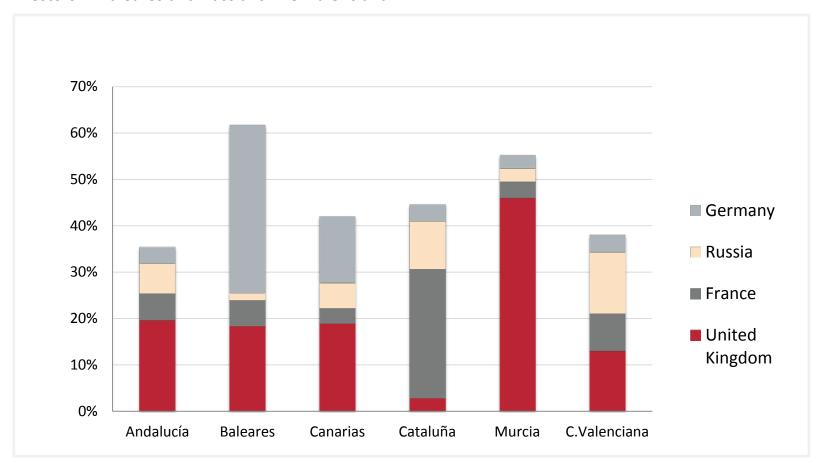
#### Transactions with foreign citizens involved by CCAA.(%) 2013



Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain

#### Demand of properties by foreigners on Mediterranean coast CCAA

British Citizens are on top of the ranking in Andalucía, Murcia & Canarias; French in Cataluña, German investors in Baleares and Russians in C. Valenciana

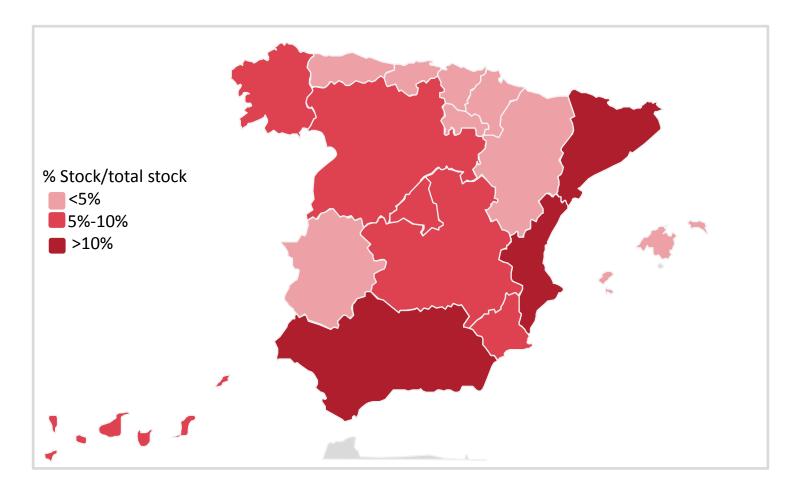


Source: Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain



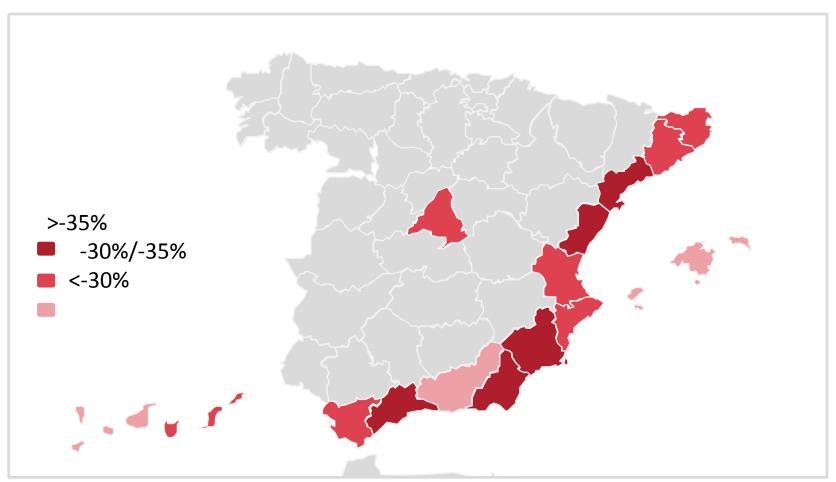
#### % Vacant Stock / total stock

- ➤ 563.908 homes, not yet sold or rented in 2013: Decreased of 13,21% since2009.
- C. Valenciana, Andalucía & Cataluña make up 49% of the total national stock



