Vigo, Spain-STS

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| Hardware / Technology | Software | Physical Surroundings | People, Groups, Interests, Roles | Procedures | Laws | Information Systems |
| Urban Context: Apartments and Condominiums (Housing Boom)Internet: Wireless access for examplePublic Trains; Public Bus TransportationCities consist of neighborhoods punctuated by Plazas (Plazas have statute to distinguish form other areas)Example: washing machines designed to operate with low energy and little water useInfrastructure for channeling heavy rains (storm sewers, etc)Variety of energy generating and saving technologies (nuclear, coal—Bilbao, windmill farms in mountains) | Word and other internationally shared software systemsLanguage issue: available in Castilian but in Galego, Basque, and Catalano? Software, hardware and computer access seems widespread but is there a digital divide?Hotel: National chain; implementing computerized data base but attendant had trouble entering (had shadow paper based information) | Coastal region (Atlantic Ocean and river accessible to large ships)Docking areas near coast for recreational boats, fishing (limited), and Trans-Atlantic Ocean LinersSmall, individually owned business in city center but shopping malls in suburbs accessible to those with automobiles (exception—McDonalds in center of Vigo)Stone quarries mined to provide stone for buildings (public and private apartments)Parks designed as as shared nature and cultural space Widely varying local climates but generally mildCivil Service workers (like street cleaners)Public schools; public and private universities (strong religious schools) | Government Officials (Democracy with president; figurehead monarchy)Past—Dictatorship of Franco (military dictatorship that was outcome of civil war)Small business entrepreneurs (café/bars)—impact of no-smoking laws?Banks and financial systemLarge corporations (multinational and country-wide)Different, distinct levels and groups that divide law enforcement responsibilitiesDemocratically minded pressStrong ethnic minorities (Galecians, Catalanos, Basque)Catalonia feels rest of country is dragging it down in current economic crisis Catholic Church (encouraged during Franco dictatorship)ETA (Basque terrorist organization) | Customs review upon entering countryCustoms review upon leaving countryObtaining a Visa (linked to policies of other countries)Tipping (not widely done)Procedures to access social services (unemployment, pensions)Business Procedures?University Procedures (enrolling for a course, teacher refusal, and different pedagogical procedures)Isolation of International Students | Currency is EuroSpain is a member of the European Union which seeks to unite Europe in a common economic market with a common currency.**(Krugman: common currency poses burden on Spain during economic crises)**Social cuts (triggers general strikes and selected strikes from selected sectors)Paternalistic laws (regulating second-hand smoke) | Hotel information system (Hotel chain and not user friendly)Credit card processing information (changing currency and authorizing purchase)Bank systems for collecting, storing, and transferring financial informationGovernment information collecting systems necessary for social programsSecurity cameras (not as pervasive as Britain) |

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| Washing machines designed to operate with low energy and little water useCompact water heater (designed to produce hot water on the spot rather than store it)Extensive windmill farms(Conversion of Bilbao from industrial city to service economy based on Guggenheim Museum) | Microsoft and Apple (operating systems and special features)Language issue: available in Castilian but in Galego, Basque, and Catalano? **Language and education: Digital Divide? (Not English but is Spanish accessible to Galecians, Basques, and Catalonians?)**  | Coastal region (Atlantic Ocean and river accessible to large ships)Docking areas near coast for recreational boats, fishing (limited), and Trans-Atlantic Ocean LinersStone quarries mined to provide stone for buildings (public and private apartments)Parks designed as as shared nature and cultural space Widely varying local climates but generally mild | Government Officials Past Dictatorship of FrancoSmall business entrepreneurs (café/bars)—impact of no-smoking laws?Banks and financial system (speculation and housing boom produced current economic crisis)Strong ethnic minorities (Galecians, Catalanos, Basque--ETA)Catholic Church (encouraged during Franco dictatorship) | Customs review upon entering countryCustoms review upon leaving countryObtaining a Visa (linked to policies of other countries)Tipping (not widely done)University Procedures (enrolling for a course, different pedagogical procedures)Isolation of International Students | Currency is EuroSpain is a member of the European Union**(Krugman: common currency poses burden on Spain during economic crises)****Social cuts (triggers general strikes and selected strikes from selected sectors)**Paternalistic laws (regulating second-hand smoke) | Hotel information system (Hotel chain and not user friendly)Credit card processing information (changing currency and authorizing purchase)Financial system in general and banks in particularSecurity cameras (not as pervasive as Britain) |

1. **Software**: Is language (Spanish) an obstacle to access to software and other computer tools? Those who speak Galego in Galicia, the language of the Basque people, and Catalonian in Catalonia may have trouble accessing computer software whose interface is primarily in Spanish. Value vulnerability in **Justice (equity and access)**
2. **Laws:** Spain is a part of the European Community and share the Euro as common currency. The inability to devalue the Euro has produced a situation where Spanish workers have to accept wage cuts rather than currency devaluation. (See Paul Krugman, New York Times, January 13, 2011.) Vulnerability of **economic values** and **social welfare** due to currency inflexibility. Vulnerability is also located under **procedures** and **people (groups, roles, interests**).
3. **People, groups, interests, roles**: **Solidarity** (political unity under Castilian culture and language) versus **Autonomy** (independence of ethnic groups and cultural traditions). Trajectory issue—**solidarity could change into homogeneity** while **autonomy could change into balkanization.**