# duPont BH Aff File – Emory 2018

#### Resolved: Spain should grant Catalonia its independence.

# Case

### Case

**Ben and I Affirm.**

Our Sole Contention is Catalonian independence movements.

BBC News reports that separatist support soared in 2010 after a ruling by Spain’s constitutional court that set limits on Catalonia’s claim to nationhood. This support has ultimately manifested into secessionist movements that are still around to this day.

**Unfortunately, there are four reasons why these independence movements will continue in a world without independence.**

**First is Catalonia’s demographic.**

Xavier Mollins writes that there has been a constant clash between Catalonia and Spain of progressive and conservative ideals. However, he furthers that because a large part of Catalonians immigrated there during the 1960s and 70s, support for secession has remained below a majority. As such, he concludes that support for independence movements will only continue to rise because the younger, progressive demographic that doesn’t have roots in Spain is more likely to push against Conservative Spain.

**Second is the Separatist victory in the last election.**

Neumann of the Wall Street Journal reports that the victory by the separatists in the last election has emboldened pro-independence movements to continue their push for secession. Neumann furthers that the victory means that the effect and support for independence movements is unlikely to stop for some time.

**Third is a lack of discussion.**

Politico reports that Rajoy refuses to change his position of zero discussion with Catalonia, furthering that despite the December 21st election, 0 dialogue had begun. That’s critical, because Villa of the Washington Post writes that every single time Rajoy refuses to discuss the question of independence, support for separatist movements increases.

**Fourth is youth disenfranchisement.**

Dewan of CNN writes that youth support for independence has grown as unemployment in Catalonia has skyrocketed. He furthers that the effect of unemployment is multiplied among the youth because joblessness affects them disproportionately. Unfortunately, this trend is set to persist, as Reuters reports that unemployment is only set to rise within Catalonia.

**The continuity of these movements has two negative impacts. The first impact is to the economy.**

El Pais writes that a continuity of uncertainty will further dent economic agent’s confidence and affect their spending and investment decisions. Ultimately, they conclude that the impact of the prolongation of uncertainty would be a situation similar to the beginning of the economic crisis in 2008, and a reduction of almost 60% of growth for the Spanish economy. This has already started to materialize as The Economist writes that this uncertainty has prompted over 1,000 companies to move out of Catalonia.

**The second impact is the destruction of the Catalonian welfare state.**

 Minder of the New York Times reports that secessionist movements have polarized politics within Catalonia, making people choose radicalized sides. That’s very important because Faber of The Nation reports that Ciudadanos, a party with the aim of destroying the Catalonian welfare state, is using these radicalized sides to get into office by running on anti-secessionist platforms. The destruction of welfare would be devastating, as a total of 2.9 million people within Catalonia live directly off of these payments. This has already begun to materialize, as Walsh of Global Risk Insights reports that although the separatist movement won the last election within Catalonia due to having multiple parties, the neoliberal Ciudadanos party became the single largest party within Catalonia which is striking as Blue Hansen of Viewpoint Magazine writes that the party will only continue to grow into the future.

**Fortunately, an affirmative ballot solves these impacts in two ways.**

First is a legal path to Independence. Jason Sorens of Al Jazeera reports that historically, governments can limit uncertainty and violence over secession campaigns when they provide a legal path to independence. He furthers that if governments such as Spain permitted independence, they could negotiate the terms of independence. Thus, when Spain grants Catalonia its independence, they do it legally which legitimizes Catalonia, ultimately decreasing uncertainty and stopping arguments over secession.

Second is shifting policy agendas. Faber of the Nation finds that the left has alienated many of their supporters who were for social projects but against secession, resulting in many of their voters turning to Ciudadanos. Additionally, Buck of the Financial times adds that Ciudadanos has also taken support from right wing voters due to their position on secession. Removing secession from policy agendas decreases uncertainty by pushing focus away from secession and towards fixing the economy and removing Ciudadanos voting base.

For these reasons, we are proud to affirm.

### Cards

#### BBC 18

BBC News, “Catalonia Region Profile”, 1/4/18, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-20345071> //BB

The pendulum swung back with the emergence of a democratic Spain after Franco's death. Catalonia now has is its own parliament and executive - together known as the "Generalitat" in Catalan - with extensive autonomy. Separatist fervour soared in 2010 after a ruling by Spain's constitutional court set limits on Catalan claims to nationhood. The region's president at the time, Jose Montilla, said the ruling had "attacked the dignity of Catalans". Spain's painful economic crunch also fuelled enthusiasm for sovereignty. Many Catalans believe their affluent region pays more to Madrid than it gets back, and blame much of Spain's 2008 debt crisis on the central government.

#### Mollins 17

Xavier Mollins, 9/19/17, “Why the independence of Catalonia is inevitable?”, <http://xavimolins.com/Politica/independencia-inevitable-de-cataluna> //BB

It is lawful, legitimate and acceptable to set up a state thinking that centrality is a good system for the common good of the same state. But it is also lawful, legitimate and acceptable not to want to be part of that state if you believe that this centrality drowns the longings of progress of your territory. Catalonia and Spain will no longer walk hand in hand, because they go to different places . If there is a reason why today the independence movement is not a majority in Catalonia, it is because there are still many people with emotional and affective ties to Spain. There is still a lot of population with very latent links, product of being still descendants of the massive immigration from Murcia and the 60s and 70s (among which my family is part of mother). As the Spanish grounds dissipate in the coming families, the embrace of the independence movement will be a majority . There are statistical studies that place 90% of those in favor of independence in those who have parents and grandparents born in Catalonia. On the other hand, barely 20% are reached in those in which none of their ascendants was born in Catalan lands. The demography, irrefutable in its mission, will be the one that passes from 50% favorable to the independence movement to establish a comfortable majority. That's why I never understood that Spain has not allowed a referendum in Catalonia in the last 10 years, when the victory was assured, and I will never understand the rulers of Catalonia, with an incomprehensible haste to hold a referendum as soon as possible, knowing what to expect just about 10-15 years is to ensure a clear victory at the polls. It no longer makes sense to ask if Catalonia will be independent or not . It is obvious that sooner or later it will be a new state, when the feeling of strong Spanishness that even those born outside of Catalonia and their respective children have vanished. It will be then, when the emotion is at a margin, when it will be impossible to defend that a territory as progressive as Catalonia continues to find itself in a structure as conservative as the Spanish State. Now that it is no longer necessary to ask whether Catalonia will be independent or not, other questions occupy the interest of many. The questions we must now ask ourselves are the 'how' , the 'when' and 'under what conditions' . To the three questions I have my preferences, my desires that I hope will become reality.

