



PARLAMENT DE CATALUNYA

Resolution 742/IX of the Parliament of Catalonia, on the general political orientation of the Government of Catalonia

Tram. 255-00006/09

Plenary Assembly of the Parliament

The Plenary Assembly of the Parliament, on the session held on September 27, 2012 debated the proposals presented by the parliamentary groups following the debate on the general political orientation of the Government of Catalonia that took place on 25, 26 and 27 September.

Finally, in accordance with the provisions of Article 133 of the Parliamentary Rules of Procedure, it adopted the following

Resolution

I. THE RIGHT TO DECIDE

1. The Parliament of Catalonia recognizes and is pleased with the enormous success of the massive demonstration that took place in Barcelona on 11 September under the slogan "Catalonia, a new European state" and hereby states that it wishes to take up and develop the desires expressed peacefully by the citizens gathered there in mass.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that over the last thirty years a large proportion of the supporters of Catalan nationalism have made a firm commitment to transforming the Spanish State in order to allow Catalonia to fit into it without compromising its legitimate national aspirations, its desire for self-government and its continuity as a nation. However, the attempts to fit Catalonia into the Spanish State and the latter's repeated refusals have brought the situation to a dead end. Catalonia must commence a new era based on the right to decide.



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3. The Parliament of Catalonia expresses the need for Catalonia to make its own way and for the Catalan people to be able to decide their collective future freely and democratically in order to ensure social progress and economic development, to strengthen democracy and to promote their own culture and language.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia, political parties and the social and economic actors to encourage the greatest possible consensus to carry out this democratic process and the ensuing roadmap by entering into dialogue with the international community, the European Union and the Spanish Government, so that the citizens of Catalonia can determine their collective future in a context of full freedom, respect for pluralism, fostering of debate and democratic coexistence without coercion.

5. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary for the people of Catalonia to freely and democratically determine their collective future and urges the Government of Catalonia to hold a consultation, preferably in the next legislative term.

II. THE CATALAN NATIONAL FACT

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that the Spanish State does not wish to understand the gravity of the situation created in 2010 when the Constitutional Court failed to respect the will of the Catalan people expressed in a referendum in 2006, leading to the massive demonstration of 10 July 2010. It also considers that, since that time, the Spanish State has not tried to improve the situation and, in addition, the current government has undertaken a drive towards recentralization that infringes on the powers of the *Generalitat* and has refused to discuss the proposals emerging from the Parliament of Catalonia.

2. In this process, which occurs in the context of a severe economic crisis that is having serious consequences in many sectors of society, the Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to ensure the social cohesion of the country and the will expressed on many occasions by Catalan society to keep Catalonia united as one.



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3. The Parliament of Catalonia expresses its confidence in the maturity of the people of Catalonia and in the only valid mechanism for resolving the conflicts, democracy and respect for the will of the people, for which so many people have fought in the past, especially during the Franco regime.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia solemnly proclaims, as it has done on other momentous occasions, the imprescriptible and inalienable right of Catalonia to self-determination as a democratic expression of its sovereignty as a nation.

III. THE PROCESS TOWARDS BECOMING A NEW EUROPEAN STATE

1. In this exceptional moment that Catalonia is going through in the process towards becoming a new European state, the Parliament of Catalonia believes that it is essential to strengthen the structures and instruments of state in order to ensure social cohesion, economic progress and the normalization and promotion of the Catalan language and culture. In particular, it is essential to work to provide Catalonia with an instrument for consulting citizens on the future of the country. This instrument must be constructed on the basis of the legality and legitimacy of the Parliament of Catalonia. Furthermore, to allow the citizens to express their will, it is necessary to defend the validity and applicability of Act 4/2010, on public consultation by referendum, and work must continue to regulate means of consulting the public other than referendums.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that any progress towards more structures of state involves the need to defend the structures of state that Catalonia has acquired, especially those of all the public services that make up the welfare state, such as education, health, social services and culture, as well as those of the public administration of the *Generalitat* and the local authorities, those of international relations and those of the public media.

