



## Mobility and tourism opportunities in an isolated geographical enclave: the case of Ceuta

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### Abstract

The Spanish city of Ceuta is a peripheral territory with particular geographical peculiarities and at the centre of geopolitical disputes with Morocco. Furthermore, the migratory flows affecting Ceuta exacerbate the tensions that already coexist in the city. If this situation encourages the fortification and closure of the city, its territorial narrowness and its fragile economy require at the same time a certain opening of the border that so works with a selective permeability, affecting the different categories that want to cross it and delineating hierarchies of power on and within the border. However, places with an important tourist potential like Ceuta can exploit this sector for possible socio-economic development. Nevertheless, tourism is not limited to economic effects but in contexts like this it can be an important means to promote a greater dialogue between different communities, to solve geopolitical disputes and to eliminate inequalities in mobility opportunities. This work analyzes the current situation of Ceuta from the geopolitical, economic, social and tourist point of view, starting from its historical causes. It's highlighted how tourism in Ceuta is a sector with an important potential but not sufficiently exploited and how the creation of a joint tourism offer together with the surrounding Moroccan territory can be a means to improve relations between the two countries and the region's communities.

**Keywords:** Spain, Morocco, geopolitical dispute, migration, tourism

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