

September 4, 2023

Dear Quaestors,

Members of Parliament Carles Puigdemont and Antonio Comin have announced the opening of the exhibition "Catalonia's Contribution to the Social Progress of the EU" in the European Parliament (ASP 3).

Today, to our surprise, we have noticed that this exhibition includes a photograph endorsing the unconstitutional referendum organized in Catalonia in 2017, for which Carles Puigdemont is facing legal issues in a member state and remains a fugitive. We have attached a photo of the exhibition layout for your reference.

We assume that the authorization for the exhibition was granted in accordance with the "Rules Governing Cultural Events and Exhibitions on Parliament's Premises" (attached document). Therefore, we are confident that you share our concern that the manipulation of the exhibition's theme by the aforementioned MEPs violates Articles 2 and 3 of the said regulation. The European Union is founded on the defense of the rule of law and the respect for constitutional norms to resolve differences among citizens, principles that were violated by the unilateral declaration of independence in Catalonia.

Please note that the endorsement of illegal actions, condemned by European justice, is not part of "Catalonia's contributions to the Social Progress of the EU." It is also not advisable for the European Parliament to be seen as an institution that supports such challenges to the rule of law.

As a Delegation that has utilized the same space, we are well aware of the level of scrutiny and controls applied by the EP, and we trust that these rules apply to all equally.

We eagerly await your response and request the removal of this photograph and any others that do not align with the exhibition's theme before its inauguration tomorrow at 6:00 PM.

Yours sincerely,

*Adrián Vázquez MEP*

*Maite Pagazaurtundúa MEP*

*Soraya Rodríguez MEP*

*José Ramón Bauzá MEP*

*Jordi Cañas MEP*

*Susana Solís MEP*

*Eva María Poptcheva MEP*