IV. MEMORY AND DIGNITY

1. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to demand that the Spanish Government declare invalid by law the courts-martial against President Lluís Companys, Joan Peiró and Salvador Puig Antich in addition to



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other judicial murders committed by the Franco dictatorship, which were trials not against individuals but against an entire people.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to demand the return of the last Catalan documents —private documents and books and other materials— that were confiscated and deposited in the Archives of Salamanca and have not yet been returned.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia declares its rejection and condemnation of the words of the colonel of the Spanish army Francisco Alamán Castro, who publicly threatened Catalonia with a military intervention if it decided to become independent, called for the arrest of the member of the Parliament of Catalonia Uriel Bertran and the members of the Spanish Congress of Deputies Joan Tardà and Alfred Bosch, and called for the banning of the political parties Catalan Solidarity for Independence (*Solidaritat Catalana per la Independència*, SI) and Republican Left of Catalonia (*Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya*, ERC). The Parliament of Catalonia also expresses its condemnation of the Association of Spanish Military Personnel, which warned the pro-independence parties and parliamentary groups that they were committing “an offense of high treason” and called on the Spanish Government to act before “the armed forces find themselves in the very serious and irremissible situation of having to strictly and scrupulously carry out the mission given to them by the Constitution.” He also directly threatened “those responsible for allowing the threat of fracture of Spain or participating or cooperating in it” with being tried summarily by military law for “high treason”. Therefore, the Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to demand that the Spanish defence minister, Pedro Morenés, immediately arrest Infantry Colonel Francisco Alamán Castro, in accordance with Article 28 of Organic Act 8/1998, on the disciplinary system of the armed forces, and to try him using the full weight of the law.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia considers the right to self-determination an inalienable right of the people of Catalonia. This has been made explicit in several votes of Parliament, the seat of sovereignty of the people of Catalonia. This right will be exercised when the people of Catalonia so desire. Given this democratic will, a military intervention by Spain will not be accepted under any circumstances by European and international bodies.



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V. POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTION

V.1. INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

V.1.1. Foreign policy and international outreach

1. In the process of building an independent state for the Catalan nation, the Parliament of Catalonia considers it essential to work for international outreach regarding the political, economic and social reality of Catalonia, and to promote the establishment of permanent relations with the international community. In accordance with this will, the Parliament states that in foreign policy priority should be given to the following:

a) Developing with its full potential the network of delegations abroad, giving priority among their functions to the establishment of permanent relations with the authorities of the country in which they are based and with those of other countries in accordance with the decree by which they were constituted.

b) Promoting a strategy of relationship and work with the influential international media in order to promote the political, economic and social reality of Catalonia and to disseminate the desires for the future expressed democratically by the people of Catalonia.

c) Adopting a strategy of constant dialogue and collaboration with the European institutions, especially the European Commission and the European Parliament, establishing bilateral relations with the authorities of the most influential states in the international community, and establishing a permanent dialogue with the United Nations Organization and its dependent organizations in order to facilitate the international recognition of the decisions taken by the people of Catalonia regarding their collective future.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to make contacts and undertake political action with the relevant bodies of the European Union to help set an agenda for reform in Europe focusing on growth, integration and fiscal consolidation. Essential elements of this programme must be the constitution of a European government, a schedule for member states to adopt mechanisms for coordinating economic policies and a schedule for fiscal integration, modification of the statutes of the European Central Bank to orient it towards economic growth, and establishment of a tax on financial transactions.



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3. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to recognize the independence of the Republic of Kosovo, as have the major Western democracies, and to call on the Spanish Government to respect the rule of law in accordance with Article 10.2 of the Spanish Constitution and the rulings made by the International Court of Justice of the United Nations Organization, an organization of which the Spanish State is a member.

V.1.2. Public administration and local governments

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that the attainment of sovereignty necessarily involves an administrative reform and a context that justifies profound reforms to build the new administration. The road towards a state with its own structures must be used to create a model of the Catalan administration that will further the welfare state, that will excel from the point of view of effectiveness and efficiency and that will be economically sustainable. The specific objectives of the reform must be delimited immediately and formally, and work must start to analyse the areas that will constitute the Catalan model of administration. The following areas must be defined: public policies and the scope of the public system; the organizational model; the instrumental organizations; decentralization of the administration; innovation; management, financing and evaluation of public services; access to the civil service; management functions; the contractual and labour framework in the service-providing administration (health, education, etc.); performance evaluation; the remuneration system; and transparency.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to present to it articulated texts on the regulation of the civil service, the instrumental regulation of the public sector and the definition of professional management functions.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia states that the primary objective of any administrative structure must be to provide quality services to citizens, wherever they live, because geographic settlement is also an important aspect of any country. To achieve this goal, the tendency should be to create local governments following a model of asymmetric powers that takes into account principles of differentiation, management capacity and financial capacity. These principles should be used to build administrative structures in the form of municipalities or associations of municipalities that allow criteria of administrative simplification, efficiency and effectiveness to be applied. These principles should



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also be applicable to the configuration of second-level structures, which must respect the criteria of direct election or direct representativeness of municipalities in order to gain democratic legitimacy.

