

Strategically located within in Europe, Gipuzkoa is an open economy, embarked on the constant work to advance in competitiveness, in the framework of the strategic focus that, as a nation, is underway in the Basque Country in this regard. Thanks to the ongoing commitment - both of the public institutions and of the economic fabric overall - to constructing a territory that is culturally, socially and economically competitive. Gipuzkoa now has an efficient economy, open for business with the outside world and a highly qualified workforce, which has been strongly investing in innovation and technology. A territory that, furthermore, has a degree of sovereignty regarding taxes and finances that make it a space of opportunities and commercial and economic synergies. Our aim is to outline those opportunities and, why not, to use the following pages to generate more.

MARKEL OLANO

President of the Regional Council of Gipuzkoa





The economy of Gipuzkoa looks firmly to the future with a clear commitment to the competitiveness of its enterprises and the strength of its industry. A firm commitment particularly in strategic sectors such as advanced manufacturing, biosciences, electromobility and energy storage, gastronomy and the agri-food sector.

The strength of Cipuzkoa's industry is based on a trained, highly educated society; it is one of the European regions with a higher percentage of people with post-secondary education and has a leading vocational training network at international level. Furthermore, the region's citizens carry entrepreneurialism in their DNA. Gipuzkoa is an ecosystem based on knowledge and innovation, which favours more competitive economic and industrial development. It has reference innovation and technology centres working side by side with enterprise to move forward in competitiveness, new products and the creation of new lines of business. Its industry receives sound institutional support and comprehensive policies to back business. Gipuzkoa is the home of enterprise and entrepreneurs. Because Gipuzkoa is a business destination.

