



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE and CONSUMERS

Director-General

Brussels,  
DG JUST/C1/IW/Int/2012382s

Dear petitioners,

Thank you for your petition on the situation in Catalonia.

As publicly stated on 2 October 2017, beyond the purely legal aspects of this matter, the Commission believes that these are times for unity and stability, not divisiveness and fragmentation.

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

The position of the Commission on this issue was echoed by First Vice-President Timmermans in his intervention in the Plenary Session of the European Parliament on 4 October 2017.

Last 11 October, the Commission again reiterated its earlier call for the full respect of the Spanish Constitutional order and its trust in the Spanish Institutions and all political forces who are working towards a solution within the framework of the Spanish Constitution.

In accordance with the law of the European Union, it is for 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,

Tiina ASTOLA

Cc: T. Zerdick, E. Crabit, N. Ringou, I. Weustenfeld, I. Vasiliu.