#### Neumann 17

Jeannette Neumann, 12/22/17, The Wall Street Journal, “Separatist Win in Catalonia Extends Political Turbulence”, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/separatist-win-in-catalonia-extends-political-turbulence-1513950095> //BB

The victory by separatists in Catalonia will embolden pro-independence groups to continue their push for secession from Spain, prolonging the country’s political crisis and pressuring the Rajoy government to find a way to avert another showdown with the restive region. In a vote for Catalonia’s regional assembly, pro-independence parties won a majority of seats, taking 70 out of 135. “There were more than two million votes in favor of independence,” Carles Puigdemont, the former head of the region said Friday morning. “This is not a fantasy.” Spanish stocks were lower in Friday trading, while the euro slipped against the dollar in a sign of nervousness among investors over the fallout. Two Spanish banks with deep roots in Catalonia, CaixaBank SA and Banco de Sabadell SA were among Europe’s worst-performing shares, down 3.6% and 2.9%, respectively. In a research note, Moody’s Investors Service wrote that uncertainty over how the Catalan crisis will evolve will damage business confidence. The results were a setback for Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, who bet that months of social and economic turmoil would drive more Catalans to rebuff the independence movement. “Those of us who wanted change didn’t win enough seats,” he said in televised remarks Friday. Still, the premier said the elections were an opportunity to reset relations between Madrid and Catalonia—if the separatists moderate their demands. “I am confident that a new phase is starting, based on dialogue and not confrontation,” Mr. Rajoy said. The victory means the turbulence is unlikely to recede for some time. The crisis erupted when secessionists staged an illegal referendum on Oct. 1, in which officials in the region say Catalans overwhelmingly supported secession. Later that month, the pro-independence government in Catalonia made a unilateral declaration of independence.

#### Politico 18

Charles Puigdemont, 1/10/18, Politico, “Catalonia won’t be silenced”, <https://www.politico.eu/article/carles-puigdemont-catalonia-wont-be-silenced-independence-spanish-government-election/> //BB

Respect means acknowledging reality as it is and not as Madrid would like it to be. If we start with that, huge advances can be made. But the strategy of harassment, humiliation and propaganda must be jettisoned. And scrupulous respect for the citizens’ decisions must be shown. Since December 21, Prime Minister Rajoy has been thinking and acting just the same as before, as if he couldn’t care less about the results, because they were not what he had planned for. Nearly three weeks after the election, the Spanish government is reluctant to acknowledge the results and to accept the defeat of its repressive strategy. It is keeping in force the suspension of autonomy, the sacking of the Catalan government and the measures of absolute intervention in our self-government. It is incapable of explaining to the world why there is a need to imprison and persecute politicians who have done exactly what they committed themselves to do before voters and the parliament. It has not opened a single channel of dialogue with the parliamentary majority that supports the current Government of the Generalitat, and it has given no signs of having understood the serious corrective of the ballot boxes.

#### Villa 17

Nando Villa, 10/5/17, The Washington Post, “How the Spanish government is pushing Catalans to support independence”, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/posteverything/wp/2017/10/05/how-the-spanish-government-is-pushing-catalans-to-support-independence/?utm_term=.f95201fa4d8f> //BB

The playground question of “Who Started It?” leads to endless and tedious chicken-and-egg arguments, but suffice it to say that it was very convenient for Rajoy that Spain’s deep economic crisis ceased to be the monotema, replaced instead in Spanish politics by the Catalan question. Rajoy’s position on Catalonia has been one of zero dialogue. Each time that he has refused to even entertain the question of increased autonomy for Catalonia or an independence referendum, support for the separatists ticked up. Catalan journalist Anna Pazos told me, “Rajoy’s refusal to negotiate a new fiscal arrangement with (then-Catalan President) Artur Mas in 2012 was a huge inflection point. From then on the Catalan government declared itself ‘sovereigntist,’ it wasn’t long before they were officially ‘separatist.’ The talk went from ‘how do we fit in with Spain?’ to ‘there is no way to fit in.’” But as support for the separatists grew over the past several years, Rajoy would get more and more Spaniards to rally behind his hard-line stance. This is how he was able to win reelection in 2015, as the Catalan monotema grew bigger and bigger. Stirring up nationalist sentiment and playing up a common enemy is, after all, a time-honored way for a government in power to distract from voters’ economic misery.

#### Dewan 17

Angela Dewan, 12/19/17, “The millennials voting for Catalan Independene”, CNN News, <http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/19/europe/catalonia-youth-election-spain-intl/index.html> //BB

It contributes much more in taxes (21% of the country's total) than it gets back from the government. Independence supporters have seized on the imbalance, arguing that stopping transfers to Madrid would turn Catalonia's budget deficit into a surplus. They are numbers that are especially hard to swallow for Catalan millennials, who — like almost all young people in developed nations around the world — will be poorer than their parents' generation, according to an OECD study. "Ever since the economic crisis in 2008, which hit Spain very hard, young people have felt perplexed. They are wondering: 'What happened?' They told us that if we studied, everything would be fine, and now we have no work, no money, no house," said Marina Subirats, a sociologist from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. "You have to understand that it means a lot for a generation that has no job or place in society when someone promises to build a new country where everything will be perfect." According to Artis International, an organization researching violence and conflict, unemployment and support for independence in Catalonia are linked. Support grew every year between 2009 and 2013 in line with unemployment. In 2014, when unemployment began to ease, so did support for independence. That effect is multiplied among young people because joblessness affects them disproportionately.