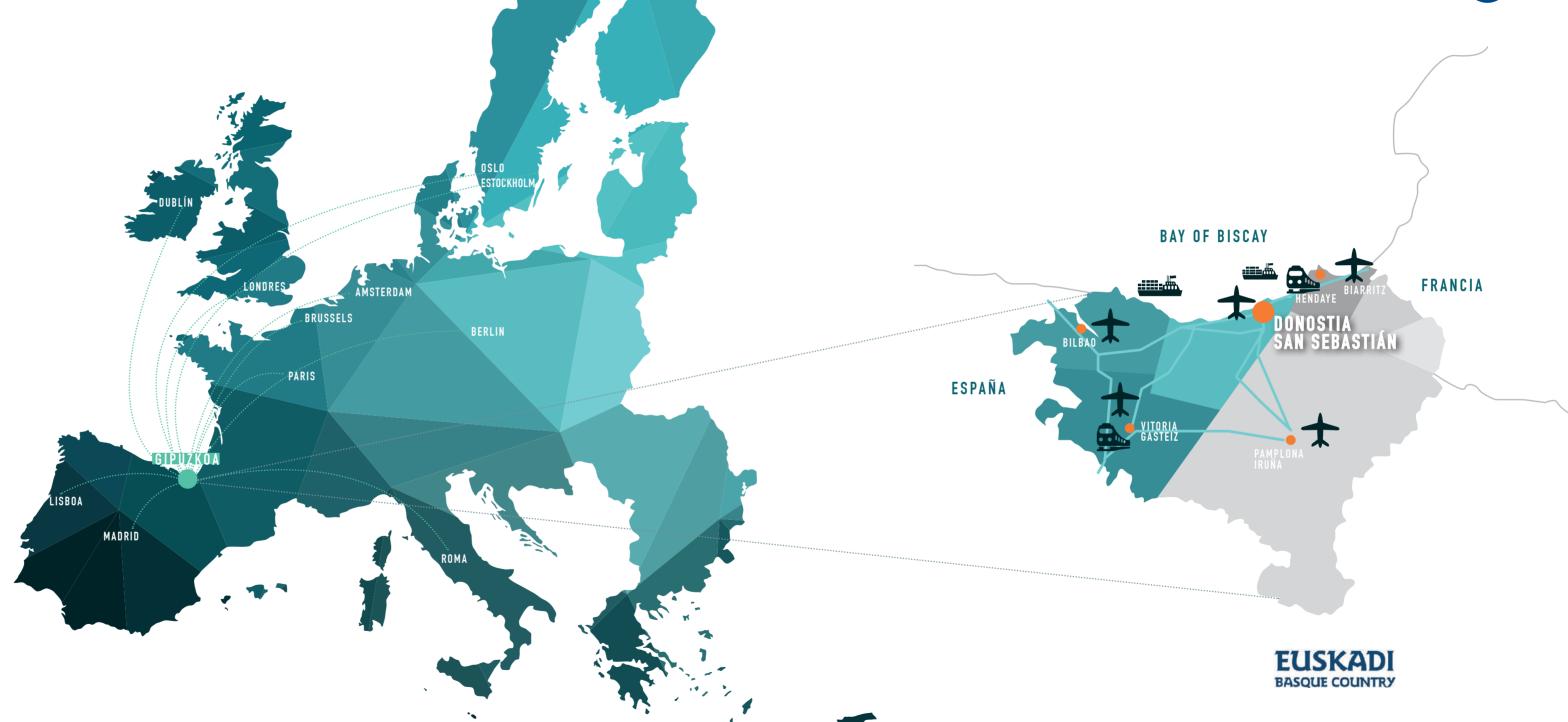
AINHOA AIZPURU

Councillor for Economic Promotion, Rural Environment and Territorial Balance

A STRATEGIC TERRITORY IN EUROPE

Gipuzkoa coneccted

Gipuzkoa is in a prime location in South-West Europe. Its strategic location means that any of the main capitals of the continent are just a few hours away. Gipuzkoa as a transit point between the markets of mainland Spain and Portugal and the rest of Europe is thus the centre of a fundamental hub that combines the main economic stakeholders of Europe's Atlantic corridor.





La Concha Bay in Donostia-San Sebastián



Gipuzkoa's landscape, where the blue of the sea meets the green of the land



Port in Donostia-San Sebastián

A GENTLE CLIMATE

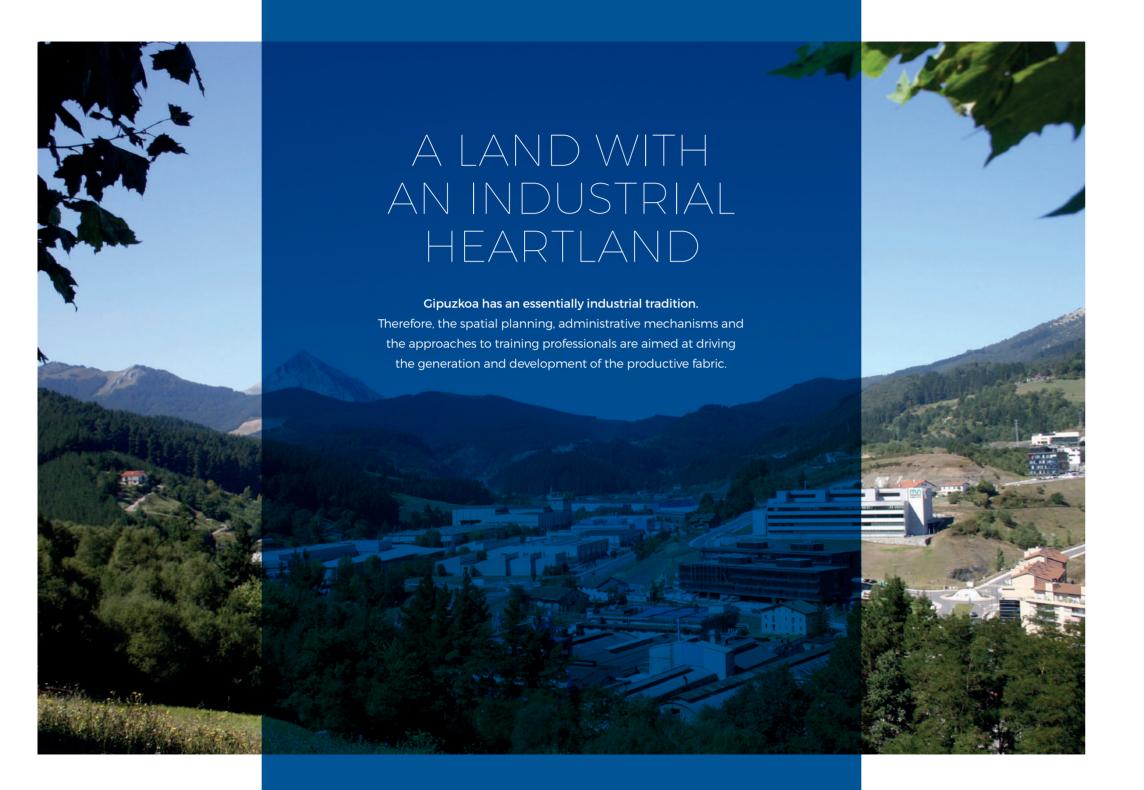
Its maritime climate and proximity to the sea means pleasant temperatures throughout the year and helps to shape an iconic and varied natural aesthetics.

