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CATALONIA TODAY

BARCELONA, THE BUSINESS & LEISURE CAPITAL OF SOUTHERN EUROPE

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EDITED IN BARCELONA



**BORRELL WINS
PRESIDENCY OF
EURO PARLIAMENT**
NEWS, 4



**ANTONIO GADES
DIES OF CANCER
AGED 67**
CULTURE, 11

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Barcelona mayor tackles noise and anti-social behaviour

Clampdown on public drinking and licence infringements

Site to be found for bongo players away from Ciutadella park

Dogs used by beggars to intimidate the public will be impounded

OPINION, 6

Living with the discomfort of strangers



Petition demands end to cutbacks in nursery schools

More than 20,000 people signed a petition handed in to the Generalitat in protest over growing class sizes and the lack of job security of teachers in nursery education. The petition was signed by teachers, parents and local authority representatives.

Filipino hostage released in Iraq as governor is assassinated

The Filipino lorry driver taken hostage in Iraq was freed yesterday after Manila pulled out the remainder of its troops. At the same time Hazim Tawfiq al-Anachi, the governor of the southern city of Basra, was assassinated at a checkpoint.



Almost 40 million visitors visited Spain and Catalonia during the first six months of this year, a 4.4 per cent increase overall, with a 9 per cent rise in Catalonia. Pedro Mejía, the Tourism Minister, said that 62 per cent, or 23 million, were tourists, that is, people who stayed more than one night. The most popular destination was the Balears, with 3.8 million tourists, or 16 per cent of the total. The number of German visitors to the islands rose, while the number of British visitors fell. Catalonia is one of the areas that has seen the biggest increase, with over 5 million tourists, while Adalucía has maintained last year's levels. The Canary Isles received nearly 5 million visitors, 21 per cent of the total.

OPINION, 6

Does God really despise homosexuals?

STEPHEN BURGEN

SPORT, 12

Drogba joins Chelsea for 100,000 euros a week



Ballet flamenco Juan de Juan

TORERO
coreography by **Antonio Canales**

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