

Kate and I negate, Resolved: Spain should grant Catalonia it's independence

Our sole contention is what happens in Catalonia doesn't stay in Catalonia.

[Molly Hennessy-Fiske of the LA Times explains in 2017](#) that separatists have eagerly watched Catalan activists declare their independence in a crisis that threatens to fracture not just Spain, but the European Union. The decision by the parliament in Catalonia to declare independence last week has galvanized independence movements. She furthers that European leaders have reacted strongly and violently to the news. [President Trump](#) quickly agreed after learning about the events on Fox News, and held a joint press conference with Rajoy, the Prime Minister of Spain. He condemned the acts with just as much anxiety as the leaders of Europe did. Why would he do this if he had no personal stake in the matter?

The answer here is clear. Texas.

The Catalan independence movement has inspired Texan secessionists. [Lucia Benavides of Texas Monthly](#) explains that despite geographical and political differences, Texas separatists have been following the Catalan independence movement for years. The two regions have some similarities: Both are economic hubs, pride themselves on a deep-rooted identity, and have some citizens frustrated with the way their tax dollars are spent at the federal level. But the core issue isn't economics, it is sovereignty and self-determination.

A Tex-it (Texas-exit) is more likely today than ever before for four compelling reasons.

1. Current legislative momentum. [Mindy of PBS in 2017](#) reports that Last May, the Texas Nationalist Movement came within two votes of adding Texas independence language to the state's Republican platform.
2. National support. [Reuters furthers in 2014](#) that that nearly one in four Americans want their state to secede and that the desire was even higher in Texas.
3. The next generation. [Hawkins of the Washington Post in 2017](#) reports a secession bill won overwhelming support from the mock legislature in Texas Boys State, the American Legion's summer program where youth leaders create and run their own government. These future policy makers are already on it.
4. Russia. [Michel of Politico reports in 2015](#) that Russia has teamed up with Texan secession movements to attempt revenge on the US Government for its economic sanctions. This is especially important when considering that [CNN reports in 2017](#) that Russia has spread misinformation on the Catalan referendum, perhaps enough to push it over the edge into the success that it had in November. This becomes even more concerning when [Tanfani of the LATimes reports in 2017](#) that Russia had access to election systems in 21 states during the 2016 presidential election.

All this taken together leads [Madogre](#) to declare that secession today is more likely than ever before.

This is extremely problematic for three reasons.

1. The government of Texas. [Simmons of the Shorthorn in 2012](#) does the math and finds that the Texan economy could not survive a secession attempt. Texas already relies on billions of dollars in federal funding, not to mention the costs of raising political institutions and paying for a military. Theoretically adding up all these starting costs would be well over a trillion dollars, and that's just start-up costs.
2. The people of Texas. The [United States Census](#) estimates that nearly 30 million people live in Texas as of July 2017. Letting these 30 million people drift off into Republican-land without any sort of liberal force from liberal Washington would be extremely problematic, according to [Ashtari of the Huffington Post in 2013](#). Ashtari explains that even right now, Texas has the strictest abortion laws, worst healthcare, discriminatory religious standards, discriminatory voting laws, and Ted Cruz.
3. The United States. [Bhattacharya of CNN Money in 2015](#) explains that the Texas economy is booming and is the nation's best state economy given its size and low unemployment rate. Texas is also important for mining and manufacturing, not to mention providing the country's textbooks. The US couldn't survive without it!
4. Civil war. [History.com](#) explains that the last time Texas tried to secede, it was during the Civil War, and we all know how that turned out. Badly. Such a war would kill a lot of people and also cripple the United States and the people in it.