

EUROVEGAS :HISTORY OF AN IMPOSSIBLE NIGHTMARE



Carlos Ruiz
Plataforma Eurovegas NO

1. What was Eurovegas Project?

- the project
- Lack of transparency
- Sheldon Adelson and Las Vegas Sands Corporation

2. Project Implications

- Economical, legal and social implications
- Environmental impact
- Persistence on a unsustainable productive model
- Present situation in two precursory projects : Las Vegas, Macau

3. Eurovegas No

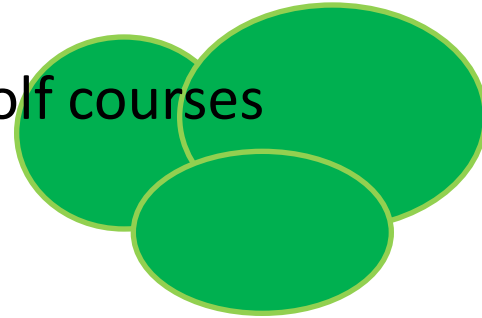
- Origin and supporters
- Main objectives
- Actions and difussion of information

What was Eurovegas Project?

“The possible dream” ...



3 golf courses



- 18,000 slot machines
- 1,065 gambling tables
- Restaurants (50.000 sites)
- Conventions Center(176,000sqm)
- 9 Theaters
- Malls and stores (353,000 sqm)
- 40,000 parking places



12 hotels
(36.000 rooms)

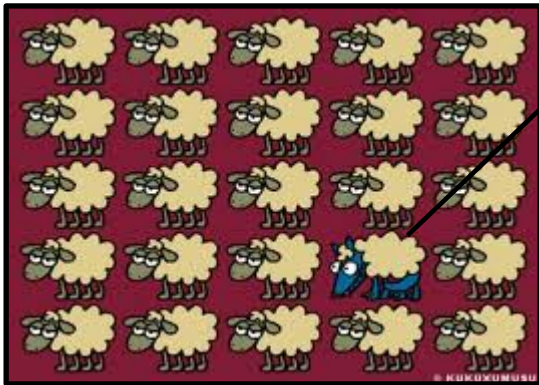
... Or a real monster



...and an unfounded myth

260,000 new jobs in 12 years ?	→	15.000
18,000 mill. € investment.?	→	Increase of debt
Conventions center (11%)?	→	Casinos (80%)

“free” legal /tax zone



Lack of transparency : no participation of stakeholders

Sheldon Adelson

Powerful and rich

- 55% shares of LAS VEGAS SANDS CORPORATION (LVSC)
- 14th. world fortune (\$25,000 Mill.)

Corrupt

- Bribery and collaboration with chinese Triads
- Under investigation in USA and Macau

Reaccionary

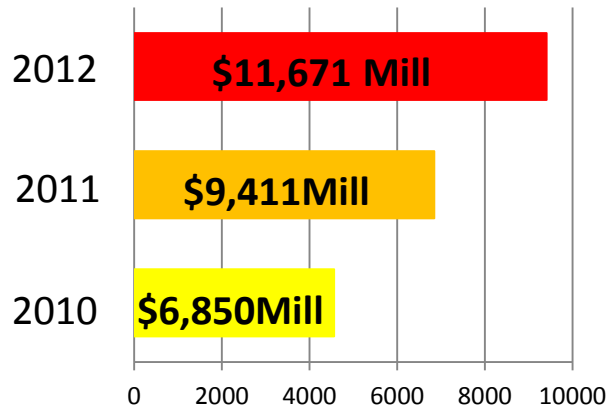
- finances ultra right wing in Israel and USA (Tea Party)
- Declared enemy of progressive taxes and wealth redistribution
- Nuclear bombs to solve Iran problem

24 years without trade unions!

1989 Sands Hotel - 1996 Bankrupt of Sands Atlantic City - 1999 The Venetian Resort (L. Vegas)
2004 Sands Macau - 2007 The Venetian Macau - 2010 Marina Bay Sands (Singapur)

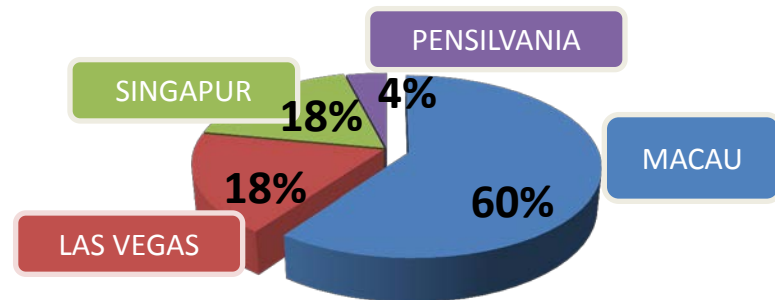
Las Vegas Sands Corp.

