

Oral Questions

Overview

This database includes information about oral questions. According to the Congress' Standing Orders (articles 185-190), oral questions are presented at a fixed question time on a regular basis (generally on Wednesdays). MPs hand in their questions in advance so that the executive has time to prepare a response. When question time comes (the following Wednesday) the MP asks the question and a member of the executive branch (the Prime Minister, a Minister, or a Secretary of State) responds, both orally. Individual MPs, not parliamentary groups, have the authority to ask parliamentary questions. However, in practice, the strong party discipline that characterizes the Spanish political system means that the parties control the process. The rules governing question time have been significantly changed over time¹ (for a detailed explanation see Chaqués, Palau and Baumgartner 2015, pages 90-91).

Variable names and description

id: identification number

Legislature: legislature in which the oral question is introduced

Year: year the oral question is introduced

Month: month the oral question is introduced

Major topic: CAP major topic

Subtopic: CAP subtopic

Title: title of the oral question

¹ Congress' Standing Orders (articles 185-190) (www.congreso.es) and Boletín Oficial de las Cortes Generales (BOCG). Resolución de la Presidencia del Congreso de los Diputados sobre el desarrollo del artículo 188 del reglamento del Congreso, de 12 de enero de 1983. Resolución de la Presidencia del Congreso de los Diputados, de 18 de Junio de 1996, sobre el Desarrollo del artículo 188 del Reglamento, relativo a pregunta para respuesta oral en Pleno. Resolución de la Presidencia del Congreso de los Diputados, de 10 de Junio de 2008, sobre desarrollo del artículo 188 del Reglamento, relativo a preguntas para respuesta oral en Pleno (modificada por Resolución de la Presidencia, de 28 de Diciembre de 2011).