



## **Member Profile as per 2023**

**Member organisation:** Colegio Oficial de Detectives Privados de Catalunya (Col·legi Oficial de Detectius Privats de Catalunya (CODPCAT)).

**IKD membership:** January 2013

**Company Status:** Our association operates with the Company Tax Code number. G62302336

**Members:** 350

- Membership Categories:
- Practicing
- Non-Practicing
- Honour

**Registered office:** C/ de Casp, 130, alt. 4, 08013 Barcelona. Spain

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**URL:** [www.collegidetectius.org](http://www.collegidetectius.org)

**Social Media:** Twitter: @codpctat Instagram: @codpcat

## **Logo**



**President:** Mercé Ferran

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**Agency:** Ferran Alonso Investigació

**Secretary:** Gemma Diaz Urbana

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**Agency:**

**IKD Delegate:** Oscar Rosa

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**Agency:** Iterita Consulting

**Description:** The Colegio Oficial de Detectives Privados de Catalunya (Col·legi Oficial de Detectius Privats de Catalunya ( CODPCAT), is a professional association of private detectives of Catalonia. Is an organization established in accordance with Spanish Law 2/1999 of March 30th. Currently, it boasts more than 350 members who practice their profession across the entire country of Spain. The Board of Directors consists of the President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and six Counsellors. Board meetings are held on a monthly basis, and an annual general meeting is typically scheduled in April. Additionally, we provide a special course every year called the “Advanced Investigation Course” which lasts for seven-eight months. It is intended for private detectives in their third year of university studies. The course involves collaboration with well-known industry experts. Private detectives specialized in various fields of private investigation, members of law enforcement, lawyers, and technical consultants are part of the course.

**Different Committee:**

- Committee on Culture and Social Affairs
- Joint Committee
- Economic Committee
- Training Committee
- Intrusion Committee
- Committee on Professional Ethics
- Institutional and Communication Commission
- Committee for Member Support

**Code of Ethics:** <https://www.collegidetectius.org/codigo-deontologico/>

**Directory of Members:** Directory of Members A directory of members by location is available at <https://www.collegidetectius.org/web/listado-colegiados/>

**Disqualification:** Under the article 10.5 of the By-Laws

**Country regulation on PI:**

To work as a Private Detective, the following requirements must be met:

1. Possess the nationality of any of the member states of the European Union or a state party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, or be a national of a third state that has signed an international agreement with Spain, in which each party recognizes access to the exercise of these activities for nationals of the other state.
2. Be of legal age.
3. Have the physical capacity and psychological aptitude necessary for the exercise of the respective functions.
4. Hold an official university degree in the field of Private Investigation, demonstrating the acquisition of the required competencies, or hold the title of the Private Investigation Course recognized by the Ministry of the Interior.

5. Have no criminal record for intentional offenses.
6. Have not been sanctioned for serious or very serious infractions in private security matters in the two or four previous years, respectively.
7. Have not been dismissed from service in the Spanish Security Forces and Corps or the Armed Forces of Spain or the country of their nationality or origin within the past two years.
8. Have not been convicted of unlawful intrusion into the scope of protection of the right to honor, personal and family privacy, or one's own image, violation of communications secrecy, or other fundamental rights in the five years preceding the application.
9. Successfully pass the verification tests established by the Ministry of the Interior, if applicable, to demonstrate the knowledge and capacity necessary for the exercise of their functions.

To practice in the Autonomous Community of Catalonia, it is necessary to be a member of the Official College of Private Detectives of Catalonia (Col·legi Oficial de Detectius Privats de Catalunya).

In the case of nationals of European Union member states or states party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, whose authorization or professional qualification has been obtained in any of those states for the performance of private security functions, they may provide services in Spain, provided that, upon verification by the Ministry of the Interior, they meet the following requirements:

1. Possess a qualification, authorization, or certification issued by the competent authorities of any member state or state party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area authorizing them to exercise private security functions in that state.
2. Demonstrate knowledge, training, and equivalent skills required in Spain for the practice of private security professions, for which they must possess the following documents: a) In cases where the home state regulates different private security professions, the certificate of competence or training title that accredits them as such. This certificate or title must meet the following requirements: - Issued by a competent authority of a member state, designated according to the legal, regulatory, or administrative provisions of that state. - Demonstrate a level of professional qualification equivalent, at a minimum, to the level immediately preceding the requirement in Spain, as specified in Article 19.3 of Royal Decree 581/2017, of June 9th, for the profession of private detective. - Demonstrate the readiness of the holder to exercise the respective profession. b) In cases where the home state does not regulate different private security professions, the document issued by the competent authority, attesting to the exercise of the profession in question in that state or another European Union state, for at least two years on a full-time basis during the ten years immediately preceding the application, provided they hold one or more certificates of competence or training titles. In any case, the two years of experience mentioned above cannot be required when the applicant demonstrates professional qualification acquired through the completion of regulated training as defined in Article 4.5 of Royal Decree 581/2017, of June 9th, corresponding to the aforementioned levels of qualification.
3. Have sufficient knowledge of the Spanish language to perform private security functions effectively.