#### Reuters 17

Paul Day, 11/3/17, “Catalonia unemployment jumps as political crisis drags on”, Reuters, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-economy/catalonia-unemployment-jumps-as-political-crisis-drags-on-idUSKBN1D30T4> //BB

The number of people in Spain registering as jobless rose for the third straight month by 1.67 percent in October from a month earlier, or by 56,844 people, leaving 3.47 million people out of work, data from the Labour Ministry showed. Of that, Catalonia saw unemployment rise by 3.67 percent, or 14,698 people, the largest loss of jobs amongst all the regions and compared to a just 0.08 percent rise in jobless in the region of Madrid. The Bank of Spain warned on Thursday that uncertainty due to the independence drive, if it persists, could lead to slower economic growth and lower job creation in the next few months. October often sees a continuation of rising unemployment after the summer tourist sector lays off temporary workers in hotels and restaurants. Registered jobless rose strongest in the service sector, with a 2.2 percent monthly rise, or by 50,885 people, followed by agriculture, marking the end of summer harvests, up 5.83 percent, or 9,194 people.

#### El Pais 17

Antonio Maqueda, 11/3/17, El Pais, “Spanish economy could lose €27bn over Catalan crisis, warns Bank of Spain”, <https://elpais.com/elpais/2017/11/03/inenglish/1509705085_520332.html> //BB

Catalonia runs the risk of getting the worst of it and entering a full-blown recession. “A potential heightening, or prolongation, of the political situation might adversely impact the economic outlook and financial stability in Spain,” says the report. “Greater uncertainty might dent economic agents’ confidence and thereby affect their spending and investment decisions, subsequently exerting a negative impact on economic activity and employment.” The report also underscores “the political tension in Catalonia and its potential repercussions for funding conditions on the capital markets and for the Spanish economy as a whole.” To date, says the report, the effect of the political tensions in Catalonia have been visible especially on the financial markets: “In addition to global risk factors, the Spanish financial markets are exposed to other specific risks and, in particular, to those relating to political tensions in Catalonia.” But the effects could extend to household spending, corporate investment, hiring decisions and financing conditions. In the medium term, says the Bank of Spain, “the macroeconomic impact of the current situation of uncertainty will depend both on its intensity and its duration.” Analysts considered two scenarios. The most benign one sees the worst of the uncertainty ending by year-end, when fresh elections are scheduled to be held. The accumulated cost to the economy would be three-tenths of a point, or around €3 billion, for the 2018-2019 period. But there is a harsher scenario in which the Catalan conflict persists throughout the next two years, creating a situation similar to the beginning of the economic crisis in 2008, or when Spain was on the brink of a bailout in 2012. “This latter scenario would entail a reduction of almost 60% of the growth considered in the baseline scenario for the Spanish economy as a whole, and a recession in the Catalan economy for much of the horizon analyzed,” says the report.

#### The Economist 17

The Economist, 12/14/17, “Companies in the region vote with their feet against political uncertainty”, <https://www.economist.com/news/business/21732569-over-3000-firms-have-moved-legal-headquarters-elsewhere-spain-1000-have-shifted-their> //BB

Many others have made the same choice. By this week, over 2,900 firms had moved legal headquarters elsewhere in Spain as a result of the crisis—around half to Madrid. The central government made shifting easier to do with a decree on October 6th that removed a previous requirement for a shareholders’ meeting to grant permission first. Before the crisis, the region hosted seven of the 35 companies on Madrid’s IBEX stock index. Only one, Grifols, a pharmaceutical firm, remains. The exodus slowed after Madrid imposed direct rule in late October and the jailing of separatists in early November. But uncertainty persists over the result of an election on December 21st. Business would like a lower vote for separatists, but that would not dispel their worries. Moving legal headquarters need not mean that business operations and factories leave Catalonia. But in practice moving headquarters can affect where staff, especially senior ones, spend time. This is especially the case for some 1,000 firms that have taken a slightly bigger step—shifting their fiscal as well as their legal registration. “You move the board, then the CEO, then senior management. There is a natural knock-on effect,” says one company boss. “The danger is if the brains start leaving,” warns a member of a business lobby.

#### Minder 17

Raphael Minder, 12/20/17, The New York Times, “Catalonia Votes Again, This Time in a Gamble to Stall Its Secessionists”, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/20/world/europe/catalonia-election-spain.html> //BB

But such a result could still allow Mr. Iceta to take charge of Catalonia as a compromise choice, if the vote has no clear outcome.“The independence movement has polarized everything, and the center ground has disappeared, either because its representatives have disappeared or have become radicalized,” Mr. Iceta said in a recent interview.“We’re making an effort to reconstruct this center space for the moderates,” he said.

#### Faber 17

Sebastian Faber, 12/29/17, “Catalonia’s Elections Take Spain Back to Square One”, The Nation, <https://www.thenation.com/article/catalonias-elections-take-spain-back-to-square-one/> //BB

Since the debate over independence took center stage during the campaign, few managed to challenge Arrimadas on other issues, which might have revealed her party’s startling similarities on economic policy to those of the pro-independence Democratic Party of Catalonia (PDeCAT). The question over independence may turn out to be a Trojan horse through which to continue the destruction of the Catalan welfare state. Arrimadas has repeatedly questioned that welfare state, proposing “checks,” “salary supplements,” and other kinds of “help” in lieu of investment in more robust health care, education, and other social services. María-José Fariñas Dulce, a professor of legal philosophy at the University of Carlos III, has called Ciudadanos’ strategy “neoliberal pragmatism.” They advocate “the triumph of systemic individualism,” she wrote on the eve of the Catalan elections, “of those who resort to the social system only to obtain private advantages. The neoliberal utopia of a society of free individuals in an ultra-minimalist state.” Arrimadas’s successful strategy combined hawkishness on independence with lip service to feminism and issues of social welfare. Her party made significant inroads among the working-class suburbs surrounding Catalonia’s largest cities—the so-called “Red Belt”—that have traditionally been a social-democratic stronghold. According to the journalist Guillem Martínez, the Spanish migrant families that populate these areas have felt ignored by the independence movement. The tidal shift in pro-independence sentiment during the early 2010s replaced the long-standing inclusiveness of the Catalan social project with a for-us-or-against-us mentality; skeptics of the independence process were seen as traitors. This has opened the door to Ciudadanos’ brand of radical Spanish nationalism, which, as an editorial in the magazine CTXT points out, takes its cues from the French National Front. An unintended but major consequence of the independence process, Martínez notes, may well be “the birth of a new Spanish nationalist right in Catalonia.”

