

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Spain investigating 68 allegations of child abuse by Catholic clergy

● Spanish prosecutors are investigating 68 cases of alleged sexual abuse of minors by Catholic church staff, the public prosecutor's office said yesterday in the first release of official data about such cases.

Allegations of child abuse by Catholic clergy and of possible cover-ups by the church are only surfacing now in Spain, years after similar scandals rocked the Church in other countries such as the United States, Ireland and France.

The prosecutor's office released a spread-

sheet with the criminal cases launched in 17 Spanish regions into alleged sexual abuse of minors in congregations, schools and other religious institutions, but did not provide any details.

Suspected abuse of children has been in the spotlight in the country since *El Pais* newspaper reported two months ago it had found 1,200 cases reported between 1943 and 2018. In January, the Spanish Bishops' Conference said it would set up commissions at diocese level to hear complaints from abuse victims

FBI TAKES PART IN MAJORCA OPERATION

● The scale of this week's police operation in Majorca against money laundering was such that agents from the FBI and the US Drug Enforcement Administration were involved. Operation Casino was launched simultaneously in Spain, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Croatia and the UK:

See page 3



FBI and DEA agents during an operational meeting with the Guardia Civil and the National Police this week.

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