

STATE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



No. 230

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

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III. OTHER PROVISIONS

MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY, RELATIONS WITH THE COURTS AND DEMOCRATIC MEMORY

20102 Order PCM/1065/2023, of September 18, declaring the well-known roots of the Bahá'í Community of Spain, for the purposes provided for in Organic Law 7/1980, of July 5, on Religious Freedom.

Organic Law 7/1980, of July 5, on Religious Freedom, in its article 7.1, refers to the declaration of well-established roots in Spain of the Churches, Confessions and religious Communities registered in the Registry of Religious Entities. This declaration was developed through Royal Decree 593/2015, of July 3, which regulates the declaration of well-established roots of religious confessions in Spain, which establishes the requirements and procedure to follow to obtain this declaration. , reducing the margin of discretion of the Administration and increasing the degree of certainty of the applicants for this declaration.

Specifically, article 3 of Royal Decree 593/2015, of July 3, contemplates as requirements for the declaration of well-established roots in Spain of churches, confessions or religious communities, having been registered in the Registry of Religious Entities for thirty years, except that the entity accredits recognition abroad of at least sixty years old and has been registered in the aforementioned Registry for a period of fifteen years; prove your presence in at least ten autonomous communities and/or cities of Ceuta and Melilla; have one hundred inscriptions or annotations in the Registry of Religious Entities, between registrable entities and places of worship, or a lower number in the case of entities or places of worship of special relevance due to their activity and number of members; have an adequate and sufficient structure and representation for its organization for the purposes of the declaration of well-known roots, and accredit its presence and active participation in Spanish society.

The Bahá'í Community of Spain presented its request for a declaration of well-known roots and, in application of current regulations, the General Subdirectorate of Religious Freedom began the investigation of the corresponding procedure. In said file, and in accordance with the provisions of article 4 of Royal Decree 593/2015 of July 3, there are the reports, justifications and other documents provided by the entity to prove compliance with the requirements demanded by the applicable regulations and referred to previously. Likewise, there is the mandatory report of the Advisory Commission on Religious Freedom that agreed to report favorably on the declaration of well-known roots of the Bahá'í Community in Spain.

Having examined, therefore, the applicable regulations and the documentation included in the procedure, it becomes clear that the requesting entity meets all the necessary requirements to obtain the declaration of well-known roots in Spain. Indeed, the requesting entity has been registered for fifty-five years and has one hundred and eight registered entities and seventeen places of worship registered in fifteen Autonomous Communities and Autonomous Cities. It has a structure that ranges from the National Assembly to the local assemblies, defining its statutes, the form of election of its legal representatives, the minimum number of members to form a local community and the coordination rules within its structure that guarantee continuity and responsibility within it. Finally, the documentation provided relates the activity carried out in society in the field of non-formal education, the defense of Human Rights, in particular, religious freedom and those persecuted for their status as Bahá'í, equality between men and women that is part of the principles of the Bahá'í faith expressed by its founder, and activity in the academic and



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legal, as well as participation in forums and interreligious dialogue tables. Finally, they demonstrate an important international presence, having obtained the recognition of a status similar to the well-known roots in neighboring countries such as Portugal, Italy, the United Kingdom, France or Germany.

For all this, in view of what has been instructed, in accordance with the proposed resolution of the General Subdirectorate of Religious Freedom, and in agreement with the Advisory Commission on Religious Freedom, under the provisions of Royal Decree 593/2015, of July 3, I have:

Only.

Declare the well-known roots of the Bahá'í Community in Spain.

Against this order, which puts an end to the administrative route, an optional appeal for reconsideration or directly a contentious-administrative appeal may be filed, as established by Law 39/2015, of October 1, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations and Law 29. /1998, of July 13, regulating the Contentious-Administrative Jurisdiction.

Madrid, September 18, 2023. -The Minister of the Presidency, Relations with the Cortes and Democratic Memory, Félix Bolaños García.