



The Rhodes Jewish Historical Foundation

A non-profit organization established in 1997

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Expert From Spain Speaks to the Los Angeles Sephardic Jews Regarding Spanish Citizenship



You are invited to attend this presentation which will be:

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 7pm

at Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel

10500 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90024

Please RSVP at the above phone, fax or email for this free event

Luis Portero, legal counsel for the Spanish Federation of Jewish Communities, will speak in Los Angeles about how Sephardic Jewish descendants can gain Spanish citizenship. This will include information about how and where to apply and what documentation is needed as well as answering many other questions.

In June 2015 the Spanish government approved a law that enables descendants of Sephardic Jews expelled as a result of the 1492 Expulsion to acquire Spanish citizenship. The June vote in the Spanish Congress of Deputies was 292 in favor, 0 against. It marked the final legal hurdle for a highly publicized initiative that was originally proposed in 2012, and approved by the Spanish Cabinet in 2014.

Also known as the "Right of Return" for Sephardic Jews (*Sepharad* means Spain in Hebrew), the new law grants Spanish citizenship to anyone who can meet two seemingly straightforward requirements: prove Sephardic heritage, and demonstrate a "special connection" to Spain. Although prospective applicants are not required to be practicing Jews, they must prove their Sephardic background through a combination of several factors, including ancestry, surnames and spoken language. There is also a relatively basic civics test regarding history and government.

This presentation is being given as a joint effort of the *Rhodes Jewish Historical Foundation* and the *Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel*.