

## **STATEMENT ABOUT THE SERIOUS INSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN SPAIN**

### **WE NEED TO RECOVER THE SPIRIT OF THE POLITICAL AGREEMENTS DURING THE SPANISH TRANSITION PERIOD**

Barcelona, December 22, 2022

In the last 40 years, the policies of contentment with peripheral nationalist political parties of Spain practiced by the successive governments of both major parties, PSOE and PP -in order to obtain the necessary parliamentary support in the Congress of Deputies, (Spanish Parliament) - have led to governing under the unproductive logic of bread for today, hunger for tomorrow. Unfortunately, today we are witnessing a new episode of this appeasement strategy with a series of concessions that will culminate in the imminent suppression of the crime of sedition and in the reform of embezzlement. Measures that will not help unite Spain. Quite the opposite. The result of these cessions is division, since the government has once again fallen into the trap of those who will never give up their separatist claims.

Faced with the serious institutional crisis, the Board of Directors of the Societat Civil Catalana, a civil entity that is a benchmark for constitutionalism, calls on the Government to listen to the entities that, at street level, fight for the fundamental rights and freedoms of all Catalans. (In this sense, we already stated our position in the statement issued on November 11 on the elimination of the crime of sedition).

We consider it a great historical mistake not to have taken the opportunity to close an agreement between the major government parties and the forces of the liberal center that would avoid permanent submission to the nationalist parties and, consequently, the consolidation of unsuccessful policies of contentment.

It is also a serious mistake that PSOE and PP have not been able to reach an agreement for the renewal of the Constitutional Court and the General Council of the Judiciary. An issue so transcendental, so relevant to the quality of our democratic system, that it should never have become an element of political distortion. The independence of the Judiciary, as European Union bodies have reminded us on several occasions, must remain outside partisan interests.

From Societat Civil Catalana we call on all parties to reinforce the constitutional pact and the transversal spirit of the Spanish Transition. For this reason, we require the parties with responsibility and historical trajectory of government to be able to agree on all those State issues that are of transversal interest to the citizenry, since they contain the bases of our democratic system. These great consensus must guarantee the viability of our democratic rule of law, ensuring: the division of powers and the independence of these; the safeguarding of national sovereignty, which resides in all Spaniards and is not divisible or fragmentable; the protection of all citizens, ensuring that their rights and freedoms are the same throughout the Spanish territory.

Societat Civil Catalana also reminds the Executive Branch that it is morally obligated to agree on transcendental public policies with the parties that have a sense of Responsibility of State, that have held governmental responsibilities and not with those forces that seek the destruction of the State of which they are a part.

### **The Board of Directors**