Abstract
This paper points out the educational deficit as the most decisive factor to explain the difficulties of real convergence with European average in GDP per inhabitant and in nonagricultural employment rate, both in the case of Galicia and in the rest of Spain during the first two thirds of the 20th century. The educational improvement experienced by both during the last third of the century has contributed to improve the convergence process with the EU, although there are many measures that must be taken to boost the organizational and economic resources of education to the level of the most advanced countries. Important relations existing between the economic evolution and the demographic growth are also analyzed so that the demographic stagnation in Galicia is more a consequence of the need to adapt its population weight in Spain as whole to its productive and labour weight than a problem derived from the diminution of the birth-rate index. Some factors that exerted influence on recent demographic evolution are explained and it is insisted on the need to boost education, industrial investment and research in Galicia in order to achieve an economic dynamization that will enable the increase of its relative weight in Spain. The insistence on fostering the increase of human and social capital is dealt with from the perspective of international experts on the economy of education and thus it avoids the present trends of research policy in Spain that devotes its greater support to investment in technology, since historical experience and the analysis of real economic relations is just a part of the progress and that the quality of research in other fields, both in humanities and in socio-economic sciences as well as in other subjects, is of great relevance to progress.

Keywords
Galician and Spanish demography / Employment and population / Education and development.