A UNIQUE LANDSCAPE

Gipuzkoa is where the navy blue of 66 kilometres of coast blend with the deep green of its woodland and meadows. And the result is a diverse landscape with spots to discover, places to live and work.

FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING

Undeniably, our province's personality is down to the way of being and acting of the men and women of Gipuzkoa: **people of their word**, **hard workers**, **supportive and honest**. Discreet people who are, in turn, friendly and hospitable.



ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Source: EUSTAT, 2015







SECTORAL GDP









GIPUZKOA, THE CRADLE OF SOCIAL ECONOMY COMPANIES











INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, 4 STRATEGIC SECTORS

In order to facilitate the transformation of the Gipuzkoa business fabric towards a human company model, that is competitive and enrooted in the territory, and to continue driving the creation of business and jobs, we are committed to the development of 4 key sectors for our province: energy storage and mobility, advanced manufacturing, bioscience, and gastronomy and the agri-food sector.

ENERGY STORAGE AND MOBILITY

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

BIOSCIENCE

GASTRONOMY AND THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR





Facilities and workers in different companies of the MONDRAGON COOPERATIVE GROUP



The development of energy storage and sustainable mobility are priority fields in Gipuzkoa





Installing photo-voltaic units

We foster a favourable context for the interrelation of expertise, R&D&i, experimentation and entrepreneurial skills, for the challenge of people mobility.



Prototype designed and developed at Mondragón MCC

We encourage the development of sustainable and integral solutions related to energy storage and mobility.



Gas turbine, raising the game that is already reality in Gipuzkoa

We strive to attract foreign companies that contribute new technologies, expertise and equipment to contemplate the skill-sets existing in the province.



"ENERGY STORAGE IS A KEY DRI-VING CONCEPT FOR INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT".

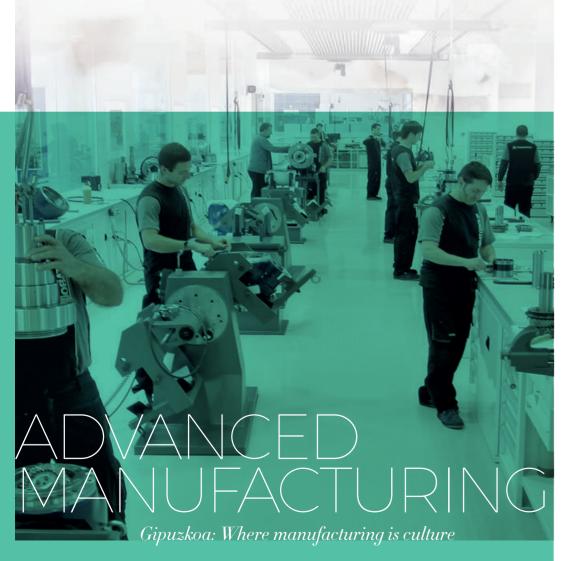
It is introducing new concepts regarding energy generation for cleaner sources or a new vision of transport in our cities. It influences sectors such as vehicle components, ICTs or energy industries is going to be very important. Adapting to those new concepts opens up great industrial and sustainability opportunities.

JAVIER RODRIGUEZ

CIDETEC General Manager



The new industrial revolution in Gipuzkoa involves Advanced Manufacturing and the adoption of the Industry 4.0 model



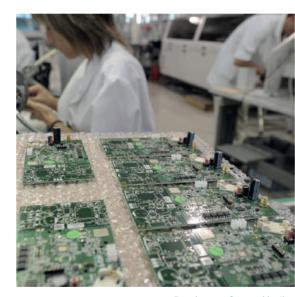


AVS Ingineers

We are committed to embedding 4.0 intelligence in the development of new products and we are driving the setting up of Advanced Manufacturing Centres.

