

AL RECTOR DE LA UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID

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La historia del Centro de Estudios Avanzados en Ciencias Sociales (CEACS) del Instituto Juan March y, posteriormente, su transformación en el Instituto de Ciencias Sociales Carlos III-Juan March, es una historia de éxito.

En 1987 se creó el CEACS con la misión de mejorar la formación y la investigación en Ciencias Sociales (Ciencia Política y Sociología) en España. Un programa de becas y un exigente Máster de dos años en Ciencias Sociales permitieron a una nueva generación de doctores incorporarse a la academia internacional. Por las aulas del CEACS pasaron grandes figuras españolas de las Ciencias Sociales, la Economía, la Historia y el Derecho (entre otros muchos, Miguel Artola, Enrique Fuentes Quintana, Juan Linz, José María Maravall, Víctor Pérez Díaz y Francisco Rubio Llorente). Los cursos también fueron impartidos por algunos de los mejores profesores extranjeros en sus disciplinas (Gösta Esping-Andersen, James Fearon, Margaret Levi, Michael Mann, Adam Przeworski, Philippe Schmitter entre muchos otros). Un número importante de los estudiantes del CEACS se doctoraron en Universidades españolas y extranjeras (entre las que destacan la Universidad de Oxford, la Universidad de Nueva York, el Instituto Universitario Europeo de Florencia, Yale, Harvard, etc.), desarrollando posteriormente carreras académicas y profesionales de gran éxito, tanto en España como en el extranjero.

En 2013, el antiguo CEACS se integró en la Universidad Carlos III de Madrid como un nuevo Instituto, con financiación pública y privada, bajo el nombre de Instituto de Ciencias Sociales Carlos III-Juan March (IC3JM). En paralelo, la Universidad Carlos III creó un Departamento interdisciplinar de Ciencias Sociales. Estos cambios tenían el objetivo explícito de maximizar las sinergias entre el Instituto y el Departamento para consolidar una de las mejores instituciones de Ciencias Sociales de España y de Europa. Gracias al generoso apoyo de la Universidad, así como a la estrecha colaboración entre el Instituto y el Departamento, el objetivo original se ha alcanzado en menos de una

década. Hoy, la Universidad Carlos III alberga una comunidad variada, cosmopolita e interdisciplinar en Ciencias Sociales, capaz de producir publicaciones punteras y atraer financiación para la investigación. A nadie debería sorprender que el Instituto haya obtenido un importante prestigio internacional.

Cuando en el extranjero se habla de Ciencias Sociales en España, una de las primeras referencias que viene a la mente es el IC3JM y la Universidad Carlos III. Los firmantes de esta carta sentimos una gran admiración por el trabajo realizado a lo largo de todos estos años. Por la misma razón, estamos seriamente preocupados por los últimos acontecimientos que se están produciendo en torno al IC3JM.

Ha habido una campaña de desprestigio del Instituto en la prensa, transformando un problema administrativo en un falso escándalo político y académico que afecta a la gestión del IC3JM. La actual directora del Instituto, la profesora Sandra León, que cuenta con una admirable trayectoria académica, excelentes publicaciones y una importante experiencia en gestión, se ha visto envuelta en graves acusaciones y su puesto como Profesora Titular está ahora en peligro. Nos preocupa que también se hayan vertido acusaciones infundadas contra el anterior director del Instituto, Ignacio Sánchez-Cuenca, Catedrático de Ciencia Política de la Universidad Carlos III. Si ha habido algún problema administrativo en la convocatoria de la plaza obtenida en 2021 por la profesora León, confiamos en que la Universidad lo resuelva sin perjudicar ni la carrera de la profesora León ni el funcionamiento del Instituto.

Nuestra preocupación también aumenta por los retrasos en la renovación de convenios vitales para el futuro del instituto. Solicitamos al rector que salga en defensa del IC3JM y renueve acuerdos vitales que garanticen la supervivencia y funcionamiento del Instituto.

La Universidad Carlos III ha hecho una apuesta decidida y valiente por las Ciencias Sociales. Sería una tragedia que el esfuerzo realizado se diluyera ante las injustas acusaciones aparecidas en los medios de comunicación. Está en juego no sólo el prestigio del IC3JM y de la profesora León, sino también el de la propia Universidad Carlos III, una gran universidad en España y en Europa.

Apelamos a los valores académicos que la Universidad Carlos III de Madrid ha encarnado desde su creación en 1989, con la esperanza de que el actual rector y su equipo encuentren una solución que dé estabilidad y confianza al IC3JM y a su

directora, la profesora León. Solicitamos respetuosamente a la Universidad que resuelva cuanto antes la incertidumbre actual.

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