



Brussels,
JUST/C2/AV/af/Ares(2017)6272738s

Dear petitioner,

Thank you for your letter of 22 September 2017 to First Vice-President Timmermans in which you express your strong personal views on the current situation in Catalonia. I apologise that this reply has been so delayed.

The Commission has publicly stated its position concerning this issue since October 2017, including the statement made by First Vice-President Timmermans in the Plenary Session of the European Parliament on 4 October 2017.

The Commission expressed its trust in the leadership of the Spanish authorities to manage this difficult process in full respect of the Spanish Constitution and of the fundamental rights of citizens enshrined therein.

Since then, the Commission has continued to call for the full respect of the Spanish Constitutional order and has reiterated its trust in the Spanish Institutions and all political forces who are working towards a solution within the framework of the Spanish Constitution.

I have to note that under European Union law, it is exclusively up to the Member States to ensure that they comply with their obligations regarding fundamental rights which result from international agreements and from their national Constitution. The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union only applies in the context of the implementation of EU law.

Yours sincerely,

Georgia Georgiadou