AVS Engineers

Therefore, we have selected the priority niches in conjunction with the Basque Government. Some of these are the energy sector, cybersecurity and industrial system monitoring and sensor technology.



Panels manufactured by Ikor

We mentor the application of these new advances in the machine-tool, oil & gas, energy and other sectors.



WINDBOX wind power facility

Support for the Gipuzkoa Windbox project will enable the wind power sector to have global cutting-edge technology validation facilities.



"GIPUZKOA IS THE LAND OF MANUFACTURING".

It is probably the territory with the greatest concentration of machine-tool manufacturers in the world, and a real competitiveness hub of the advanced manufacturing industry in Europe. Our production heritage includes sewing machines and bicycles and we now have leading companies in the automotive, aerospace and railway sectors. The painstaking technical training and a magnificent network of research centres complete this virtuous

PATRICIA TAMES

Assistant to AFM general management









A researcher at Likuid

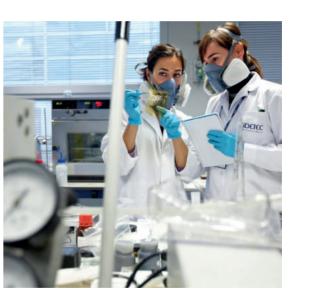
The Biosciences Foundation seeks to contribute to the development of the bio-health sector in Gipuzkoa, by means of fostering quality research in the field of biosciences and driving its transfer to results, by facilitating the financial support of the founder institutions for research and giving momentum to the exploitation of results in the field of biosciences, an area where it has the support of BIC Gipuzkoa.

Backing research in different areas of biosciences allows us to transfer the results of that R&D to Gipuzkoa companies.



Frontage of the **BIODONOSTIA** health research centre

The Biodonostia institute is striving to become an international benchmark centre in the field of research into ageing, precision medicine and health innovation; by focusing on innovation in health and medical technologies, to improve health care, while generating wealth by converting the inventions into products.



CIDETEC researchers

We have activated a programme to spur the transfer of R&D result to companies and their application in industrial sectors.



A GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH STRATEGY ON AGEING

Biodonostia is the first Health Research Institute accredited by the ISCIII (Carlos III National Health Institute) in the Basque Country and which is based at Donostia University Hospital. It is known for its translational research and it is the only one in Spain whose structure includes the leading technology corporations of the Science and Technology Network. It is also working on a cross-cutting research strategy on ageing which makes it a trail-blazer among the different institutes, and 13 of the centre's 25 research groups are taking part in it.

DR. JULIO ARRIZABALAGA

Frontage of the BIODONOSTIA health research centre







THE REAL PROPERTY.



Outside of the building that is home to the BASQUE CULINARY CENTER

To connect Gipuzkoa with leading international companies and stakeholders in the sphere of university education, research and knowledge transfer.

Gastronomy is, undeniably, a hallmark of our province. It is home to the Basque Culinary Center (BCC), a trail-blazing centre worldwide that combines higher education, research, innovation and promoting gastronomy and food.

We will therefore continue to work with the BCC, to continue to give momentum to an integral development project regarding gastronomy, associated to the agri-food sector in Gipuzkoa, with the following objectives:



Chef JUAN MARI ARZAK, together with other chefs, during a product seminar

To work on internationalisation cooperation demonstration projects, linked to specific segments: premium products, functional food, food-health, etc.



Specific facilities installed by FAGOR ELECTRODOMÉSTICOS at the MUGARITZ restaurant

To drive collaborative projects between R&D&I and industrial development companies in the agri-food sector: kitchen appliances for the home of the future, machinery for small producers-cooperatives, information technologies associated to labelling, vending technologies, etc.



GASTRONOMY MEANS MUCH MORE THAN HAUTE CUISINE

Basque cuisine is recognised as one of the world's great cuisines. The Basque Culinary Center reaches out from Gipuzkoa with the mission of developing the economic and social potential of gastronomy. It represents a whole value chain that integrates the agri-food sector, HORECA (hotel, restaurant and catering sector) and tourist sector. It has even changed what we take gastronomy to mean, beyond haute cuisine: gastronomy today means pleasure, quality, health, sustainability... it is a sector whose contribution to the economy is steadily growing and with a great potential for service and product innovation and for promoting new businesses.

