



ECONOMY

## Unemployment fell by 9.2% this March, compared to the

The average number of jobs is 1,592, with an increase of 13.3% compared to 2022

81.1% have been unemployed and looking for work for less than six months

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The number of unemployed people at the end of March was 265, which is 7.6% less than the previous month and 9.2% less than the same month of the previous year (402 people). Regarding the number of applicants for improvement in the month of March, it was 280 people, with a decrease of 6% compared to the previous month and 34.6% less than last year.

On the other hand, the total number of jobs offered is 1,630, with a positive monthly variation of 44.6%. Compared to the same month of the previous year, the variation in the number of jobs offered is positive, with 10.6%.

According to the data published by the Department of Statistics, during the last twelve months there has been an average of 398 applicants in research and 324 in improvement with a negative variation compared to the previous year of 40.2%. The majority of applicants registered with the Employment Service who are looking for work have been unemployed for less than six months. 57.9% of those whose employment situation is improving have a temporary contract. The vast majority of the unemployed (87.9%) are short-term, while 12.1% are long-term.

In terms of nationality and length of residence, the largest group are the Spanish (32.6%) with ten years or more of residence, followed by the Portuguese with 8.7%.

Applicants looking for a job are mainly concentrated in the 40 to 59 age group (45.2%) while applicants for an improvement in their employment situation are in the same age group, and represent 47.5%. The number of women looking for a job represents 47.1%, slightly lower than that of men (52.9%).

Likewise, the majority of respon-



► Resource image of Carlemany Avenue.

## The advanced average salary is 2,365 euros

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The advanced average salary is 2,365 euros and the median 1,872 in February. The data published by the Department of Statistics also indicate that the number of employees is 45,631, which represents an increase in the number of workers of 6.7%, while the wage bill increases by 11.6%, which means 107,918.380 euros.

Regarding the data accumulated in the last year, the average number of employees increased by 9.8%, that is to say 41,938 people. ≡

## Registered businesses increased by 1.8%

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The first quarter of 2023 closes with a total of 11,790 active establishments registered in the commercial register, which represents an increase of 1.8%. According to the sector of economic activity, the repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles stands out (3,142 establishments); professional, scientific and technical activities (2,436 establishments), and hospitality (1,041 establishments). ≡

### The figures

**7,6%** less people who were without a job in March 2022

**40,2%** negative variation of applicants looking for work compared to 2022

**13,3%** increase in the average number of jobs compared to the previous period

**87,9%** of total short-term unemployed

**10,6%** positive variation in the number of jobs offered

**12,1%** of long-term unemployed

**47,1%** amount of women looking for a job

**52,9%** number of men looking for work

dents are Andorran with 38.2% and Spanish with 33.2%, followed by other nationalities (17.9%), Portuguese (7.1%) and finally the French with a 3.6%

On the other hand, according to data from the Department of Welfare on the last day of March, 21 people were beneficiaries of financial benefits due to involuntary unemployment. 61.9% are between the ages of 40 and 59, and the majority are women. Regarding the time of residence, 55.6% of the beneficiaries of the aid are ten or more years living in Andorra.

Finally, in terms of programs for the foundation of private sector recruitment, there were 27 workers contracted to public or paraprofessional administrations and 25 people contracted to the private sector. ≡

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Saint George's Day

# Andorra celebrates the big festival of books with more authors

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This year there are several authors from the country who present literary novelties



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In Andorra, Saint George's Day is a very special day. Books leave the shop windows

and gain space in the streets to tempt pedestrians eager for new readings, by well-known authors but also new discoveries. The day is a unique occasion for readers to meet with their favorite authors to ask them to sign copies of their favorite books. An exchange

of looks that pleases both parties, since the authors do not have many occasions to meet their followers in such a close way or enjoy like this.

