



## GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

The Government of Spain verified, at 10 am on Thursday morning, the final deadline which had been set, the refusal of the President of the Regional Government of Catalonia to attend to the official demand sent to him on 11 October in which he was called to clearly and precisely inform as to whether or not any public authority in Catalonia had actually declared the independence of this autonomous region and in which he was strongly urged to restore constitutional order.

Consequently, the Government of Spain will continue to implement the procedures established in Article 155 of the Spanish Constitution to restore legality in the self-governance of Catalonia.

On Saturday, 21 October, the Council of Ministers will hold an extraordinary meeting to approve the measures to be submitted for approval of the Upper House of Parliament with the aim of protecting the general interests of the Spanish people, including the citizens of Catalonia, and to restore constitutional order in the autonomous region.

The government expresses its gratitude to the various political formations with which it is currently finalising a majority and negotiated response to the secessionist challenge. Furthermore, it denounces the attitude adopted by those responsible for the Regional Government of Catalonia of deliberately and systematically seeking institutional confrontation despite the serious harm that this is causing to peaceful co-existence and the economic structure in Catalonia.

The government will use all those instruments in its power to restore legality and constitutional order as soon as possible, in order to recover peaceful-co-existence among citizens and to halt the economic deterioration that legal uncertainty is causing in Catalonia.

19 October 2017

