Insurance Factsheet: Spain

Member organisation(s):

CSCAE

Consejo Superior de los Colegios de Arquitectos de España

Obligation to insure?

Obligation in some regions for technical

Partial for promoters

Legal Obligation to insure?

For architects, professional indemnity insurance in Andalusia, Basque Country and Catalonia.

There are also legal obligation for professional societies. In the case of professional developers, there is a mandatory ten-year liability insurance, guaranteeing stability in residential buildings. (Spanish Act, L.O.E. 38/1999)



Legal Basis:

Commonly used Term and Conditions:

Legal Regulation (articles 1591 and following of the Civil Code + LOE "Ley de Ordenacion de la Edificacion" 38/1999), jurisprudence and contracts)

What are the requirements needed in order to obtain an Insurance?.

Depending on the insurer:

Registration order

Claims history...

Professional fees

Calculation of insurance premium:

Rate on the value of construction works

Percentage of fees

Risk type of works

Bonus malus according to the history of the architect

Forms of Insurance contract:

- Subscription contract for all liabilities in a predefined period
- Cover for architect in a specific project (very difficult)

Contractual liability:

- Liabilities before and/or during the works: Yes in respect of the budget, in respect of delays, for any defects. Tort and contractual liabilities.
- The end of the construction phase as a point of departure for a period of specific liabilities? Yes, Acceptance Certificate, even verbally.

Liabilities after work:

Contractual Liability 5 years for any defect. (10 years in Catalonia)

Harm to the structure (to its soundness or stability):

Yes, 10 years (material destruction)

Unsuitability for the function:

Yes, 3 years

Hidden defects:

Yes, 3 years but only for those that affect habitability. 1 year for execution defects

Joint and several (in solidum) liability:

Yes, ART. 17 loe, no derogation is possible by contract.

Does the insurer respond to a claims made or claims rising basis?

Claims Made. However in some cases 'Claims Arising'

Insurances / Agents:

ASEMAS mostly, and others brokers

Duration of Liability:

Professional client:

Variable: 10, 3, 1 years; 5 years

Consumer client:

Variable: 10, 3, 1 years; 5 years

Liability during and after construction:

Contractual 5 years; tort liability 1 year, (10, 3 in Catalonia)