



**GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA**

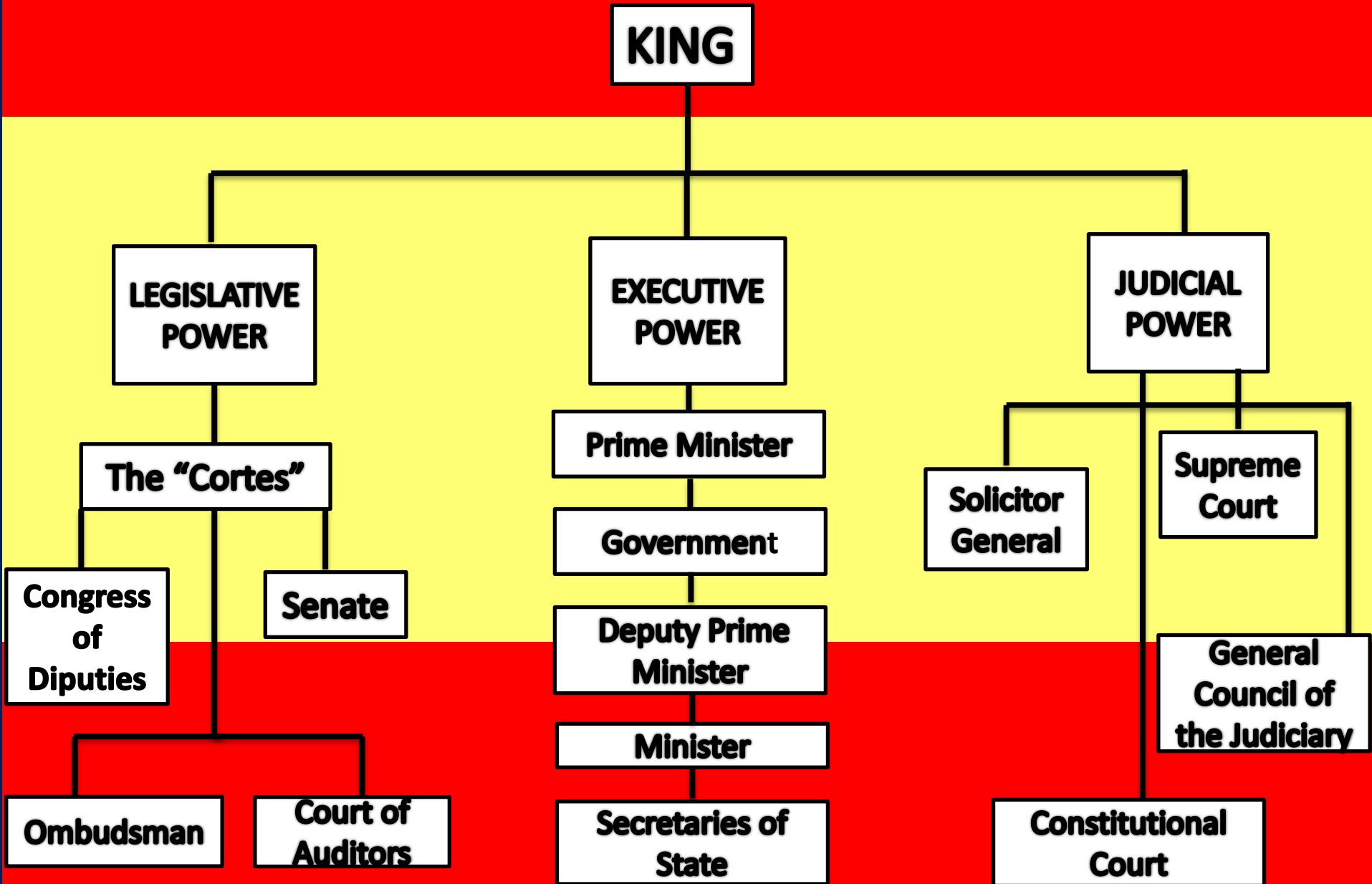
SPANISH GOVERNMENT

Spain Government System



- The system of government in Spain takes the form of a parliamentary monarchy.
- Central State power is divided in:
 - ▣ legislative (Constitutional Court),
 - ▣ executive (National Parliament-Congress),
 - ▣ judiciary.
- After elections, the leader of the party of government becomes the president.
- Spain has four different levels of Government:
 - ▣ Central (Parliament)
 - ▣ Autonomous Regions (17), each with its own Parliament and Government
 - ▣ Provinces (50) **Provincial Governments**
 - ▣ Municipalities (Council headed by Mayor) **Nowadays 8.122**