#### 2.9 Million Live off payments - Government of Catalonia 14

[No Author, 2014. “THE NATIONAL TRANSITION OF CATALONIA.” Government of Catalonia. <http://economia.gencat.cat/web/.content/70_economia_catalana/Subinici/Llistes/nou-estat/catalonia-new-state-europe/national-transition-catalonia.pdf>] //BH

Social Security is, due to its size, the basic institution guaranteeing the welfare state in all European countries. Currently, in Catalonia a significant number of people are recipients of Social Security income. The number of people (approximately 2.2 million) that sometime in the last year have received directly from Social Security all or most of their financial resources is close to the figure of the total employed population contributing to Social Security (approximately 2.96 million). In the medium and long term, the improvements that should be introduced into the Social Security system should be guided by the principle of respect to Social Security international standards. There is no single social security model in the world. In fact, there is actually no overarching concept of what is included in the concept of Social Security. Internationally, the first common criterion of what Social Security is about is Agreement no. 102 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which specifies not only what areas of protection national social security systems must have, but also what the minimum intensity of this protection is in order to avoid false coverage.

#### Walsh 17

Niall Walsh, 1/2/18, “Catalonia: the rise of Ciudadanos”, Global Risk Insights, <https://globalriskinsights.com/2018/01/catalonia-rise-ciudadanos-spain/> //BB

The elections represent a victory for the independence movement in Catalonia. With all the independence leaders either in prison or exile, it was a crucial day for the future of Catalan independence. The three main secessionist parties, Together for Catalonia, the Catalan Republican Left (ERC), and the Popular Unity Candidacy (CUP) achieved an independence victory by obtaining 70 seats out of a total of 135. In what was a very tight outcome, the independence movement has achieved the small majority required to form a government. The exiled Catalan President Carles Puigdemont stated that the election outcome was a victory for ‘the Catalan republic’. The beleaguered Spanish Prime Minister, whose party obtained a dismal 3 seats, stated that he is open for dialogue with Catalonia’s separatist leaders. However, dialogue must be ‘within the remit of the law’, thus renouncing talks surrounding the prospect of independence. In truth, the election leaves Catalonia back to square one, with the independence victory reinstating their majority in parliament, albeit reduced. The star of the silent majority Although the secessionist forces now hold the balance of power in Spain’s richest region, the election victory of unionist party Ciudadanos was perhaps the most significant result. The liberal party, led by Ines Arrimadas in Catalonia, claimed 37 seats and is now the biggest party in the regional parliament. In notable contrast, Rajoy’s People’s Party came last in the election. This result demonstrates a clear alternative force for Spanish unionism, while Ciudadanos’ Catalan popularity could be a preview for a change in the dynamics of Spanish politics. In the election build-up, it was clear that the so-called ‘silent majority’ would play a pivotal role in the outcome of the result. The ‘silent majority’ referred to many of those who hold the claim to Spanish and Catalan dual identity and championed reason over ideological dogma. Arrimadas, the 36-year-old Catalan, appears to have rescued the voters who felt positioned between a rock and a hard place when deciding between the pro-independence parties and Madrid’s political heavyweights. The plural identity of Ciudadamos is an important factor in its rise and popularity. The party was founded in 2006 by a number of Catalan intellectuals who were anti-nationalist and sought a political alternative to the existing parties in the region. In 2014, the party acquired half a million votes in the European elections. Its growing significance facilitated its entrance into the national parliament a year later. Moreover, its leaders are young and charismatic and have been likened to France’s Emanuel Macron. Albert Rivera, the national leader of Ciudadanos, is a 37-year-old lawyer and former banker from Barcelona. Arrimadas, from Andalucia, is a business lawyer and moved to Catalonia in her 20s. She is also a passionate supporter of FC Barcelona

#### Hansen 17

Blue Hansen, 12/19/17, “Winter in Catalonia”, Viewpoint Magazine, <https://www.viewpointmag.com/2017/12/19/winter-in-catalonia/> //BB

Instead, the Quixotic pathos of the mission jarred with its mundane causes, rendering both struggle and defeat farcical. And the likelihood of a social majority seems far off, with polls suggesting the pro-independence bloc will struggle to reach its current vote-share of 47%. With a huge vote increase, the neoliberal anti-catalanist Ciudadanos is set to become the biggest party, while Catalunya en Comú is likely to hold the mandates required for either side to form a government. The Comuns impudently point out ERC, PSC, CUP and Comuns will form a solid left-wing majority, but in the current atmosphere, this is little more than an illustration of the non-alignment of the social and the national question. It is not unlikely that new elections will have to be called, and that Ciudadanos will continue to grow. Beneath this farce, a democratic tragedy is playing out. Many Catalan politicians are currently imprisoned our on bail, while hundreds of mayors – including Ada Colau – face charges for having facilitated the referendum.

#### Sorens 17 (1)

Jason Sorens, 12/21/17, “Cracking down on independence movements is a bad idea”, Al Jazeera, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/cracking-independence-movements-bad-idea-171219075614245.html> //BB

Meanwhile, in Iraq, the Kurdistan Regional Government held a referendum on independence, which had a high turnout and passed overwhelmingly; the Iraqi government responded quickly with military force, defeating Kurdish forces and driving them back from disputed territory. How should central governments treat independence movements? My own research shows that central governments can limit the uncertainty and violence over secession campaigns when they provide a legal path to independence. The most recent scenes in Catalonia and Iraqi Kurdistan only serve to further confirm this finding. When central governments crack down on independence movements, political and economic instability and even violence the usual outcomes. There are two major reasons why suppressing secession are attempts by force is no solution to the issue. First, it is impossible to efface the dream of independence from people's minds.

