



Spanish Irish Business Network (SIBN)

About the Association

The Spanish Irish Business Network (SIBN) is a non-profit association that promotes business and cultural links between Ireland and Spain. It was founded in 2011 by a group of Irish business people living in Madrid who believed it would be good to create a network for people with interests in both Ireland and Spain to come together and share business ideas. Cultural exchange is also an important cornerstone of the SIBN. SIBN has always benefitted from the patronage of the Embassy of Ireland to Spain. SIBN hosts a biennial St Patrick's Day Charity Ball to "give back to society", with all profits shared between two similar charities with a base in Ireland and Spain ([link here to Ball summary](#)).

Purpose of SIBN and primary objectives:

- to share business and commercial interests between Irish and Spanish people
- to meet regularly for networking opportunities
- to support each other on a pro bono basis pooling our talents and expertise
- to share knowledge across a broad range of topics including but not limited to economic, legal, technical, political etc.
- to engage, where possible, with other associations with common interests
- to enrich our lives by promoting Irish & Spanish culture and talent

About the Members

SIBN benefits from a diverse and dynamic membership base. There are currently more than a thousand members, drawn from multiple sectors including, but not limited to, banking, construction, creative, education, food & beverage, legal, media, retail, property, pharmaceuticals, technology. Members work in a broad range of organizations; from multinational corporations, large national enterprises, small to medium sized businesses to start-ups and scale-ups. We also enjoy support from members in the creative industries, including talented artists, musicians, writers and poets – some of international fame! Plus loyal membership in the Madrid-based diplomatic corps.

The majority of SIBN members reside in Madrid. The Irish members have moved here to study, to work, to marry or indeed to retire. Some have spent a significant part of their working life here. Many of our Spanish members have either lived or worked in Ireland and want to retain a special relationship. Others have a partner/spouse who is Irish. There are also a few members from other regions of Spain e.g. Valencia.

About SIBN Events

SIBN's primary focus is to host events that develop and support the network. These events are made possible through the contacts of committee members who generally invite interesting guests to talk on a range of topics. Events in recent years have included Scaling Up, Craft Beer, Impact of Brexit, Women in Leadership, Diversity in the Workplace to name but a few. These events are hosted on a pro bono basis either at the Ambassador's Residence or other venues that are made available through the goodwill of members e.g. IE University campus, Workspace etc.

About the Executive Committee & AGM

The Executive Committee of SIBN comprises a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Marketing lead. Additionally there are two vocals. Committee Members at a minimum should take part in all SIBN activities, participate in the AGM, vote, suggest ideas for improvement and run events. The calendar year runs from January to December and ideally the AGM should be held in the first 6 months of each year. The SIBN Committee generally has a two-year tenure, enabling each Committee the opportunity to prepare and host the biennial St Patrick's Day Charity Ball, which is a landmark event on the Spanish Irish Madrid calendar.