

**Dr Ricard Moren-Alegret, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona**

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**Foreign Immigration in Rural Areas and Small Towns of Spain.**

28 September 2004 **11.30am to 1.00pm**

**Abstract**

In this seminar, it will be presented as a current research project on the changing settlement patterns and way of life of foreign immigrant population located in Spanish rural areas and small towns. This seminar offers a state of the art, based on a wide academic literature review, highlighting those issues that have been more studied and those under-researched or forgotten. Secondly, it approaches the rural areas where there is a more significant presence of foreign immigrants, offering relevant data and indicating the main sources of information available for their study. Finally, a deeper approach to a specific rural area, El Bierzo, in Leon province, is undertaken on the basis of recent fieldwork data.

**About the Author**

Ricard Moren-Alegret (PhD Warwick University) is a social researcher based at the Migration Research Group, Geography Department, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. He has carried out research on the relation of social organisations, governments and capital with international migration in Spain and Portugal. He is currently coordinating a three-year research project on migration into Spanish rural areas and small towns.