#### Sorens 17 (2)

Jason Sorens, 12/21/17, “Cracking down on independence movements is a bad idea”, Al Jazeera, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/cracking-independence-movements-bad-idea-171219075614245.html> //BB

Galicia is politically conservative and enjoys net subsidies from the rest of Spain; independence is not a live option there. If governments permitted independence, they could negotiate the terms. If Iraq had been willing to negotiate the terms of Kurdish independence, they likely could have won territorial concessions without the use of military force. If Spain had been willing to negotiate a binding referendum with the Catalan government similar to the British government's deal with the Scottish government in 2014, they could have worked out a threshold of success (say, 55 percent) that would have made success unlikely. A failed referendum could have ended the independence threat for a generation. Instead, by sending in thousands of riot police, jailing politicians and taking their assets, banning websites, pressuring and raiding private newspapers, print shops, and hotels, and prosecuting political expression by private citizens, they have alienated moderate Catalans, lost face internationally, and ensured that independence and related issues like "political prisoners" will remain on the agenda for the indefinite future.

#### Faber (2)

Sebastian Faber, 12/29/17, “Catalonia’s Elections Take Spain Back to Square One”, The Nation, <https://www.thenation.com/article/catalonias-elections-take-spain-back-to-square-one/> //BB

Arrimadas’s successful strategy combined hawkishness on independence with lip service to feminism and issues of social welfare. Her party made significant inroads among the working-class suburbs surrounding Catalonia’s largest cities—the so-called “Red Belt”—that have traditionally been a social-democratic stronghold. According to the journalist Guillem Martínez, the Spanish migrant families that populate these areas have felt ignored by the independence movement. The tidal shift in pro-independence sentiment during the early 2010s replaced the long-standing inclusiveness of the Catalan social project with a for-us-or-against-us mentality; skeptics of the independence process were seen as traitors. This has opened the door to Ciudadanos’ brand of radical Spanish nationalism, which, as an editorial in the magazine CTXT points out, takes its cues from the French National Front. An unintended but major consequence of the independence process, Martínez notes, may well be “the birth of a new Spanish nationalist right in Catalonia.”

#### Buck 17

Tobias Buck, 12/21/17, “Five takeaways from the Catalan elections”, Financial Times, <https://www.ft.com/content/fa6dda6a-e6a0-11e7-97e2-916d4fbac0da> //BB

The result was not just a blow for the anti-independence forces in Spain but also terrible for the conservative Popular party of Mariano Rajoy, Spain’s prime minister. The party came a dismal seventh place, taking just three seats in the 135-seat parliament. For years Spain’s ruling party has been steadily losing votes in the region to the liberal yet equally anti-independence Ciudadanos party. Founded just 11 years ago in Catalonia, Ciudadanos was set up in large part to combat the rise of separatism in the region. But it has grown rapidly in other parts of Spain, posing a real challenge to the PP and its once rock-solid conservative base. Mr Rajoy himself is likely to see some silver linings to Thursday’s result. The separatists may keep their grip on the Catalan parliament and government but Spain’s prime minister can console himself with the thought that they failed once again to reach a majority of votes — the threshold the independence movement has so far always failed to cross in an election. Taken together, the share of the vote won by the three pro-independence parties in fact dropped slightly compared with 2015: expect to hear plenty about that from Mr Rajoy and the PP. The problem, at least in Catalonia, is that anti-independence voters seem to view Ciudadanos as their new political home, not the PP. The conservative’s poor showing on Thursday night will further undermine Mr Rajoy’s legitimacy in the eyes of many Catalans. That does not bode well for any future negotiation aimed at resolving the bitter political conflict.

# Blocks

## A2: Cultural Args

### A2: Common History

#### It doesn’t matter, they don’t even use the same language. Elwes writes in August that the Catalan language is in fact, closer to French and Italian than it is to Spanish. If the two haven’t been able to overcome a language difference, their common history probably isn’t as important as they would like to make it seem to be.

#### The two don’t have as much history as they might think. In fact, Jessop writes in September that the two regions only became one in the fifteenth century when Ferdinand married Isabella. The two have less history in common than Catalonia has on it’s own.

#### The two have various aspects of their culture that aren’t common. Suitelife confirms this, writing that the two have a plethora of various cultural aspects that are unique tot heir respective regions.

Cards:

Elwes 17 [Emily Elwes, 8-14-2017. "What's the difference between Spain and Catalonia?." ShBarcelona. https://www.shbarcelona.com/blog/en/spain-catalonia/] //BH

The language differences between most of Spain and Catalonia is mainly noticeable in Catalonia, outside of Barcelona. Within the city of Barcelona, most people are bilingual and can speak Spanish and Catalan. Despite that, you will find that a number of locals will address you only in Catalan, even if you speak to them in Spanish. That happens because they consider it the official language of Catalonia and because Catalan was suppressed for many years during the dictatorial regime of general Franco. Catalan is a Romance language like Spanish but is not a subset of Spanish itself. In fact, Catalan as a language is closer to French and Italian than Spanish or Portuguese. In Catalonia, this difference is most notably felt outside Barcelona as Catalan is the main language spoken on a daily basis. While the Catalan spoken in Barcelona can be partially understood by people who speak some European languages, the Catalan spoken in other regions can be quite difficult to grasp as the accent can get very thick and closed off. In Barcelona, visitors can hear both languages spoken consistently in different settings. The government of Catalonia and Barcelona is conducted in Catalan, whereas most businesses will have a mixture of both, depending on if their business services the rest of Spain or just local clientele.