V.2. THE ECONOMY

V.2.1. Relations between the Generalitat and the Spanish State

The Parliament of Catalonia considers that the economic decisions taken by the Spanish Government of the People's Party (*Partido Popular*, PP) not only fail to help solve the serious economic situation but are constantly and invariably prejudicial to Catalonia and to the pockets of its citizens, and systematically reduce the narrow margin of self-government with which Catalonia is able to face the crisis. The systematic consistency of these measures and the ideological positions of those who inspire them reveal a strategy that seeks in the economic difficulties of Catalonia a means to facilitate its national and cultural assimilation by Spain. Among the measures that the Spanish State takes against the Catalan economy, the Parliament of Catalonia firmly rejects the following:

- a) The reduction in active employment policies at the most critical moment, which in Catalonia will involve the loss of €260 million, more than half the budget at its disposal in 2011, and the neglect of unemployed people, persons who wish to improve their employability, persons with special difficulties, cooperatives and self-employed workers.
- b) Non-payment of the Spanish State's outstanding debts to Catalonia, amounting to more than €8,600 million: €5,700 million in infrastructure, €1,450 million in the Competitiveness Fund for 2011, €759 million in the settlement of investments not carried out in accordance with the Third Additional Provision of the Statute of Catalonia for the year 2008, €219 million for 2009, €719 million for 2010 and €969 million for 2011, in addition to €971 million not included in the budgets for 2012 and €472 million of the historic debt of the Catalan health system to the Social Security before the transfer of powers in 1995, among others.



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- c) Institutional disloyalty: decisions taken by the Spanish State regarding expenditure by the *Generalitat* without monetary compensation amounted to €1,851.2 million in 2012.
- d) Arbitrary restrictions on borrowing mechanisms: in implementing the control measures imposed by Act 2/2012, on budgetary stability and financial sustainability, the Spanish Government makes it difficult to obtain credit from financial institutions, thus eliminating the borrowing possibilities agreed before the new regulations.
- e) Centrifuging of the burden of deficit reduction: The Spanish State reserves for itself the time margin that the European Union has given to reduce the deficit to the detriment of the autonomous communities and local government bodies, with a planning that exacerbates the situation in 2013.
- f) The system of access to finance in Catalonia, which rules out the possibility of joint emissions in favour of the interventionism of the Regional Liquidity Fund.
- g) The 45% reduction in regionalized investments for Catalonia in the Draft Budget of the Spanish State for 2012.
- h) A reform of the financial system that leads to an unprecedented loss of decision-making power of financial institutions in Catalonia.
- i) A reform of the regulatory bodies that will lead to a worsening of the conditions of competition in strategic sectors and the loss of the headquarters of the Telecommunications Market Commission in Barcelona.
- j) An erratic infrastructure policy that gives priority to the central freight railway corridor instead of the economically sounder Mediterranean corridor, and that has been rejected in Europe.
- k) An infrastructure policy that fails to respond to urgent needs that would have an immediate effect on economic recovery, such as the accesses to the ports of Barcelona and Tarragona, the access to the airport of Barcelona–El Prat by local railway, the high speed connection with Europe, the threat of extending Catalan toll concessions to offset the failure of tolls of Madrid, the high accident rate in the local railway service approached in a way that discriminates against Catalonia, the differences in funding of the metropolitan public transport systems in Barcelona and Madrid, and the curbing of individualized management of the airport of Barcelona, to name just a few.