JOXE MARI AIZEGA

BASQUE CULINARY CENTER General Manager



Business Friendly Administration





JABIER LARRAÑAGA

Provincial Councillor for the Treasury and Finance



OWN TAX SYSTEM

The fiscal capacity of the Provincial Council allows us to pursue, from a position of proximity, systems to promote and mentor new business activity and the competitiveness of companies.



FCONOMIC STABILITY

Gipuzkoa is among the territories with the highest per capital income in the Spanish State. The decisions of a balanced budgetary and rigorous management style, our production fabric and natural wealth make Cipuzkoa a prosperous region with a healthy economy and great potential for future growth.



FINANCING

A system to access outside financing based on projects and shared risks, in line with the different business phases and challenges: implementation, development, consolidation and growth.



PROVINCIAL COUNCIL -**BUSINESS COOPERATION**

We constantly mentor the company in its transformation process, we actively listen to its needs and future plans and we work together in defining measures and priorities. We thus manage to connect needs and opportunities between companies and stakeholders of each sector.



ENTREPRENEURIAL **ECOSYSTEM**

A sophisticated entrepreneurial ecosystem that underpinned by public-private partnership interacts through policies, financial instruments, culture and favourable contexts, infrastructures (physical and support), human capital (people and knowledge network) and markets.



INTERNATIONALISATION

A territory open for business. With a presence of important foreign activities and investment and with a growing number of companies with a strong international presence and penetration.



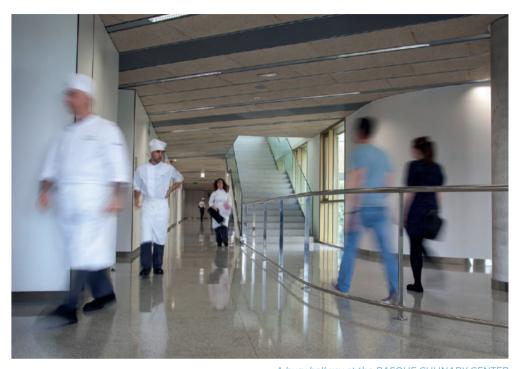
PEOPLE AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

A territory with highly educated people and involved in lifelong learning processes. And with values based on trust and territorial and social commitment.

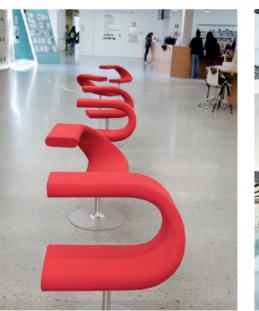


Gipuzkoa, a European benchmark of a society that learn and with knowledge-based companies

Gipuzkoa has developed a set of research, development and innovation entities in order to drive a strategy that helps companies and socio-economic stakeholders to build long-lasting competitive advantages and to address the new social and economic challenges.



A busy hallway at the BASQUE CULINARY CENT



CARLOS SANTAMARÍA ZENTROA CENTRE (UPV/EHU) facilities



MONDRAGON UNIBERTSITATEA facilities

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Intergenerational relationship and knowledge transfer based on an internationally recognised network comprising health research institutes, organisations working on health R&D, technology centres, cooperative research centres, business R&D units, together with supply-demand intermediaries.

Gipuzkoa is a competitive territory, thanks to growing public and private investment in R&D&i. Gipuzkoa currently enjoys a leadership position in Europe regarding R&D. Gipuzkoa earmarks 2.31% of GDP to R&D, compared to 1.2% in Spain or 2.03% in the EU. Source: EUSTAT, 2014

Source: EUSTAT, 2014



ORONA ZERO building, at ORONA IDEO INNOVATION CITY



A TERRITORY WITH AN EMPHASIS ON LEARNING

Gipuzkoa fosters a learning culture by developing efficient local cooperations among all its stakeholders. By supporting and encouraging people, organisations and society overall to get involved in learning. Gipuzkoa has a learning ecosystem aimed at social transformation based on 5 universities and a network of Vocational Training centres that opt for dual training (benchmark in the EU).

