

Beat: Politics

## **Juncker warns of a Catalan regional parliament can not declare independence**

**PSOE and conservatives make common front**

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**USPA NEWS** - The President of the European Commission, Jean Claude Juncker, said on Tuesday that a Catalan regional parliament has no power to declare the independence of a territory of a member state. Conservative PP and Socialist PSOE make common front against separatists.

Five days before the holding of regional elections in Catalonia, Juncker again referred to the independence process that promote contemporary Catalan leaders and the Republican parties. According to the President of the European Commission, the independence of a territory can only proclaim "the Spanish constitutional law." However, Juncker acknowledged that "it is not for the Commission to express their views on internal organizational issues related to the constitutional provisions of a Member State in particular."

For its part, the Spanish Prime Minister, Mariano Rajoy, said Tuesday that "neither seats nor the vote serves to legitimize an illegal operation." Rajoy responded this way to the Catalan independence leaders pursuing the unilateral declaration of independence for Catalonia if Sunday's election obtained an absolute majority of seats, but have no vote. The Spanish Government warned those leaders that "the law is fulfilled me." In his opinion, it would be "very sensible and reasonable" that may form an alternative Catalan Government to want to "liquidate Spain".

The Spanish Government has the support of the PSOE Socialist Party to "defend the Constitution and the law" in the courts, if the Catalans leaders declare independence from its territory. However, the secretary general of the PSOE, Pedro Sanchez, believes the solution to this crisis is in politics. "The Spaniards' vote to resolve a political crisis from politics," said the Socialist leader, who also calls for a reform of the Constitution which recognizes the historical nationalities that make up Spain.

Socialists and conservatives strive in the final stretch of the election campaign to mobilize voters, who traditionally flock to the polls less than those of other extremist groups. Spanish political analysts agree that the outcome of Sunday's elections in Catalonia depends on the abstention and that if conservatives and socialists voters flock to vote, may defeat the sovereigntist front. These same experts believe that the success of the independence movement will depend on the combination of a great mobilization of voters and a strong abstention advocates the unity of Spain.

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