Income



- 7 casinos
- 12,000 slotmachines
- 2,100 gambling tables
- 20,000 hotel rooms
- 40,000 workers

	2012	2011	2010
Casino	9,220	7,437	5,533
Rooms		1,000	797
Food and drinks		599	446
Conventions, stores		826	540
Total	11,671	9,862	7,318
Promotions		(452)	(465)
Net income b. taxes	11,000	9.411	6.853



Las Vegas

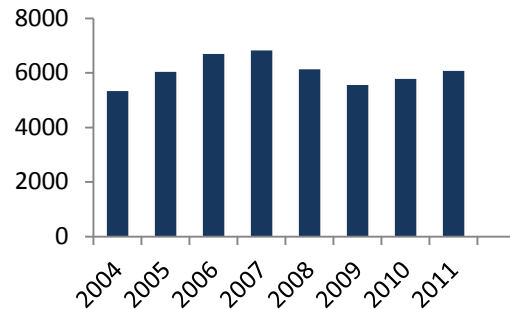


Most brilliant point from outer space...

... REAL STATE CRISIS

Housing prices have fallen 60%
since 2006 (bubble explosion)

Incomes from gambling
stagnated



Nevada State:

1^o in unemployment(11.6%)

2^o in evictions

3^o in criminality

42^o in health care

45^o in graduated
youngsters

46^o in schooling quality

Why did LVSC chose Macau?



Many potential clients



Economical growth of China



Less labour and social rights



LVSC requested for legal changes



- Workers Estatut : “flexibilization” of collective bargaining
- Foreign Workers Law: country of origin regulations
- Modification of Town-planning rules: high towers
- Modification of Law for prevention of money laundering
- Cancellation of No- Smoking Law
- Entry allowance to Casino of ludopats and under age persons
- Allowance of *junkets* and credit loans to players

...and tax exemptions

- Reduction of fees to Social Security
- Reduction of taxes on gambling
- Modification Law for non-resident income taxes
- Waiver for 10 years of Real State Tax
- Exemption of 95% on patrimonial transfers
- No payment of VAT inside EUROVEGAS complex



Deep
changes!

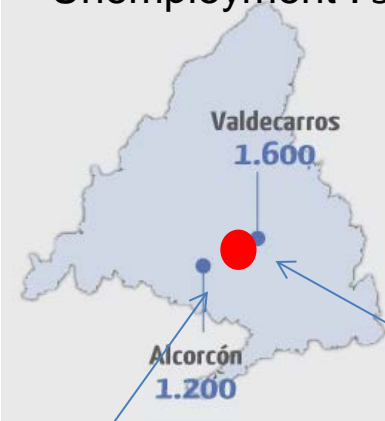
... plus 5 main conditions to go ahead

- External financing of 2/3 of initial investment (6,000 to 8,000 mill. €)
- 25 mill. € of Investment European Bank with guarantee of spanish government
- 20% of return in investment
- Profits granted by spanish administration
- Modification of present Money Laundering Law

POSSIBLE LOCATIONS OF EUROVEGAS IN SPAIN

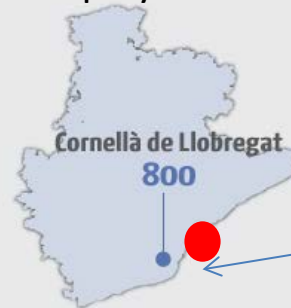
EN LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID

Unemployment : 520,00 (18%)



EN LA PROVINCIA DE BARCELONA

Unemployment: 465,00 (21%)



Answer of spanish administration to LVSC demands

- Definition of “Integrated Development Centers” ,with special tax and economical treatment :
 - ✓ Exemption 95% Real State Tax
 - ✓ Tax exemption for prizes less than 2,500€ and 20% for bigger prizzes
 - ✓ Gambling tax of 10%
- And other benefits:
 - ✓ 9% yearly grant on purchase of equipment
 - ✓ Land expropriation expenses paid by spanish administration
 - ✓ Incentives on job creation
 - ✓ Payment of infrastructures expenses

Social impacts

Promotion of “easy money” culture

Precarious kind of work

- Low salaries
- Long working-days
- Tiring shifts



Giving up of studies by kids

What kind of society for future generations do we want?

