

---

## OCTOBER FESTIVITIES IN HONOUR OF PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES

---



The 2 October is the day of the Patron Saint of Police (Santos Ángeles Custodios). On this day, various festive activities took place in the city of Barcelona, with the official ceremonies taking place mainly on 4 October, first in Barcelona's Cathedral and afterwards in the Palau Sant Jordi. Presiding were the Governmental Delegate and Subdelegate, the Chief Superintendent of the Catalan Police force, the General Chief of the 7<sup>th</sup> section of the Spanish Civil Guard, representatives of the Judiciary, and the Catalan Minister of Security.

During the ceremony, several members of the different Police Forces and Public and Private Security agencies were decorated, and the authorities expressed their gratitude to the Police for the great efforts and sacrifices that go hand-in-hand with their work, and which, in the case of the National Police Force, led to the disbandment of major international crime organisations in 2010 and a greater number of those responsible for reported crimes being brought to trial in the Community of Catalonia.



The Directorship of the Masters in Criminology at the EPSI-UAB was present by express invitation of the Office of the Chief



Superintendent of Police, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for this, all the more so for the excellent reception we received from all the staff and authorities that were present.



We were also able to take part in the first-ever celebrations in honour of the Armed Forces, which culminated on 12 October, the same day as the festival of Hispanidad (Spain's national holiday) and of Santa María del Pilar, who is also the Patron Saint of the Spanish Civil Guard. It is well-known (but it is always good to remember how the story goes) that the Virgin Mary's first apparition was

before the Apostle Saint James and his disciples when they were preaching in Hispania, near the river Ebro, and this happened in the year 40 AD, when she was still physically alive in Palestine. As our Director Francisco Viñals Carrera mentioned in his inaugural speech at the festival of Santa María del Pilar in Barcelona, on 11 October, in the Nuestra Señora del Pilar Church and the IPSE school, none of the bombs which fell during the Civil War in the Santa



María del Pilar Basilica actually exploded, and so it was the first church to be dedicated to the Mother of Christ, who now unites us even more in this Jacobean year due to her direct relationship with the Apostle Saint James, and which is the reason behind the Pope's planned visit.

In order to celebrate these festivities, the directorship of the Master in Criminology, represented by the lecturers Francisco Viñals and Mariluz Puente — honourable representatives of the university — has included a

brief article on the "ComFut" Future Soldier project, as Spain is a pioneer in this European Project which will result above all in improved safety levels for our armed forces that are working for peace in Afghanistan.