A territory with highly educated people. 48.9% have completed tertiary education and the school dropout rate is 7.2%, while it is 38.7% and 11% in the EU, respectively. 14% of the people of Gipuzkoa are involved In lifelong learning processes, while that figure stands at 10.6% in the EU. And with values based on trust and territorial and social commitment.









Top right, the outside of a MONDRAGON UNIBERTSITATEA facultry. Above, facilities and students of different universities and training centres





Gipuzkoa is a diverse territory on a human scale

You can enjoy the sea, mountain, city and countryside just minutes away from each other. A territory of diversity and coexistence, safe and with advance social services. A place to live, where culture, art and the culinary heritage can be found in many different forms.







A SAFE TERRITORY

Gipuzkoa is one of the provinces of the Basque Country, one of the safest spots of Europe, according to Euskadi, and the third safest in the world, according to the OECD. In this regard, Gipuzkoa has the lowest average crime rate in the whole Basque Country. There is no doubt that it is a peaceful and safe place to live.

Sources: Eurostat. Securitas Direct Survey Institute. OECD, Better Life, 2013





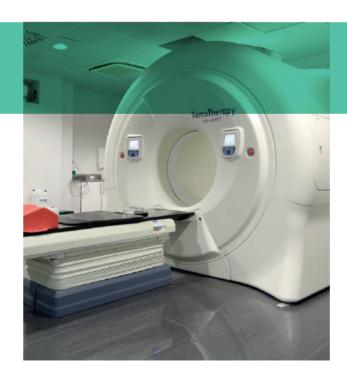




Gipuzkoa, a place with many different spots to live and play safely

FIRST-RATE SOCIAL SERVICES

In Gipuzkoa, you and your family can enjoy quality and universal health and education, on a par with the most advanced countries. Gipuzkoa has one of the most advanced social protection systems In Europe. That status is down to Gipuzkoa being a trail-blazer in social innovation and research, a benchmark in the use of new technologies to improve the quality of life of people and an example of solidarity in social protection and involvement of the tertiary sector.









Building of the Higher School of Music of the Basque Country, MUSIKENE



CARLOS SANTAMARÍA ZENTROA Centre - UPV/EHU (Central Library)

GIPUZKOA IS CULTURE

Gipuzkoa is home to age-old traditions that have forged a culture and a unique and own language, the Basque Language. Tradition and modernity coexist in a society that reaches out to Europe and the world, from its capital San Sebastián, which has been the European Capital of Culture 2016 and has extended and multiplied its cultural activities. Gipuzkoa contributes to the universal avant-garde work of artists of the ilk of Chillida, Oteiza or Balenciaga. It is home to resources such as the Tabakalera Contemporary Culture Centre, the Balenciaga Museum or the Kursaal Conference Centre. It hosts international events such as the San Sebastián Film Festival and boasts an artistic heritage with gems such as the Sanctuary of Loyola, at the birthplace of that universal Basque, St. Ignatius of Loyola. Tradition and modernity, origin and the avant-garde, that come to together in a way that is hard to match.



"Wind Comb" by Eduardo Chillida, in Donostia-San Sebastián



BATELERAK, a female rowing team from Pasai Donibane, on the Gipuzkoa coast



Basque Pelota, a hallmark and sport



People from all over the world enjoying the Jazzaldia jazz festival by the sea



The AQUARIUM is an educational and fun experience for the whole family

TASTING THE STARS

Gipuzkoa will delight the taste bud and it is the territory with most Michelin stars per inhabitant in the world, sixteen in total, with three of its restaurants in Restaurant magazine's Top 50 in the world. In Gipuzkoa, gastronomy is at the heart of the social life and is an expression of its culture. Apart from the Michelin start, there is the joy of beholding the multicolour counters of its bars with their pintxos, true miniature haute cuisine, of going its cider house to try traditional products and fill your glasses directly from their large barrels, or of visiting its gastronomic societies, where the members cook for their guests. You will always enjoy outstanding cuisine and be reminded that all it takes to be happy and content is to sit down to a good meal.



The traditional sagardotegi (cider house) that has been reinvented to delight anyone who tries it





Txakoli, white wine "Made in Gipuzkoa



A bar of pintxos, miniature haute cuisine within arm's reach







Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundia Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa

