Illustrations

Figures

Front cover image: Santa María la Blanca (Toledo, Spain) was a syna-
gogue built in the second half of the thirteenth century and converted
into a place of Catholic worship two centuries later. Currently, it belongs
to the Catholic Church. Contemporary efforts to restore it to the Jewish
community and the state have been unsuccessful, and its iconic mudéjar
arches remain a symbol of the ongoing quest for historical reparations.

3.1. Timeline. Created by Davide Aliberti. 80

3.2. Summary of Legislative Activity. Created by Davide
Aliberti. 86

5.1. Photograph of Isaac Alcheh y Saporta published in his
pamphlet, Los españoles sin patria de Salónica (1917), ac-
 companied by a poem in honor of his mother in which he
explains that he added her surname to that of his father’s
in line with Spanish custom. He also alludes to Spain as
nuestro Sión (our Zion), or, in other words, as the Sephar-
dic homeland. Public domain. 108

5.2. Cadastral document for the Katalan Hadash (New Catalan)
synagogue issued to the Jewish Community of Salonica
in 1922, after the synagogue, along with thirty-one others,
had been destroyed by the fire of 1917. Source: The Jew-
ish Museum of Thessaloniki, used with permission. 123

5.3. Title page of the Mahzor Katalan, a high holiday prayer
book published by the Katalan Hadash congregation in Sal-
onica in 1927 in honor of the four-hundredth anniversary
of its first printing in 1527 and with the hope that the new
 prayer book would inspire the congregation’s members to
rebuild their synagogue. Source: New York Public Library,
used with permission. 124

5.4. Birth registration issued by the Spanish consul of Salonica
for Jacques, son of Isidor Abravanel and Dora née Aruch,
1932. Jacques’s grandfather Yakov (d. 1939), after whom
he was named, was a prominent merchant and a notable in
the Jewish community of Salonica. Jacques, his parents,
and his brother numbered among the 511 Salonican Jews
recognized as Spanish nationals at the onset of the Nazi
occupation in 1943. Source: Abravanel’s granddaughter,
Makena Mezistrano, used with permission.

5.5. Spanish passport for Salonican Bergen Belsen survivor
Jacques Abravanel (1932–2012). After the war, Abravanel
returned to Salonica where he became a star soccer player
for Iraklis (Hercules) before eventually settling in Seattle,
Washington. Source: Abravanel’s granddaughter, Makena
Mezistrano, used with permission.

15.1. Number of Sephardic applications for Portuguese citizen-
ship by year. Graph produced by Santos and Bento, based
on raw data provided to the authors by the Instituto de
Registos Centrais e do Notariado.

15.2. Countries with largest number of applications, by year.
Graph produced by Santos and Bento, using raw data pro-
vided by the Comunidade Israelita de Lisboa, November
2020.