If you are one of those who is still not sure which book to buy or give as a gift, EL PERIÒDIC

has asked for help from several authors in the country, who, in addition to informing you about their latest literary creations, want to suggest some of their latest readings. ≡

## Literary recommendations of authors from the Principality

**EVA ARASA**



In 2020 he published *Les oliveres i altres paisatges perduts* (Edicions Saloria) with illustrations by his sister, a work full of nostalgia with the illness and death of his father as a starting point. He is currently completing a collection of poems and stories.

✓ *El dia de la balena* (the day of the whale), by Melcior Comes (Editorial Univers, 2023)

When we look back and tell each other our history, we often identify days, moments... that mark a milestone, a vital before and after. For Martí, the protagonist, the day a dead whale appears on the beach (with all the symbolic and poetic echoes that come to mind) marks the end of a happy and carefree childhood. The novel transports us to the Mallorca of the 90s and is a song about friendship, those authentic friendships of adolescence, with a soundtrack by the Pixies.

✓ *El que mai et vaig dir* (What I never told you), by Noemí Rodríguez (Editorial Límits, 2023)

The journalist begins her literary adventure with this collection of thoughts where she reflects on various experiences through different literary genres.

**MARÍA CAMPILLO**



He is currently working on the edition of his second novel, sequel to *La ciudad que me estremeció* (The city that shock me) (Círculo Rojo, 2022), with publication expected for next June. However, those who haven't read the first one will be able to follow it without problems. His style is intimate, with touches of custom, easy to read and where he deals with classic subjects.

✓ *La huella de una carta* (The trace of a letter), by Rosario Raro (Editorial Planeta, 2017)

A novel of traditionalist aesthetics set in the Barcelona of the 60s, where a social critique is made of the lives of women during the Franco regime through the relationship the protagonist maintains with the listeners of a sentimental consultancy, through the letters. The plot has a dose of mystery and romance that make it more addictive.

✓ *El rumor del oleaje* (The rumor of the waves), by Yukio Mishima (Alianza Editorial, 2011)

It is a love story set on an island in Japan in the 1950s. Although it may seem contradictory, it is a short novel, which tells the story of a love between people of different social classes at the time of transit from adolescence to adulthood. A classic theme that I personally love.

**GREG COONEN**



The sequel to *La pifia*, which will be called *El llop dels Pirineus* (The Wolf of the Pyrenees), will soon be released. This new thriller will follow the adventures of Ben Brennan, who will try to save his life and that of his family against the interests of the Chinese and Russian secret services who

want to infiltrate the Principality and Catalonia through strategic investments. This book is a new cocktail of geopolitics, action and twists. At the same time, she continues to work with Hollywood producers to adapt *La Pifia* into a television series. This Sant Jordi, she will be signing copies of her novels and children's books about Andorra in Plaça del Poble of Andorra la Vella.

✓ *Les ànimes sordes* (The deaf souls), by Albert Villarro (Editorial Medusa) This book, which is a parody of certain people and situations in Andorra, made me laugh and I had a great time reading it. I congratulate Medusa for making the decision to republish this work, which does not age, and to offer it to us this Sant Jordi.

✓ *El camí cap a la Constitució d'Andorra* (The road towards the Constitution of Andorra), by Josep Dallerès (Anem Editors, 2023)

Let yourself be tempted by this book with a foreword by ex-syndic general Roser Suñé, where the author brings us closer to the years of the country's constituent process.

**JORDI COROMINAS**



Last January, the philosopher and expert in religions presented *Entre els deus i el no-res* (Fragmenta, 2023), an essay (easy to read) that aims to be a map to orient us in the face of the complexity of questions relating to faith. Undoubtedly, an essential book to shed some light on concepts such as spirituality, religion and atheism.

✓ *Pensaments i opuscles* (Thoughts and pamphlets), by Blaise Pascal (Editorial Adesiara, 2021) Translated and edited by Pere Lluís Font, this is, without any doubt, the best edition of this classic of thought. Pere Lluís Font has devoted practically his entire life to it, and has turned this very elegant and very careful Catalan translation into a world reference, even in France.

