

CEDA: Confederation of the Autonomous Right

The Confederation of the Autonomous Right (CEDA), which grew out of Acción Popular and at least forty other rightist groups, was the creation of Jose Maria Gil Robles. Socialists were convinced that the CEDA was likely to fulfill a fascist role in Spain, a charge never effectively denied by the Catholic party.

On 26 September 1934, the CEDA precipitated a crisis by announcing that it could no longer support a minority government. Lerroux's new cabinet, announced late at night on 3 October 1934, included three CEDA ministers. To the left, it seemed as if this was the first step towards the imposition of fascism in Spain and led to the Asturias uprising of October 1934.

The youth movement of the CEDA shared many of the fascist trappings of the Falange and members of CEDA strongly supported the Nationalists in the civil war. Despite this, Franco's concerns for unity in the Nationalist zone led him to dissolve the CEDA in 1937.