Jessop 17 [Tara Jessop, 9-15-2017. "11 Reasons Why Catalonia Is Different From Spain." Culture Trip. <span class="skimlinks-unlinked">https://theculturetrip.com/europe/spain/articles/six-reasons-why-catalonia-is-different-from-spain</span>/] //BH

**Catalonia had a distinct history of its own long before it became part of Spain. It stretches back to the early Middle Ages when the County of Barcelona rose to pre-eminence in the 11th century. The county was brought under the same royal rule as the neighbouring Kingdom of Aragon.** The region became part of Spain in the 15th century when Ferdinand of Aragon married Isabel of Castille, uniting the two kingdoms. There was a resurgence of Catalan identity in the 19th century, and there was a real push to preserve and promote Catalan. The region was given more autonomy under the Republican government of the early 1930s, but when dictator General Francisco Franco came to power at the end of the Spanish Civil War all autonomy was taken away, and the use of Catalan was prohibited.

Suitelife nd [Suitelife, xx-xx-xxxx. " Catalan Culture in a Nutshell." No Publication. http://suitelife.com/blog/barcelona-real-estate/catalan-culture-in-nutshell/] //BH

4. Catalan culture : traditions and emblems As with any culture, **Catalan culture has it’s own traditions. As a foreigner, you may find some of them rather odd but you will not forget them once leaving Barcelona! The Catalan burro (The Catalan donkey) – The ‘national’ symbol of Catalonia. Their take on the bull as a symbol of Spain.** It’s origins lie with a breed of donkey native to Catalonia and Catalan speaking areas. The donkey emblem has many interpretations as to what it means. Some say it represents Catalan’s as hard workers whilst others say it is there to make fun of the Spanish bull. We’ll leave you to decide that one….. Catalan culture Catalan flag with a blue triangle and white star – the blue triangle and white star on the Catalan flag simply represents Catalan independence. **Castellers – Human towers which are a unique tradition to Catalonia**. Back in 2010, they received UNESCO protection which makes them culturally exclusive to Catalonia. Most popular in the town of Tarragona (where they hold contests to see who can get the biggest human tower!), they can be seen all over Catalonia particularly during big celebrations such as La Merce. The idea is to build the biggest human tower possible and then disassemble the quickest. A great deal of trust and concentration are needed for this! Nowadays, it is open to men, women and even children! Definitely a must see if you’re in Barcelona for a celebration. Check out this blog for more info!

### A2: Ties with the Crown

#### The Spanish Crown doesn’t care about Catalonia. Following the Catalonian referendum on independence, Jones of the Guardian writes that King Felipe didn’t seem worried about the way that Spanish soldiers assaulted would-be voters, but instead, chose to dwell on the ‘selfishness’ of the Catalonian government. This clearly shows that the crown cares little about the wellbeing of the Catalonian people.

Cards:

Jones 17 [Sam Jones, 10-4-2017. "King Felipe: Catalonia's authorities have 'scorned' all Spaniards with referendum." Guardian. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/03/king-felipe-catalan-authorities-have-scorned-all-spaniards-with-referendum] //BH

King Felipe of Spain has accused the Catalan authorities of attempting to break “the unity of Spain” and warned that their push for independence could risk the country’s social and economic stability. In a rare and strongly worded television address on Tuesday evening, he said the Catalan government’s behaviour had “eroded the harmony and co-existence within Catalan society itself, managing, unfortunately, to divide it”.Speaking two days after the regional government’s unilateral independence referendum, in which 90% of participants opted to secede from Spain, he described Catalan society as “fractured” but said Spain would remain united. The king made no mention of the violence that marred the referendum when Spanish police officers raided polling stations, beat would-be voters and fired rubber bullets at crowds. Instead, he focused on the actions of the government of the Catalan president, Carles Puigdemont. “These authorities have scorned the attachments and feelings of solidarity that have united and will unite all Spaniards,” he said. “Their irresponsible conduct could even jeopardise the economic and social stability of Catalonia and all of Spain. The king’s speech followed a BBC interview with Puigdemont in which he vowed to press ahead with a declaration of independence, saying the regional government would “act at the end of this week or the beginning of next”. Puigdemont has previously said independence would be declared within 48 hours of a successful yes vote. He also warned the Spanish government that any attempt by Madrid to suspend regional autonomy and take control of Catalonia’s institutions would be “an error which changes everything”.

### A2: Coexistence & Diversity

#### Assumes Catalonia won’t be able to get into the EU – the two populations can still coexist with EU membership because of EU travel laws.

### A2: Avoiding Exclusion of Spanish Catalans

#### It doesn’t matter, they don’t even use the same language. Elwes writes in August that the Catalan language is in fact, closer to French and Italian than it is to France. If the two haven’t been able todequin overcome a language difference, their common history probably isn’t as important as they would like to make it seem to be.

Cards:

Elwes 17 [Emily Elwes, 8-14-2017. "What's the difference between Spain and Catalonia?." ShBarcelona. https://www.shbarcelona.com/blog/en/spain-catalonia/] //BH

The language differences between most of Spain and Catalonia is mainly noticeable in Catalonia, outside of Barcelona. Within the city of Barcelona, most people are bilingual and can speak Spanish and Catalan. Despite that, you will find that a number of locals will address you only in Catalan, even if you speak to them in Spanish. That happens because they consider it the official language of Catalonia and because Catalan was suppressed for many years during the dictatorial regime of general Franco. Catalan is a Romance language like Spanish but is not a subset of Spanish itself. In fact, Catalan as a language is closer to French and Italian than Spanish or Portuguese. In Catalonia, this difference is most notably felt outside Barcelona as Catalan is the main language spoken on a daily basis. While the Catalan spoken in Barcelona can be partially understood by people who speak some European languages, the Catalan spoken in other regions can be quite difficult to grasp as the accent can get very thick and closed off. In Barcelona, visitors can hear both languages spoken consistently in different settings. The government of Catalonia and Barcelona is conducted in Catalan, whereas most businesses will have a mixture of both, depending on if their business services the rest of Spain or just local clientele.