Organizational structure of Spain



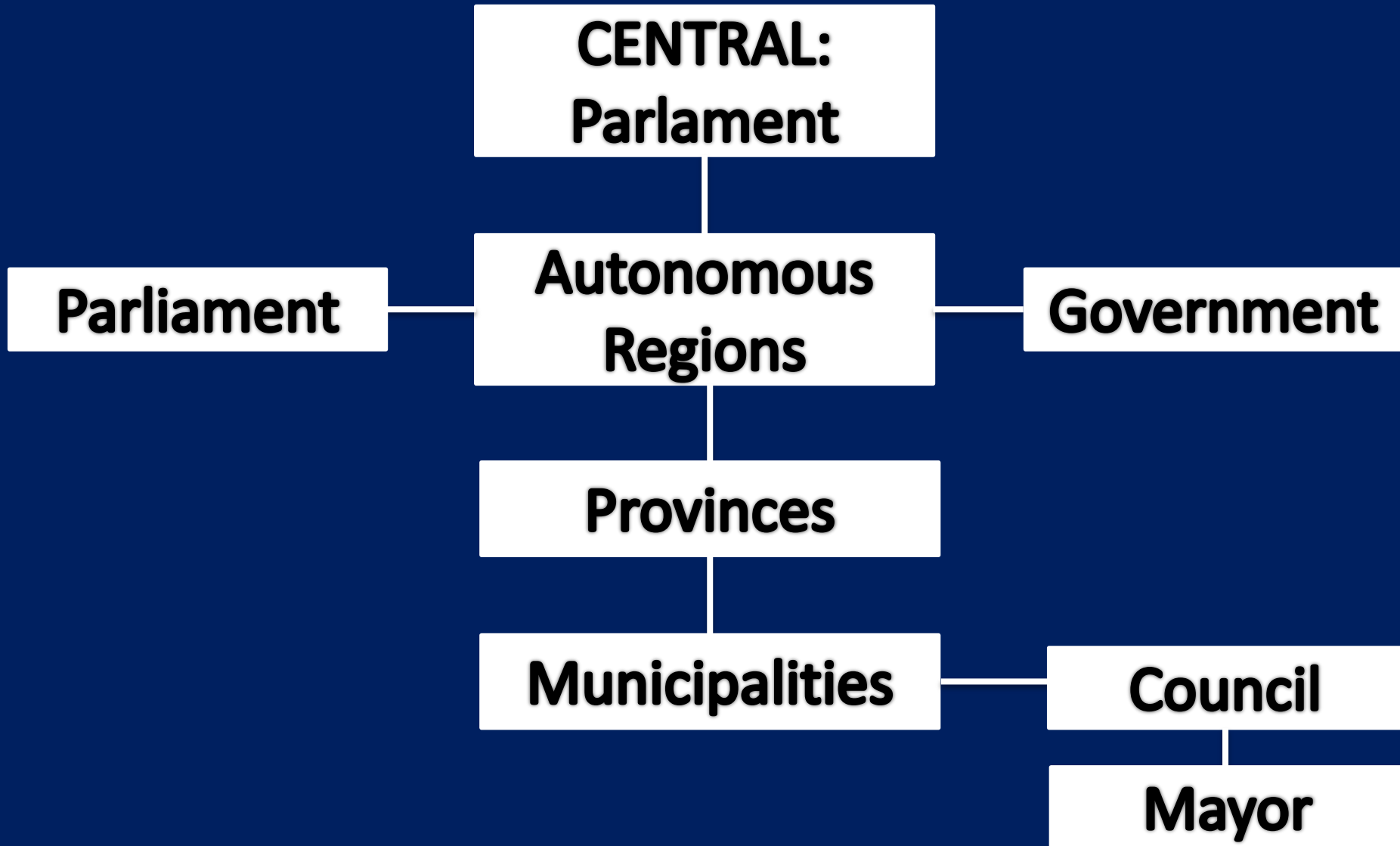
	Main Powers	Election Process	Election Cycle ⓘ
Executive	<p>Monarch is commander-in-chief of the Spanish armed forces and nominates a candidate for president of government. Prime minister is president of government, conducts domestic and foreign policy, civil and military administration, and defense of the nation under the king.</p>	<p>Prime minister is elected by parliament.</p>	<p>Prime Minister: No fixed term length</p>
Judicial	<p>Responsible for processing substantial complaints of wrongdoing against prominent persons such as government ministers, assembly of senators general assembly of representatives and members of the various regional parliaments, senior judges, including the President and judges of the Constitutional Court (the highest tribunal in the Kingdom).</p>	<p>Appointed by the monarch.</p>	<p>Mandatory retirement age of 70</p>
Legislative	<p>Congress of Deputies & Senate: enactment of any law & amendment of the Constitution; Leader of Opposition: Heads an alternative "Shadow Government" which reflects the vies of the largest party not currently in the Congress of Deputy.</p>	<p>Senate has 208 members elected by plurality vote in multi-member constituencies and 49 members appointed by regional legislatures. Congress of Deputies members are elected through a closed-list proportional representation system.</p>	<p>4 years</p>





CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS

Levels of Government



Party	Platform	Leaders	Influence
Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE)	Socially liberal; economically liberal or interventionist; anti-clerical; anti-American	José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero	Control of national government 1982-1996, 2004-
Popular/People's Party (PP)	Socially and economically conservative; very anti-devolution/autonomy; devotion to Roman Catholic Church; associated with vestiges of Franco regime	Manuel Fraga, José María Aznar, Mariano Rajoy	Control of national government 1996-2004; primary opposition party
Convergence and Union (CiU)	Greater autonomy for Catalonia within the limits of the constitution	Jordi Pujol, Artur Mas, Josep Antoni Duran Lleida	Balance of power in Cortes 1993-2000 (swing votes)
Catalan Republican Left (ERC)	Radical devolutionism (autonomy for Catalonia)	Joan Puigcercós i Boixassa	Control of Catalonia 2003- (along with PSOE); seats in Cortes
Basque Nationalist Party (PNV)	Moderate to radical nationalism (right to Basque Country self-determination)	Juan José Ibarretxe, Josu Jon Imaz	Control of Basque Country
Batasuna	Euskal Herritarrok - separatism; political wing of ETA (Basque separatist terrorist group)	Arnaldo Otegi, Kepa Bereziartura	Outlawed in 2003, but fronted by Communist Party of the Basque Lands and Nationalist Basque Action Party with some local control

Another important parties

- ❑ **Citizens (Ciudadanos) :** it is described as center-left and non-nationalist. It is a party which offers a mix of social democracy and progressive liberal positions. It is mainly active in Catalonia and opposes Catalan Nationalism.
- ❑ **Podemos:** it was founded by Pablo Iglesias in the aftermath of the 15-M Movement protests against inequality and corruption. It is a left-wing populist party that seeks to address the problems of Spain. It is the second largest political party in Spain by number of members after PP

Electoral procedures

- On election day, polling stations are run by electoral boards which consist of groups of citizens selected by lottery.**
- The format of the ballot paper is designed by the Spanish state, however, the law allows political parties to produce and distribute their own ballot papers.**
- Ballot papers must be marked by voters and placed inside sealed envelopes which are then placed inside ballot boxes in the polling station.**
- Following the close of polls, the ballots are counted in each polling station in the presence of representatives of the political parties and candidates to know which of them has got more votes.**

Kings of Spain on the 21th century: Juan Carlos I



- **He was born in Rome in 1938. Legitimate heir of the Bourbon dynasty**
- **He was proclaimed king the 22th November of 1975 after the dead of Francisco Franco (dictator of Spain from 1938 to 1973).**
- **He was king for 39 years. He abdicated in 2014 and ceded the power to his son Philip.**
- **He is still being Captain General of the Armed Forces.**

Kings of Spain on the 21th century: Felipe VI

- **He was born in Madrid in 1968. He is the current king of Spain, so he holds the head of state and the supreme commander of the Armed Forces.**
- **He was proclaimed king the 19th June of 2014 after his father abdication.**
- **Nowadays, he is married with Letizia Ortiz (queen of Spain) and they have two children.**

