

Juan José Escobar Stemmann named special mission ambassador for Málaga's candidature to host Expo 2027.

The Spanish Council of Ministers has approved a Royal Decree appointing Juan José Escobar Stemmann as special mission ambassador for Málaga's candidature to host Expo 2027.

Born in Málaga in 1961, he has been a career diplomat since 1991. He has been the Deputy Head of the Spanish Embassy in Bulgaria, Nicaragua and Jordan. He was also the secretary of the Spanish Embassy in Morocco and Spanish consul in Buenos Aires.

In 2011, he was named Spanish Ambassador on the Special Mission for Mediterranean Affairs for the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2013 until 2016, he was Spain's consul general in Jerusalem. In August 2016, he was named Vice-President of the Permanent Military Committee between the United States and Spain for the Spanish Ministry of Defence. From April 2017 until July 2021, he served as the Spanish ambassador to Iraq. Since September 2021, he has been an Advisor for the Directorate-General for West, Central and South-East Europe.



From 2013 to 2017, he was a member of the Executive Committee of the European Endowment for Democracy.

He is a specialist in Arab and Islamic affairs. He has co-published several books and articles on Islamic activism, political reform in the Arab world and Euro-Mediterranean relations.

He has taught Arab politics at the Gutiérrez Mellado Institute for Defence Studies, the Spanish Diplomatic School in Madrid and the Spanish Ministry of Defence's Centre for Defence Studies. He is also an honorary lecturer at the public international law department at the University of Málaga's School of Law.

In 2017, he was elected as a member of the Elcano Royal Institute's Scientific Council. Since 2018, he is also a member of the Scientific Council at the International Training Centre for Authorities and Leaders (CIFAL) in Málaga as part of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).