### A2: Epicenter of the Publishing Market

#### Turn. Spain suppresses publishing in Catalan. Irene Boada of the Atlantic writes in 2015 that only seven universities in Spain teach Catalan as a language, whereas multiple other nations have many more schools with a Catalan programs. This is ultimately a bad situation for Catalonia because it allows for Spain to suppress their culture, continuing a common trend since the fifteenth century.

#### Turn. If Spain can’t get books that are published in Catalonia anymore, it forces their publishing industry to increase in order to pick up the slack. This will, in turn, benefit their economy in a way that would not occur without Catalonian independence.

Cards:

Boada 15 [Irene Boada, 9-26-2015. "Catalonia Independence Vote: How the Catalan Language Survived." Atlantic. https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/09/catalan-spain-independence-vote/407446/] //BH

Catalan is spoken in Catalonia, but also in the Balearic Islands, in parts of Valencia, in Andorra, in the French province of Roussillon, and in the Italian city of Alghero. Overall, it is spoken in a territory that contains over 13 million inhabitants. More than 150 universities in the world teach Catalan and more than 400 journals are published in the language. Ironically, Catalan studies are only weakly represented in Spanish universities, reflecting both the historical discrimination against Catalan and contemporary concerns about the drive for independence in Catalonia. Only seven universities in Spain (outside Catalonia) teach and research Catalan, whereas 22 universities offer courses in the U.K., and 20 French higher-education institutions offer Catalan Studies, as do 24 in the U.S. What Catalan seems to demonstrate is that banning a language may be an effective way of preserving it. Catalan is the ninth language in Europe in terms of number of speakers—more than Swedish, Danish, Finnish, or Greek. More than 80 television channels and more that 100 radio stations are broadcast daily in Catalan and there is a long publishing tradition. Each year in Spain almost 6,000 books are published in Catalan, some 12 percent of the total number of books published in the country.

## A2: Societal Args

### A2: Catalan Hospitals Good

#### Mitigate. Catalan hospitals are far from perfect. Fernandez of the Preventative Medicine Journal writes that following a mandated smoking ban, secondhand smoke was still incredibly present in areas such as emergency department waiting rooms, fire escapes, and cafeterias. This means that their impact isn’t as huge as they would like to make it seem.

#### Realize, they have to prove that in the status quo, people are actively abandoning convenience in case to hospital emergencies and traveling to Catalonia, for their healthcare, which is just not happening.

Cards:

Fernandez 08 [Esteve Fernández, 12-xx-2008. "Secondhand smoke in hospitals of Catalonia (Spain) before and after a comprehensive ban on smoking at the national level." No Publication. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0091743508004581] //BH

Objective To assess changes in secondhand smoke exposure by means of airborne nicotine concentrations in public hospitals of Catalonia (Spain) before and after a comprehensive national smoking ban. Methods We monitored vapor-phase nicotine concentrations in 44 public hospitals in Catalonia (Spain) before the smoking ban (September–December 2005) and one year after (September–December 2006). We installed 5–7 sampling devices per hospital for 7 days in different places (228 pairs of samples), and 198 pairs of samples were available for the final analysis. Results The median nicotine concentration declined from 0.23 μg/m3 (interquartile range: 0.13–0.63) before the law to 0.10 μg/m3 (interquartile range: 0.02–0.19) after the law (% decline = 56.5, p < 0.01). We observed significant reductions in the median nicotine concentrations in all hospital locations, although secondhand smoke exposure was still present in some places (main hospital entrance, emergency department waiting rooms, fire escapes, and cafeterias). Conclusions Secondhand smoke in hospitals has decreased after the ban. Assessment of airborne nicotine concentrations appears to be an objective and feasible system to monitor and reinforce the compliance of smoke-free legislations in this setting.

### A2: Mutually Beneficial

#### Turn: There are three reasons that splitting from Spain is beneficial for all parties involved

#### First is Capital Flight. Amanda Erickson of the Washington Post observes that as a result of the Catalan independence referendum earlier this year, over 2700 Catalan financial institutions have moved their head offices into other parts of Spain This is really integral as Esteban Duarte of Bloomberg sees that the day the banks announced their moves out of Catalonia, their stocks jumped from the worst recession they had ever seen to a growth of over 3%, which is expected to promote long term economic growth and stability in Spain.

#### Second is trade. Pankaj Ghemawat of The Economist finds that as a developing economy, Catalonia would immediately pivot west for convenience as a growing economy and Spain would begin to make up the vast majority of Catalonia’s trade, which Albert Estanol of the University of London finds forces long-term mutually beneficial agreements to be pursued. Estanol concludes that Catalan secession would in fact trigger greater economic development and modernisation throughout Spain and Catalonia, and both states would be better off in the long run.

#### Third is economic diversification. The Conversation reports that long-term, businesses will search out new international markets, as seen with Catalonia seeking out new places to sell products after boycotts. Josep Raya finds that this diversification has boosted Catalonia’s GDP 15% in recent years, and this would only increase with secession.

Amanda Erickson, 11/30/17, “Since Catalonia’s independence vote, 2,700 businesses have moved their headquarters”, The Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/11/30/since-catalonias-independence-vote-2700-businesses-have-moved-their-headquarters/?utm_term=.eb2c95b3dc2a> //BB

The European Union has been leery to suggest a relationship as well. In theory, independence was supposed to make the region more prosperous. But the October referendum — and Spain's subsequent takeover — has left businesses nervous. Since the vote, more than 2,700 firms have moved their headquarters from the region, according to Spain's commercial registrar's office, the Agence France-Presse reported. That list includes major banks like Caixabank and Sabadell, along with small and medium firms. Many of these shifts are administrative. But they may be the first step to relocating staff and production.

