



His Excellency Mr Mariano Rajoy Brey  
President of the Spanish Government  
Palacio de la Moncloa  
28071 Madrid

Dear President Rajoy,

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the people of Catalonia decided its independence in a referendum endorsed by a high percentage of voters. A higher percentage than the one that allowed the United Kingdom to start the Brexit process, and with a number of voters in favour larger than the Statute of Autonomy of Catalonia.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the Parliament held a session to assess the outcome of the referendum and its effects. There I proposed to suspend the effects of the popular mandate.

I took this decision to foster the dialogue that political and social institutions and leaders from all over Europe and the rest of the world have repeatedly been asking of you and myself. Similarly, in my letter on Monday, I proposed to hold a meeting with you and it has not yet been attended.

In the same way, the request to stop repression has not been met either. On the contrary, it has increased, resulting in the imprisonment of the president of *Òmnium Cultural* and the president of the Catalan National Assembly, social institutions of a renowned civic, peaceful and democratic trajectory.

This suspension is still in force. The decision to apply Article 155 of the Constitution corresponds to the State Government, with prior authorization from the Senate. Given all our efforts and our willingness to dialogue, if the only answer of the Spanish Government is the suspension of self-government, it shows that you are not aware of the problem and that you do not want to enter into dialogue.

Finally, if the State Government persists in blocking dialogue and the repression continues, the Parliament of Catalonia will proceed, if deemed appropriate, to vote on the formal declaration of independence, which it did not vote on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

**Carles Puigdemont Casamajó**

Barcelona, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2017