Source: Ministry of Public Works

#### Variation in prices 2008- 2014 in the top 15 provinces with foreign demand for properties

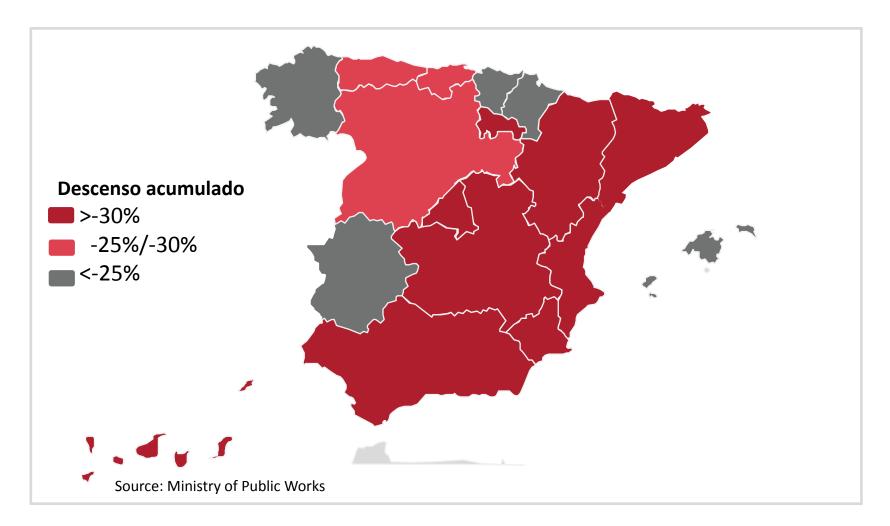


Source: Ministry of Public Works



#### Variation in prices 2008-2014 by CCAA

Prices have dropped more intensely in Coastal Regions and in some Communities of the interior like Madrid and Castilla-La Mancha



# LEGAL CERTAINTY THROUGH THE LAND REGISTRY

## Registradores de ESPAÑA



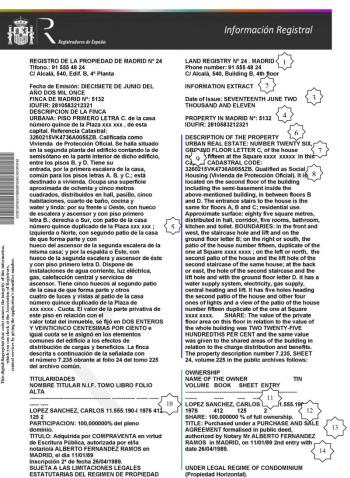
#### **Consumer safety in purchasing property**

Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain has drawn up a guide outlining the different steps and recommendations that a private purchaser should follow when buying a house in Spain. Setp by step

- Searching for the most appropriate house.
- Signing the contract.
- Payment of taxes.
- Registration in the Land Registry.
- Expenses incurred in buying a house.

More information: <a href="https://buying">https://buying</a> ahouse.registradores.org//

## Land Registry certificates in English by Public Corporation of Property Rights and Commerce Registrars of Spain



- 1-4. Competent Land Registry Office and kind of information: competent Land Registry Office; kind of information; place, time and date of issue; LR number of the property.
- 5-9. Description of the property: Identification and description of the property; descriptive features of the property; special number in the condominium and its share in it; qualified as Social Housing; Cadastral Code
- 9-14 Ownership: Ownership; name of the owner; rank of ownership; Legal Document; Land Registry Data and Date of its entry
- 15- 23 Charges: Mortgages and other charges; Source Charges; notice about tax responsibility over this property; Mortgage; holder of the mortgage in force; Foreclosure Notice; Annotation of Embargo; Pending Documents; Information for consumers.

http://www.registradores.org

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#### Registration of documents executed before foreign notaries



- CROBECO: Online resource to aid European conveyancing
- Judgment of the Supreme Court of June 19, 2012 : foreign notarial document can access the Spanish Registry and must fulfil in Spain the full effects of a deed.

#### Planning law (Royal Legislative Decree 8/2011 of July the 1st)

- ❖ It will not be possible to register any new finished construction unless the License of first occupation is supplied as well as the traditionally required construction permits and the Technical Certificate
- Opening case file of Urban Discipline in relation to activities which imply the creation of new registered properties, by means of parcellation, re-parcellation of any kind, statement of new construction or establishment of condominium, will require, according to Administrative mandate, the corresponding preemptive annotation at the Land Registry. This prevents third parties acquiring in good faith from being damaged by activities they haven't been part of.
- Allowing the registration of situations where the lack of compliance with applicable urban regulations, and related sanctions imposed, have prescribed, while maintaining the rest of limitations affecting properties that do not fully comply with urban planning regulations.

#### **New Coastal Law**

- ❖ A new Coastal Law has come into force, to enhance the information that users can obtain and find out from the Registry about the boundaries of the Public Property in the land nearby the shore and the houses built on it. Buying a property in the Spanish coast is now more secure.
- ❖ The most relevant development in the field of demarcation of the public Property is the intervention of the Peripheral Coastal Service together with the Land Registry, that will be provided with the official Coastal Public Domain Line, so the Registrar can perform the required verifications regarding the relation between the property and that LDPMT, to inform whether the land or house is affected or not by these limitations.

