



Mr. Frans TIMMERMANS

First Vice-President of the European Commission
Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law
and the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

CC: **Mr. Jean-Claude JUNCKER**

President of the European Commission

Dear Vice-President Timmermans,

Images of Police violently repressing citizens who were seeking to express their opinion about the independence of Catalonia are being seen all over the world causing widespread condemnation. The management of the Catalan conflict by the Government of Spain is inappropriate of a European Union Member State.

When the popular will goes beyond legality, Politics are more necessary than ever to find a democratic solution and to update, when necessary, the Law; instead of using it to justify repression. We are confronted with events which undermine the essential values of the Union as set out in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. The conditions for invoking Article 7 of the TEU are met so that the Council can establish a serious breach of the values referred to in Article 2 of the Treaty.

We know that GUE/NGL are not the only political group that has recently sent you a letter requesting the intervention of the Commission. We are still waiting for a satisfactory response from the Commission to avoid the institutional deterioration of a Member State unable to manage a political problem without resorting to violence and repression.

It is time to act and avoid further damage to democracy in Spain.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if any further clarification is required.

Yours sincerely,

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