V.2.2. Fiscal pillage

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that, in addition to the difficulties caused by the economic crisis, Catalonia is subject year after year to fiscal pillage, which in 2009 reached a figure of €16,409 million, equivalent to 8.4% of Catalan GDP. These are funds that the Catalan people pay to the Spanish State and that do not return to Catalonia in the form of spending or public investment. The gravity and injustice of this fiscal deficit bears no comparison to the situation in any other European country that has a certain degree of administrative decentralization. It is a constant economic pillage over time that has had the same order of magnitude since it was first measured and that suffocates the structures on which public services are based in Catalonia. If Catalonia had these funds it could have one of the most robust and solvent welfare states in Europe.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to inform the public that public services in Catalonia have a per capita funding well below the average of the "Europe of the fifteen" and that this level does not correspond to the fiscal effort made by individuals and companies in Catalonia. It also urges the Government of Catalonia to inform the public that the cause of the deficit in financing of public services is the fiscal pillage to which Spain subjects Catalonia, and that there is an urgent need to abolish this pillage in order to put an end to the cuts and initiate policies of economic recovery.

V.2.3. Financial instruments and fight against tax evasion

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to take the necessary actions and to support the relevant legislative procedures to give the Catalan Finance Institute the legal status of a bank in order to turn it into a public bank serving economic recovery and social cohesion.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia states that it is necessary to intensify the fight against tax evasion and the underground economy, expresses its opposition to the tax amnesty introduced and managed by the Spanish Government because it is a fiscal measure that is unfair to all citizens who meet their tax obligations,



and urges the Government of Catalonia to submit to the Parliament of Catalonia a plan to fight tax evasion.

V.2.4. Economic recovery

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to promote strategies in favour of the productive economy, industry and knowledge. It also considers it necessary to promote job creation, the green economy, social policy and defence of decent work, in order to achieve a model for industry, tourism and food production that is ecologically sustainable and socially fair, and to place the economy at the service of the people and the country.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia states that the industrial nature of the Catalan economy is the best strategic tool available to the country for returning to a leading position, overcoming the crisis and creating jobs. It also states that priority should be given to efforts dedicated to instruments of support to the productive economy, funding for the policy of clusters should be increased in order to generate stable, high-quality jobs with the support of employers in Catalonia, and foreign industrial investment should also be fostered. Therefore, the Parliament of Catalonia believes that in the next legislative term the following should be carried out without delay:

a) To promote the legislative changes that are necessary to foster industrial activity and production, in agreement with the socioeconomic actors, and to foster job creation through support to entrepreneurs, self-employed workers, small businesses and microenterprises.

b) To strengthen, through the Catalan Business Support Agency (ACC1Ó), consultancy and strategy improvement programmes as a tool for access to innovation and internationalization policies and to return to promoting a cluster policy that follows the recommendations of the European Union. Clusters should be bigger, promote the internationalization of SMEs, seek excellence in management, encourage innovation and specialization, have a cross-cutting nature, be based on business strategy and the final market, and consider the emergence of new emerging industries in order to qualify for the European Structural Funds for 2014-2020.



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c) To reinforce the supporting role of the Catalan Finance Institute to finance industry and food production in view of the difficulty of obtaining finance in the various sectors of production.

d) To carry out personalized monitoring of all companies that present redundancy procedures in order to seek alternatives to enable the viability of the companies and reduce job losses.

e) To implement a policy of support, guidance and international promotion of Catalan industrial estates based on an assessment of the current situation and to propose the necessary legal changes.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that it is necessary to develop a strategic plan for the revival of industry in Catalonia, for economic recovery, based on innovation and exports and on attracting investment through the Industrial and Business Action Plan.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia believes that it is essential to promote the policies of internationalization of the Catalan economy, promoting the work carried out by the Catalan Business Support Agency with a view to promoting exports by increasing their value and opening new markets, and with a view to attracting investment, continuing the process of full integration in world trade and the global economy.

5. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to introduce a bill to encourage economic activity and entrepreneurship, including the following objectives:

a) The creation and provision of several specific funds to promote projects related to research, development and innovation in business.

b) The creation and provision of a fund to promote energy efficiency in homes and businesses.

c) The creation and provision of a fund to promote self-employment projects in the districts included in the Neighbourhood Plan of Catalonia.

d) Measures of direct support to entrepreneurs.

e) A financial stimulus to projects of the cultural industry, with the goal of making culture one of the key sectors in the definition of a new model of social and economic development, based on social and political consensus and with a



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multidisciplinary and cross-cutting nature that includes the areas of education, knowledge, research and economics.

6. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to exhaust the credit provided by the Catalan Finance Institute for support to companies, especially for the implementation of new business projects or investments.

V.2.5. Retail and tourism

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers retail trade to be important as a sector that creates jobs and therefore believes that in the next legislative term the Catalan retail model of balance between local shops and medium- and large-sized establishments should be continued. The Parliament firmly rejects invasions of powers, which are only aimed at destroying the Catalan retail model through a new deregulation of opening hours and the granting of licences for new establishments.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia declares its commitment to the tourism industry, as it provides 13% of Catalan GDP and is a great job creator. For this reason, in the next legislative term the brand "Catalonia" should be promoted as a national tourist destination distinguished by the quality and variety of options and landscapes and incorporating the internationally recognized Catalan tourist destinations. It is necessary to continue to develop a programme of activities so that visitors can perceive the reality of the country during their stay in Catalonia, by supporting the creation, development and promotion of tourism products in accordance with the new paradigms of tourism recommended by the World Tourism Organization, such as the creation of thematic routes and the valorization of intangible values, identity and authenticity.

V.2.6. The agri-food sector

1. The Parliament of Catalonia expresses its strategic commitment to the agri-food sector as a source of employment and competitiveness of the Catalan economy and considers that the access of the Catalan population to a good supply of high-quality food must be guaranteed in all circumstances. In this



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regard, the Parliament considers it necessary to reinforce and develop as far as possible the job-creating capacity of farming and the food industry through the application of, and strict compliance with Resolution 671/VIII of the Parliament of Catalonia, of 14 April 2010, subsequent to the specific debate on the world of farming. Furthermore, the Parliament is committed to ensuring specifically that advantage is taken of all investment multiplier resources provided by national and European co-funding of the actions included in the 2007-2013 Rural Development Plan and that planning and prospecting of available resources and of present and future needs are increased in order to ensure simultaneously the continuity of the agri-food business and food sufficiency in Catalonia.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to develop an economic impact study in order to ascertain the common agricultural policy that is most beneficial to the Catalan agricultural sector.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to seek solutions to the main problem of the agricultural sector, having to sell its products below cost, a problem that is exacerbated by the intervention of too many intermediaries between producers and consumers. To this end, the Parliament urges the Government to do the following:

a) To draw up a decree to promote direct sales.

b) To draw up a strategic plan for local networks.

c) To continue and increase the activity of the Catalan Food Price Observatory as a necessary tool for promoting transparency in price setting in all stages of the chain, and the activity of the Good Business Practice Commission as a tool for promoting interaction between the agents involved.

V.2.7. Infrastructure

1. The Parliament of Catalonia states that the infrastructure policy of the Spanish State has not followed criteria of economic logic and support to the productive economy and therefore calls for a complete turnaround of this policy.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia denounces the institutional disloyalty towards Catalonia practiced in the last two years by several Spanish Governments is serious and a cause for concern. This disloyalty is observed especially in the



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failure to comply with the Third Additional Provision of the Statute of Catalonia, with an amount pending payment up to 2012 of €2,849.27 million arising from the failure to pay in previous years and the measures of the Draft Budget of the Spanish State for 2012.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia ratifies the content of Motion 73/IX of the Parliament of Catalonia, and specifically considers that there must be no delay in demanding, as measures that would have a special effect on economic recovery, the start of construction of the rail access to the port of Tarragona and the new terminal of the port of Barcelona, the individualized management of Barcelona airport, the doubling of the track between Vandellòs and Tarragona, connexion with the rest of Europe through high-capacity railways and the connexion of Terminal 1 of Barcelona Airport to the local railway service.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to request the transfer to the Government of Catalonia of the road network of the Spanish State, in accordance with Article 150.2 of the Spanish Constitution, in order to put an end to the neglect of the Spanish State in finishing infrastructure that is of prime importance to Catalonia, such as the conversion of the N-II road into a dual carriageway in the section running through the counties of Girona. The exercise of the powers transferred must be assumed by the *Generalitat* of Catalonia in the moment when the transfer of the necessary personnel, materials and funds becomes effective, through an agreement by the Joint Committee on Transfers between the Spanish and Catalan Governments and the corresponding royal decree for the transfer of services.

