

Department of Physical Geography and Regional Geographical Analysis  
Faculty of Geography and History  
University of Barcelona

**PhD Thesis**

# **The Western Mediterranean Oscillation and Rainfall in the Catalan Countries**

**Memory presented by**  
**Joan Albert López i Bustins**  
*(Summary)*

**PhD Director**

**Prof. Dr Javier Martín Vide**  
**University de Barcelona**

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*'In my country the rain doesn't know how to rain,  
it either rains too much or too little;  
if it rains too little there is drought,  
if it rains too much there is disaster.  
Who will take the rain to school?  
Who will tell it how it has to rain?  
In my country the rain doesn't know how to rain'.*

Raimon (The rain in my country,  
*Between the note and the sound*, 1984)



*To Ester  
and to my parents, Joan and Rosa*



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I just want to put the following fact on record: There is currently an uncomfortable situation among the young researchers in this country, who after having dedicated several years to the science, are not granted any future to continue with it.





## **Some preliminary comments**

This is an English summary of the original thesis which is written in Catalan. The Catalan title is '*L'Oscil·lació de la Mediterrània Occidental i la Precipitació als Països Catalans*'. Most of the content is widely explained in the original manuscript, therefore, for further information please proceed to consult the original manuscript or contact me.

Along the summary, you will see that the place names of cities and physical units are mostly in the original name, in Catalan or Occitan. Nevertheless, here I write a translated list of the most used in the study:

Alacant: Alicante

Barcelona: Barcelona

Castelló de la Plana: Castellón

Costa dels Tarongers: Orange Blossom Coast

Ebre: Ebro

Eivissa: Ibiza

Empordà: Empordà

Girona: Gerona

Lleida: Lerida

Mallorca: Majorca

Menorca: Minorca

Perpinyà: Perpignan

Pitiüses: Ibiza and Formentera

Torrevella: Torrevieja

Val d'Aran: Aran Valley

València: Valencia

Notice the difference between the following place names:

1) Southern Catalonia/ southern Catalonia

- Southern Catalonia: It refers to the whole Catalonia region in Spain. The Pyrenees divides Catalonia between Northern Catalonia (France) and Southern Catalonia (Spain).
- southern Catalonia: It refers to those lands in southern Catalonia known as *Terres de l'Ebre* or 'Ebro lands' (in English) (southern Tarragona province).

2) Eastern Pyrenees/ eastern Pyrenees

- Eastern Pyrenees: It refers to the French Department known as Pyrenees Orientals which is the Northern Catalonia.
- eastern Pyrenees: It refers to the eastern half of the physical unit of the Pyrenees Range.

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