Beat: Politics

Spanish Media: guilty of filtrations?

Minister of Justice opened debate

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USPA NEWS - Spanish Minister of Justice, Rafael Catalan, opened a debate about who is guilty of the filtrations of reserved information, and who must be penalized for it. The minister's words caused an avalanche of reactions contrary to its proposal.

Rafael Catalan raised this reflection during a public meeting in Barcelona, when asked by one of the attendees. But added that the issue is not on the table of the Council of Ministers and is not expected in this term -which will end next November-, the Spanish Minister of Justice said it should open a national debate on the problem of leaks secret court proceedings. This is, Catalan said, to preserve the secrecy of the proceedings, frequently violated by those who leak their contents to the press. The minister claimed to be aware of the need to protect freedom of information and demanded the participation of all sectors in the debate.

Catalan admitted that often identify the person that filters the information is very difficult, so I proposed fine to the media that publish and even ban its publication. The minister's words caused an avalanche of reactions contrary to its proposal. Spanish media criticized the government wants to blame the messenger and, in this regard, the Federation of Press Associations of Spain (FAPE its acronym in Spanish) called "unacceptable" the proposal. Also the Socialist Party rejected the proposal of the minister, whom he accused of wanting to bring back censorship in Spain.

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