4. Meet the requirements stated in sections a), e), f), g), h), and i) of the first section.

When a national of a European Union member state or a state party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area seeks recognition of their qualification as a private detective, they must compulsorily undergo an aptitude test on Spanish positive law. Furthermore, the test will include necessary compensatory measures when the candidate falls under the following circumstances:

- When the training certified by the title, certificate of competence, or document attesting to the exercise of the profession in question in their home state or another European Union state is at least one year shorter than the requirement in Spain for access to different private security professions.
- When the received training corresponds to substantially different subjects from those covered in the training title required in Spain.
- When the regulated profession in Spain includes one or more regulated professional activities that do not exist in the corresponding profession in the home member state, and such a difference is characterized by specific training required in Spain on substantially different subjects than those covered by the certificate of competence or training title claimed by the applicant.

Loss of any of the indicated requirements will result in the termination of authorization and automatic cancellation of registration in the National Register, which will be decided by the Minister of the Interior through a motivated resolution issued after hearing the interested party.

Inactivity of security personnel for a period exceeding two years will require them to undergo new tests to be able to perform their assigned functions. The tests may consist of the following modalities:

- Being declared fit in specific tests convened by the Ministry of the Interior for that purpose.
- Providing evidence of having completed an update course in private security regulations, with a duration of at least forty instructional hours, delivered by an authorized training center, either in person or remotely.

**Disciplinary procedures:** Under the Title VIII of the By-Laws Country regulation on PI: PI is regulated by Law 23/92 “de Seguridad Privada” (later referred to as LSP) and its envelopment regulations (<http://www.interior.gob.es/normativa-89/leyes-ordinarias-1324/ley-23-1992-de-30-dejulio-1443#art19>). LSP establishes that the following activities can only be provided by PIs: i) To obtain and provide information and evidence of “private facts”. By private facts it means anything related to matters other than public criminal offences, which are exclusive competence of Police. ii) To investigate private criminal offences (offences that are not prosecuted without prior complain of the offended). iii) To provide non-uniformed security services in hotels, grand stores, fairs, and any other similar areas. LSP establishes a clear separation between security and investigation. All other security activities different from non-uniformed security (such as man-guard, bodyguard, money transportation, access control...) are reserved to security companies and specifically forbidden to PDs. In the

same way, security companies cannot provide services assigned to PDs. Even though the investigation of public prosecuted crimes by PIs is forbidden in LSP, Spanish Criminal Courts have admitted PI investigations and their reports. Professional practice is only allowed to people holding a Private Detective License, issued by the Ministry of Interior. The license number must be shown in all reports, adverts, business cards and any other documents issued by the PI.

The requirements to obtain a license are:

- Legal age.
- Nationality of any EU country.
- Clear criminal record.
- Not having been convicted by private offences regarding privacy.
- Not being public servant. -Not being separated from Police or Army because of wrongdoing. - Hold a university degree on Private Investigation (3-year studies). The incorporation of PI reports to court files and the deposition of PI is regulated at the Civil Procedure Law (LEC). Article LEC 380 confers PDs a specific status and orders the Court to verify the PI' s professional condition (by showing the license card). Moreover, LEC confers a mixed nature to PIs, as witness (regarding the facts discovered) and as an expert (regarding the conclusions stated at the report regarding the facts discovered).

**Total No. of Members:** 350

**Is there a Government License?** Yes

**If yes, under what authority?** Ministry of Interior

**Name of Licensing Regulator:** Unidad Central de Seguridad Privada (a department of Spanish Police)

**Have the regulations for licensing been altered since 2013?** Yes

**If yes, specify:** In 2014 the Spanish Parliament approved a new Law (Law 5/2014 on Private Security).

The Law enforced the secrecy of PI also added some requirements for professional practice.

Nothing standing, the Law did not introduce significative changes. During 2014-2015 there was to be approved a regulation to develop some matters according to Law 5/2014.

**Comments on Association Activities, if any:**

- Investigation Advanced Training Course (named CAI).
- 30th June 2023. Training on private detectives and internal investigations (Law 2/2023 and much more).
- 5th July 2023. Online training alongside other private investigators professional association about restricted areas, privacy, and residence.
- Annual conference named DETCON (5h -7th October 2023).
- During the final night of our conference, we host a special gala dinner known as the “Detective's Night”. This event is dedicated to honouring outstanding private detectives for various reasons, students from the investigative course offered by

the college who have excelled, and private companies that have contributed to promoting and spreading awareness about the private detective profession.

November 2023