

Mallorca Bulletin

Friday Sept. 12 / Thursday Sept. 18 2025: PRICE: 2€

Founded 1962 · N.17464 · The weekly print edition of www.majorcadailybulletin.com

**BUNYOLA GOES
BONKERS: PAGE 3**



Cars galore this weekend: Inside

Spain bans arms for Israel

Madrid.—Spain this week banned ships and aircraft carrying weapons to Israel from calling at Spanish ports or entering its air-space due to Israel's military offensive in Gaza, measures the Israeli foreign minister denounced as antisemitic. Spain, which recognised a Palestinian state in May 2024 and has been a vocal critic of Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip, responded to Gideon Saar's comments by summoning its ambassador in Tel Aviv back for consultations.



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TIME TO QUIT?

● Over 50,000 people die each year in Spain from smoking-related causes, about 137 deaths per day, health ministry data shows.

Madrid.—Spain's minority leftist government introduced a bill this week to ban smoking at outdoor venues including beaches, bar and restaurant terraces, bus stops and stadiums.

The ban would also apply to vapes or e-cigarettes, which are increasingly popular with young people.

"We'll always put public health ahead of private interests," Health Minister Monica Garcia told reporters.

"Everyone has a right to breathe clean air ... and live longer and better lives."

● The hospitality sector has criticised the bill, as Spain's outdoor terraces, used throughout the year, are popular with smokers.

The hospitality sector has criticised the bill, as Spain's outdoor terraces, used throughout the year, are popular with smokers. Indoor smoking has been banned since 2011.

The bill follows similar legislation implemented in France in July, although Spain's northern neighbour exempted cafe terraces and e-cigarettes from its ban. The new bill, which still requires parliamentary approval and can be amended, comes as increasingly smoke-averse European countries are cracking down on tobacco and tobacco-like products. However, the continent still has the

highest global smoking rates at around a quarter of adults. The government has had little success approving legislation in a heavily-fragmented parliament lately.

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The final bill text approved by the Spanish cabinet does not impose plain tobacco packaging (the removal of all branding from cigarette packs), a policy already implemented in 25 countries, according to the World Health Organization.