

Memorandum Romeva: Societat Civil Catalana responds to the Government of Catalonia

Mr Romeva recently sent a memorandum regarding an announcement calling for a binding referendum on independence in Catalonia in September 2017.

The memorandum is a heap of nonsense, starting with the fact that Mr Romeva's attributes himself the title of Minister of Foreign Affairs when his charge is actually that of Secretary being that the government has no authority in international relations. In fact, the Spanish Constitutional Court has suspended the use of the term "Foreign Affairs" in the name of the department Mr. Romeva himself is in charge of.

The ambitions to which of Mr. Romeva and the Government being integrated are subscribing are not characteristic of those of an autonomous region, but those of a State, which would be ridiculous if it were not for the seriousness of imposture involved. Mr. Romeva's government cannot, as the memorandum claims, negotiate territorial integrity with the Spanish Government because the issue is completely outside the powers it exercises as an autonomous government.

The purpose made explicit in the document, that the regional government carry out whatever necessary to declare the independence of a Catalan state, would be a criminal offense in most countries and the fact that perhaps in Spain it is not, does not change the fact that it is an illegal plan contrary to the Constitution and the decisions of the Constitutional Court, which has reiterated the inability of anyone, least of all public authorities to collaborate in the secessionist plan in which this memorandum is inserted.

In short, we are faced with a declaration by a public authority of its intention to have a coup. This is an exceptional situation in democracy that should be corrected. Citizens should not have to withstand the constraints of public authorities that intend to use the authority given by the Constitution to destroy our framework of coexistence.

The constant calls for the will of Catalonia being carried out by the memorandum obscure the fact that secessionism failed to obtain more than 36% support of the electorate in the last regional elections in Catalonia. No amount of popular support could justify the use of a public administration for an unlawful purpose and the situation is even more abhorrent when you take into account that the purpose is supported by little more than a minority of the population.

We are accustomed to the regional administration basing its performance on propaganda centered in lies and misrepresentations. But we will not cease to expose every attempt by secessionists to aggravate the conflict in an attempt to seek a confrontation that would drag Catalonia, the whole of Spain and even the European Union into a scenario of uncertainty and loss of democratic values.

As Catalans we denounce that our institutions of self-government have been hijacked by those who make explicit that they intend to prepare a unilateral rupture that would deprive us of the protection of Spain and the European Union and ask that political parties take responsibility and that Spanish institutions give adequate response to this the inadmissible challenge.