

## KNOW-HOW IN RURAL GEOGRAPHY AND LATIN AMERICA



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### ABSTRACT

The Interdisciplinary Group of Critical and Latin American Studies (GIECRYAL) is made up of professors from the University of Alicante, as well as other Spanish, European and Latin American researchers. They all share their extensive experience in the study of the rural world and Latin America from a social and critical perspective. The group is looking for companies or institutions interested in developing research projects.

### TECHNOLOGY ADVANTAGES AND INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

The members of the GIECRYAL, both individually and collectively in the past, maintain fruitful teaching and research relations with several Spanish, European and Latin American university centres specialised in the study of the rural world, the global territory in which it is inserted and the human communities that inhabit it. And all this from a social and critical perspective. Therefore, this extensive experience and knowledge on the subject is reflected in the quality and thoroughness of the research carried out.

### INNOVATIVE ASPECTS OF TECHNOLOGY

The theoretical-conceptual frame of reference is nourished by the ideas and reflections of the eminent Brazilian geographer Milton Santos. This researcher defends that the unreal fragmentation of space that takes place in many social studies is completely absurd and, therefore, the convenience of considering the territory as a complex, interrelated and interdependent whole must be emphasized, that is, where a web of complementary, conflicting, mutually dependent and continuously moving relationships is woven.

Therefore, an interdisciplinary group such as GIECRYAL, made up of researchers specialised in different fields of Social Sciences, will be needed to analyse and study such a complex territory.

### MARKET APPLICATIONS

Any sector that needs to know in depth some aspect of the Spanish rural space or especially Latin American.

It is worth mentioning some of the research projects carried out in recent years due to their repercussions, such as for example:

- “Los intercambios agroalimentarios entre el MERCOSUR y España ante la liberalización del comercio mundial. Posibilidades inversoras de las empresas españolas y valencianas del sector en el Cono Sur Latinoamericano”, 2001, sponsored by the Department of Culture, Education and Science of the Generalitat Valenciana.
- “Multifuncionalidad rural y desarrollo local: realidades y mitos. La experiencia europea y la potencialidad de Colombia”, 2009, sponsored by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation-AECID.
- “Análisis territorial del capital social en espacios naturales protegidos: indicadores de desarrollo socioeconómico”, 2011, sponsored financed by the Ministry of Science and Innovation.

One of the research fields where GIECRYAL could be most necessary would be in the depopulation issue. Currently, a large number of municipalities in the interior of Spain are in danger of disappearing with the serious economic, social and environmental consequences that this would entail, for this reason, has become a very popular issue among the media and the fight against this problem is already one of the main political promises.

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#### COLLABORATION SOUGHT

- Type of client sought: companies, universities and public-private institutions.
  - The research group is interested in the application of its know-how in specific projects.
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