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Gutierrez Pujadas & Asociados

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JAVIER GUTIÉRREZ PUJADAS

# THE CATALAN CONFLICT and THE CHALLENGE OF THE CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE

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# 1.- THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN



# 1.- The Kingdom of Spain

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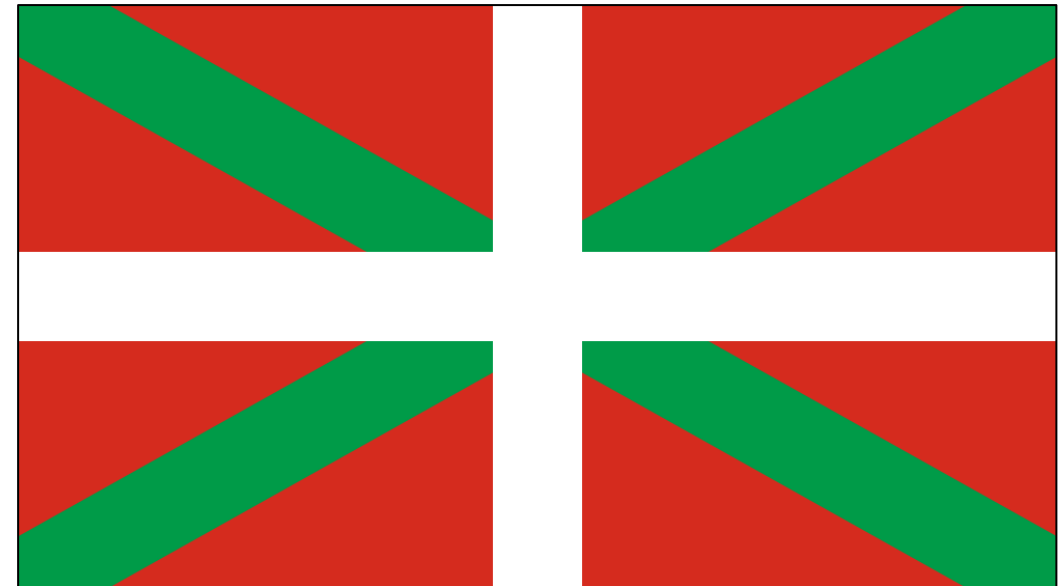
- ❖ Member of EU.
- ❖ Territorial organization.
- ❖ 17 Autonomous Communities.
- ❖ 3 Historical Communities:
  - The Basque Country, Catalonia and Galicia.
- ❖ Strong feeling of belonging to a nation:
  - The Basque Country and Catalonia.

## 2.- Two different ways: The Basque Country and Catalonia

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## 2.1.- The Basque Country (1/4)



## 2.1.- The Basque Country (2/4)

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- ❖ Advanced self-government.
  
- ❖ A violent route:
  - 1.968 The first terrorist act.
  - ETA (terrorist group).
  - Violent movements.

## 2.1.- The Basque Country (3/4)

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- ❖ Historical references (part 1):
  - Economic Agreement (“Concierto Económico”).
  - Historical legacy.
  - Three Basque provinces:
    - Vitoria, Álava and Guipúzcoa.



## 2.1.- The Basque Country (4/4)

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### ❖ Historical references (part 2):

- 1.876 - "Fueros".
- 1.978 - "ESTATUTO DE GUERNICA".
- "PLAN IBARRECHE" - Reform of the Basque Statute.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (1/12)



## 2.2.- Catalonia (2/12)

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- ❖ Period of collaboration (1.978/2012)
  - Participation in the different Spanish governments
- ❖ Historical references (part 1):
  - 1.932 - First "Estatut" was born.
  - 1.938 – After the Civil War, "Estatut" was repealed by Franco.
  - 1.640/1.873/1.931/1.934 – Historical years where the existence of independence in Catalonia is argued.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (3/12)

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### ❖ Historical references (part 2):

- 1.714 Succession War.
- September 11: "LA DIADA".
- Period 1.978-2.012 - Dialogue and cooperation.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (4/12)

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### ❖ Historical references (part 3)

- Catalonia highest levels of self-government
- June, 18/2006 New ESTATUT was approved.
- June 20/2.010, 14 articles of new Estatut were declared unconstitutional.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (5/12)

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❖ Transformation to independent thesis [2.012-2.017]:



## 2.2.- Catalonia (5/12)

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- ❖ Transformation to independent thesis [2.012-2.017]:
  - Financing problems.
  - Unconstitutionality of new “Estatut”.
  - Deficit in infrastructure investments in Catalonia.
  - Catalonia around the 30% of Spanish GDP.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (6/12)

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❖ Transformation to independent thesis [2.012-2.017]:

- Fiscal deficit.
- Insufficient returns/contribution.
- Territory with an industrial tradition.



## 2.2.- Catalonia (7/12)

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- ❖ Transformation to independent thesis [2.012-2.017]:
  - Deficit in infrastructures investments.
  - Non recognition of the new “Estatut”.
  - 2.012/2.017 period of no dialogue, passivity of the Spanish government.
  - Moderate Catalan politicians transform to independent ideas.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (8/12)

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### ❖ Population:

- Catalonia around 7,5 million people.
- Period 1.978/2.012 around 30% of population feels really Catalan.
- Sentence "Madrid steals us".

## 2.2.- Catalonia (9/12)

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### ❖ Population:

- After 2012 up to day independence citizens grow to 48%.
- Great division of the population in Catalonia.
- Intervention of the powers of the autonomy/ autonomic elections.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (10/12)

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### ❖ CONCLUSIONS:

- Catalanian government support is only the 48%
- The unilateral way to reach the independence.
- Division of the citizens: the 50% is against the independence movement.
- Slowdown in the growth of the economy.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (11/12)

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### ❖ CONCLUSIONS:

- Exit of companies from the Catalan territory due to the conflict.
- Elections.
- This situation must end.
- With the support of only the 50% of the population, the independence cannot be achieved in Catalonia.

## 2.2.- Catalonia (12/12)

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### ❖ CONCLUSIONS:

- We must return to the path of dialogue and common sense.
- The unilateral way is not possible, the politicians now are speaking about bilateral ways.

# THE END



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KIND  
ATTENTION!!