✓ *Aquesta foscor en que confio* (This darkness in which I trust), by Joan Casañas (Editorial Claret, 2023)

An engaging work where we are shown the trajectory of a man who filled the silence with completely coherent actions between his life and a confidence wrapped in silence. It is at the same time a tribute to a life dedicated to the poorest and to denouncing all collusion between power and religion.

**ESTER FENOLL**



Last year, and after 10 years of literary silence, she presented her fourth work, *Verano en la recámara* (Aloma Editors, 2022), where she talks about the paradise of childhood, and which has the collaboration of the painter and cartoonist Perico Pastor.

✓ *L'amistat* (Friendship), by Simone Weil (Hermida Editores, 2020)

The French philosopher, activist and politician talks about concepts linked to friendship such as love and distance, expressed in poetic language. Reading it helps to delve into the rich and complex universe of the author.

✓ *Elogi de l'ombra* (Praise of the shadow), by Junichiro Tanizaki (Angle, 2006)

It is an essay by Junichiro Tanizaki from 1933 in which he reflects on some differences between the East and the West in terms of cultural elements and how these are blurred due to the modernization of Japan, which began in 1868. According to the author's theory, in the West, light predominates, and in Japan, darkness, a contrast that inevitably affects life.

**LUDMILA LACUEVA**



In 2021 he published *Olor de difunt* (Ed. Llibres del delict), a suspense novel set in Andorra and again starring the commissioner Cerni Llop and ex-judge Climent Masoliver, and with which last year Lacueva won the prize for best novel in the tenth edition of

the Valencia Negra festival.

✓ *Homes i dones de Canillo, als aufigis!* (Men and women of Canillo, at work!), by Robert Lizarte (Anem Editors, 2022)

An essential book that documents the history of the Canillo bells. The bells ruled the life of the population marking recognizable touches that could be festive or sound the alarm in case of danger. A collection of very rigorous and interesting research that reveals an exceptional heritage.

✓ *El que mai et vaig dir* (What I never told you), by Noemí Rodríguez (Editorial Límits, 2023)

The author takes us into a world of reflections through moments of life that she has lived and that make us consider facts of our daily life. All together, shared feelings and experiences that move us forward. A book to read slowly and savor every bit.

**CARLES RIBÓ**



Carles Ribó has just presented his first collection of poetry, *Cendra batuda pel vent* (Anem Editors, 2023), a poetry collection awarded at the 43rd Andorran Literary Night with the Grandalla Prize 2021.

✓ *Les ocultacions* (The 3 concealments), by Anna Gual (Edicions Proa, 2022). Miquel de Palol Award 2022

It is a shocking book, which tries to shed light on the mysteries of existence: «enlighten me/what I will never see». The poems explore the hidden places of the author (like the child who was not born) in an intense dialogue between writing and life: «There are certain things/that must be hidden;/them others too».

✓ *Alfabet de l'ombra* (Alphabet of the shadow), by Joan Graell (Pagès Editors, 2022). Benet Ribas Prize for Poetry 2022

It is a collection of poetry rooted in our Pyrenees, with verses forged in nature: «The rock bleeds/under the ruins/of the light», and a poetic look at two landscapes of the past: one remote and another closer.

**NOEMÍ RODRÍGUEZ**



The Andorran journalist has just presented *El que mai et vai dir* (Editorial Límits, 2023), an anthology of personal experiences on which she reflects through different genres of poetry or micro-stories.

✓ *Sontag. Life and work*, by Benjamin Moser (Anagrama, 2020)

Although it is not a novelty this year, it is a book more than recommended for those people who like biographies, as well as for any reader who wants to get to the bottom of the life of one of the intellectuals. most fascinating, elusive and relevant American intellectuals of the 20th century.

✓ *La Torre dels Russos* (The Tower of the Russians), by David Gálvez (La Breu Edicions, 2023)

I'm reading it and I haven't decided yet if I like it a lot or a lot. And look how unconventional it is! A mix of styles, resources and small unclassifiable pieces that seem to have nothing to do with each other but end up telling you - or not - a story that is both ours and unknown. Ideal for playful readers.

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