Aberrant tourism model

Marbella



90% de la costa construïda



Barcelona



Madrid

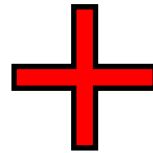


Eurovegas would imply a big loss of cultural and heritage values

Public spending on infrastructures(in Alcorcón, MADRID)



Transportation
1,500 mill. €



Expropriations
1,000 mill.



2,500 million euros

To be compared with 7,000 mill. investment of LVSC in Phase 1, with external 2/3 financing

Enviromental Impact 1

WATER 9.5 Hm³/YEAR
City with 110.000 inhabitants



ENERGY 1.000 gWh
City with 650.000 inhabitants



187,000 CO₂
Tons yearly

WASTE
Increase 7% of whole Madrid region
160,000 Tns./year ;115 Tons daily >processing
capacity



Land used: ~500 HA

Las Vegas

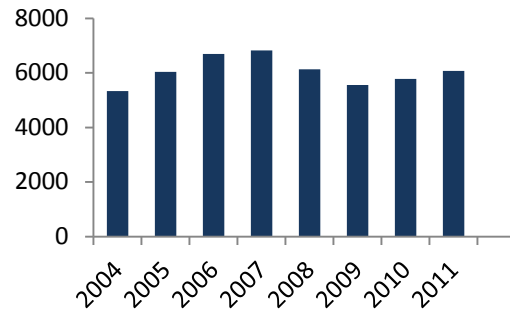


Most brilliant point from outer space...

... REAL STATE CRISIS

Housing prices have fallen 60%
since 2006 (bubble explosion)

Incomes from gambling
stagnated



Nevada State:

1^o in unemployment(11.6%)

2^o in evictions

3^o in criminality

42^o in health care

45^o in graduated
youngsters

46^o in schooling quality

Platform EUROVEGAS NO



MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Refusal to unsustainable productive model
 - ✓ Same obsolete model which caused crisis
 - ✓ Does not benefit general interests
 - ✓ Fosters Ludopatya and crime
 - ✓ Provides low quality precarious work
 - ✓ Sets up a legal and tax island
 - ✓ Unfavourable economical balance, in crisis scenario
 - ✓ Withdraw funds from alternative investments
- Need of democratic management of macro projects
- Imply many different social agents against project: politicians, media, CSO, trade unions, neighbors associations, 15 M,...

Platform EUROVEGAS NO

ACTIONS 1



- Elaboration and wide spreading of specific impact reports: economical - financial, environmental, employment, tourism, social, money laundering, infrastructure costs...
- Demand of complete transparency and information : Letters to LVSC; local, regional and central government , Ombudsman
- letters and reports to members of parliament, political parties, mass media; press releases ; appearance in radio and TV programs; set up of web and blog; concentrations and demonstrations ; collection of signatures (Change);

Platform EUROVEGAS NO

ACTIONS 2



;ciberactions; camping in EUROVEGAS location;Manifesto;
bikeridings ;parties; lectures in open spaces (15M);pins; T-Shirts,...



Platform EUROVEGAS NO



MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS

- **MEMBERS** : ATTAC, ECOLOGISTAS EN ACCIÓN, ALA (lawyers), ECONOMY FORUM 15M , Responsible Tourism Forum, Architects Trade Union, FRAVM (neighbours association from Madrid), Uemployed Assembly of 15M, Alcorcon Popular 15M Assembly, CCOO (major trade union), ...

- **SUPPORTERS** : leftwing and center political parties, Trade Unions, journalists, artists, writers, economists, ...

END OF NIGHTMARE : LVSC GIVES UP

- Conditions placed by LVSC difficult to fulfill: external, financing, modification of money laundering law (never accepted by EU institutions), and, specially, profits guaranteed by spanish government
- Strong social , trade unions and political opposition to project
- LVSC explores Japan as alternative