V.3. SOCIAL POLICIES

V.3.1. Employment policies

1. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to present an employment bill to meet the needs of mediation, employment guidance and occupational training for the unemployed.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to introduce a shock plan against youth unemployment and long-term unemployment in order to prevent social exclusion.



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V.3.2. Equal opportunities

1. The Parliament of Catalonia states that the policies on equal opportunities and welfare are an inseparable part of the set of actions to be taken to achieve economic recovery and overcome the crisis. The model of society that we defend for Catalonia places people at the centre of its priorities. The Parliament understands welfare, commitment to public investment in education, social services and health and equality as basic premises of people's freedom and therefore considers them to be essential objectives.
2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to fulfil the commitments made in the 2012 Budget with respect to the payment of subsidies to the Social Initiative Special Work Centres.
3. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to comply immediately with Motion 59/IX of the Parliament of Catalonia in relation to people with disabilities.
4. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to ensure equal treatment of all persons registered in Catalonia in access to public services, particularly in health care, as laid down in the National Pact on Immigration.
5. The Parliament of Catalonia believes that it is essential to apply Act 10/2010, on reception for immigrants and returnees to Catalonia, and to deploy the Catalan Integration Agency to provide all immigrants in Catalonia with training in Catalan and knowledge of Catalan society, of the labour market and of the law.
6. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that there is an urgent need to give priority in social housing policies to fighting evictions and loss of housing due to failure to meet mortgage payments or pay rent. This should be done by promoting mediation and debt restructuring in the first case, and especially by promoting public rented housing in the second case.

V.4. THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to develop a new production model based on sustainability and prosperity that must follow the following basic lines:



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a) Updating and effective implementation of plans to mitigate climate change and improve air quality.

b) A policy of reduction, recovery and reuse of urban and industrial waste.

c) The valorization of the so-called environmental services that biodiversity provides to society, to the economy and to quality of life through the law on protection of biodiversity, the plans for the management and use of areas of natural interest, and the Catalan Forest Plan.

d) Ensuring the ecological flow of the River Ebro, which should allow the development of the ecological functions of the river, the delta and the nearby marine ecosystem, while maintaining the socioeconomic activities carried out in the area.

2. In view of the imminent adoption of the new Spanish Hydrological Plan of the Ebro Basin, the Parliament of Catalonia calls for the European institutions to defend a sufficient environmental flow for the final stretch of the River Ebro and its delta, in accordance with the demands and studies established by the Commission for Sustainable Development of the Lands of the Ebre (*Terres de l'Ebre*) and the allegations made by the Catalan institutions regarding the new Plan for the Ebro Basin.

3. If the Spanish Government allows the diversion of the River Ebro, the Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to oppose it and to use all administrative, legal and political means to prevent it, including high-level legal protection of the flow of the River Ebro and the establishment of an environmental flow that makes diversion impossible.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia calls for observance of the planned schedule to ensure the progressive and rapid return to its basin of the water diverted from the River Ter.

5. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to use the Catalan Energy Institute to set up the Catalan Energy Agency as an active part in building a new energy model.

6. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to speed up the Zèfir offshore wind energy project.



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7. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to do the following:

a) To promote electric vehicles in Catalan towns and cities, especially two-wheeled vehicles, as they significantly improve urban mobility and have an added value linked to sustainability and respect for the environment.

b) To encourage the competent administrations to adapt urban structures, urban planning and transport infrastructure to the future reality of electric vehicles, taking into account in all cases the legal complexity arising from Spanish law on electricity distribution, specifically for electric vehicles, so that throughout the country there are points of connection that can be identified through Internet search engines. In all cases preference should be given to structures for generating renewable energy and conversion of degraded areas or those currently used for services for vehicles.

V.5. LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

V.5.1. Language policy

1. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government to ensure compliance with Act 22/2010, on the Consumer Code of Catalonia, which has been in force since 23 July 11 and states that all products sold in Catalonia must be labelled in Catalan.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to defend by all administrative, legal, and political means Act 35/2010, on Occitan (Aranese in Aran), and to promote the language and culture of Aran.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to take the necessary measures to guarantee education in Catalan throughout the education system of the Valencian Community.

V.5.2. Cultural policy

1. The Parliament of Catalonia declares its strategic commitment to culture and its conviction that cultural industries are an essential element in the creation of wealth. In the next legislative term it is therefore essential to work so that the



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public authorities in general can recover their contributions to the level of 2010 for the cultural facilities in the country when the income of the Government of Catalonia recovers. Furthermore, it is necessary to design, together with the other public authorities involved, a plan to minimize the impact of reduced revenues, prioritizing support to local authorities and cultural creators, especially those that are fragile because of their size or the inherent uncertainty and that find it more difficult to deal with the current crisis.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to promote and complete the Strategic Culture Plan and the National Agreement for Culture on the basis of social and political consensus.

3. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that it is necessary to ensure an economic scenario for cultural programmes that fulfils the Statute with regard to the public guarantees of right of access to culture, and that responds to the critical situation of the cultural sector in the economic crisis, especially after the increase in VAT.

4. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to draw up a shock plan in response to the critical situation of the cultural sector in the economic crisis, especially after the increase in VAT.

5. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that it is necessary to establish a programme to support cultural programming by local authorities that gives priority to local creativity and that specifies the measures to encourage the hiring of performing arts, music and traveling visual arts events in addition to creative programmes in schools.

6. The Parliament of Catalonia believes that it is essential to develop the full potential of Act 20/2010, on the cinema, as the instrument for the production, distribution and marketing of a range of films in Catalan and the reinforcement of the Catalan cultural industry.

7. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to defend the unity of the Diocesan Museum of Lleida and to take any legal actions that are necessary to maintain the integrity of the collection of the Museum as an expression of Catalan culture.



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V.6. EDUCATION, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH

V.6.1. Education

1. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to oppose the organic bill for the improvement of education that Spanish minister for Education, José Ignacio Wert, aims to pass because it clearly invades the powers of the *Generalitat*, and to use in this opposition all administrative, legal and political means at its disposal to prevent the approval of the bill.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers that it is an urgent priority to reject the centralization and invasion of powers implied in the organic bill on education approved by the Spanish Government and to apply the Education Act of Catalonia (LEC) over any other legislation or constitutional jurisprudence, thus preserving the work of schools and teachers in application of the LEC.

V.6.2. Universities and research

1. The Parliament of Catalonia states that the universities and research policy is strategic for achieving a change in the production model and guaranteeing mobility and equal opportunities in Catalonia. In this regard, it is necessary to carry out the following:

a) To further develop the Catalan research and innovation model, embodied in the National Pact for Research and Innovation.

b) To develop a university policy based on academic quality, universal access, cooperation with society and accountability.

c) To provide research centres with the necessary funding and tools to carry out their activities and continue ranking as international reference centres.

d) To promote collaboration with the production sectors, favouring research transfer, encouraging industrial doctorates, and promoting recruitment of postdoctoral researchers by companies.



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2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to fully satisfy the objectives and commitments of the National Pact for Research and Innovation.

V.7. CATALAN TEAMS

1. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to give priority to federations that have an official Catalan team in drawing up budgets and establishing criteria for sports subsidies, in order to use the "Catalonia" brand as a sports reference worldwide.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia believes it to be essential to take the necessary action to ensure that, exercising their rights and pursuing their legitimate sporting objectives, the Catalan sports federations can freely request admission to the appropriate international federations with a view to participating in official international competitions.

V.8. PUBLIC MEDIA

1. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it necessary to reaffirm our commitment to a model of public media in Catalan that guarantees pluralism and innovation and acts as a motor for productions and companies in the Catalan audio-visual sector, to guarantee revenue through sufficient joint funding for public radio and television, and to facilitate reciprocal broadcasting of TV3 (Catalan Television) and Canal 9 (Valencian Television) in the Valencian Community and Catalonia.

2. The Parliament of Catalonia considers it essential to consolidate and reinforce the role of the public media that form part of the Catalan Broadcasting Corporation in order to ensure that citizens receive information that is accurate, complete, plural and truthful, taking into account all ages and the various social and geographic spheres, in accordance with the parameters laid down in the Framework Mandate of the Public Broadcasting System, approved by Parliament on 11 February 2010.



PARLAMENT DE CATALUNYA

3. The Parliament of Catalonia urges the Government of Catalonia to guarantee freedom of information and to achieve the reception of the channels of Televisió de Catalunya in the Valencian Community.

Palau del Parlament, 27 September 2012

Third Secretary

The President of the Parliament

Josep Rull i Andreu

Núria de Gispert i Català