Esteban Duarte, 10/4/17, “Catalan Banks Weigh Moving Headquarters to Reassure Clients”, Bloomberg, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-04/catalan-depositors-torn-on-who-to-bank-with-amid-secession-fears> //BB

Sabadell, the region’s second-biggest bank, called a board meeting for Thursday to discuss a potential relocation. “The political situation is a pain in the neck for these banks,” Cesar Molinas, founder of Multa Paucis, an investment consultancy firm, said in an interview. “They don’t want clients in Madrid to see them as Catalan banks, nor clients in Barcelona to see them as Spanish banks. They’re treading on thin ice.” Sabadell will hold an extraordinary board meeting at 5 p.m., according to a press officer for the bank who asked not to be named citing corporate policy. The company’s preferred destination for new headquarters is Catalonia’s neighboring region of Valencia, specifically the area of Alicante, the person said. CaixaBank is considering a temporary move of its legal domicile to the Balearic Islands if plans for independence go ahead, newspaper El Mundo reported Thursday. “CaixaBank reiterates that all the necessary decisions will be taken, at the right time, always with the goal of prioritizing the interests of clients, shareholders and staff," the bank’s press office said in an emailed statement. Both banks’ shares rebounded Thursday, with CaixaBank rising 3 percent at 3:28 p.m. in Madrid and Sabadell gaining 3.5 percent. The stocks suffered their biggest losses in more than a year Wednesday.

The Economist, “The cost of freedom”, 11/23/12, <https://www.economist.com/blogs/charlemagne/2012/11/catalonias-trade>, //BB

Catalans are rightly proud that more than half of their trade flows outside of Spanish borders. France is the top destination, accounting for 10% of Catalonia's exports. But the next three biggest destinations are the regions of Andalucia, Aragon and Valencia. Indeed, if Catalonia were independent, Spain would be its largest trading partner, accounting for more than one-third of its trade. This suggests that, from an economic standpoint, there is much to gain from staying within the larger political entity. More of Mr Ghemawat's maps are available at his website.

Albert Estanol, 10/12/17, “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split”, The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557> //BB

A key factor is whether Catalonia could gain independence and remain in the EU. If Catalonia were to remain as part of the EU, not much would change for either side. If it were required to remain outside the EU for a period of time, it would need to negotiate trade agreements with the new Spanish state and the rest of the EU. Despite the inevitable transition costs for both sides, there may also be some benefits to a split. The new Spanish state would lose a dynamic economy with better economic indicators than its average in terms of GDP, unemployment, exports and innovation. But this may trigger greater economic development and modernisation in its remaining regions. The new Spanish state may gain in the long run if the preferences of its citizens are more homogeneous and better aligned with the central government than at present. Needless to say, prior to independence, both parties may have vested interests in using economic and non-economic threats against each other. After secession, however, mutually beneficial agreements would unavoidably be pursued. In any case, both new states are viable, and they could well be better off in the long run.

Albert Estanol, 10/12/17, “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split”, The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557> //BB

Because of the size difference, Catalonia would end up suffering more from this (the rest of Spain accounts for one third of Catalan exports). But it is unclear how long boycotts would last, and how restrictive they might be. Businesses may also search out other markets, as they have even in the recent past. Exports of Cava from Catalonia to other countries, for example, increased substantially following an informal boycott from the rest of Spain ten years ago.

Josep Raya (Barcelona Graduate School of Economics) July 2014 <https://www.barcelonagse.eu/sites/default/files/working_paper_pdfs/770.pdf>

Second**, the main source of growth of the sector lately has been the foreign market. The sector exports 66.4% of its production (2012), but this percentage was only 51.6% in 2001 and 33.9% in 1990. Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the United States and Japan are the main export destinations.**21 This, together with the fact that more or less half of the domestic sales take place in the Catalan market, make the potential impact of a boycott in the Spanish market much less important today than a few years ago.The data is also disaggregated by eight different territories in Spain (see Map 2) which include the two main metropolitan areas (Madrid, in the geographical centre of Spain and political capital of the country, and Barcelona, the main city in the region of Catalonia) and six other regions which group all Spanish provinces (except the Canary Islands) according to geographical criteria which do not correspond exactly to administrative and political divisions in Spain.

### A2: Maintaining National Transplant Network

### A2: White Nationalism

#### This is Non-Unique. White supremacism is a mindset, and it’s going to exist in either world. Granting independence to Catalonia isn’t going to affirm white supremacism. It’s not an independent reason to reject Catalan independence.

#### Also, turn this on them. Catalonian organizations reject white supremacist movements. Catalonia internet foundations reject white supremacist sites that try to align with the independence movement. The white supremacist site The Daily Stormer registered into the .cat domain, but was quickly taken offline by Catalan internet organizations.

#### Also, my opponents need to prove a direct link between Catalonian Independence and White Supremacy

Jeffries, Adrianne. “The Daily Stormer Just Lost Its New .Cat Domain.” The Outline, The Outline, 6 Oct. 2017, theoutline.com/post/2376/the-daily-stormer-just-lost-its-new-cat-domain.

On September 20, the offices of puntCAT, the foundation that oversees the .cat domain dedicated to Catalan heritage, were raided by Spanish police looking to squash the region’s upcoming independence referendum. On September 21, **white supremacist site The Daily Stormer,** domainless after multiple providers dropped it over its coverage of the violent rally in Charlottesville, **registered dailystormer.cat [, using the .cat domain that is dedicated to Catalan heritage].** Since then, a reported majority of Catalonians voted for secession in a referendum on October 1, triggering a violent backlash by the Spanish government and an ongoing political conflict that Reuters labeled the “Catalonia independence crisis.” The Daily Stormer site continued to be served from its new .cat domain and adopted a cat logo at the top of the site. Websites on the .cat domain are required to have content in the Catalan language. The domain’s gatekeepers generally resist attempts to take advantage of the arrangement. However, the chaos around the independence referendum and the Spanish response may have allowed the Daily Stormer to slip through. When a user asked **puntCAT [the foundation that oversees the .cat domain]** about the website on September 30, a representative for the foundation **said “our team is already doing procedure for the immediate suspension of the domain for lack of contents, to put in danger the integrity and the good name of the register .cat, the language and the Catalan culture,**” according to an email shared with The Outline. This morning, **dailystormer.cat [is now] went offline.** That is a double blow for the site’s founder, white supremacist Andrew Anglin, because the .cat domain had the extra benefit of being attached to an independence referendum that the alt-right and white supremacist movements have rallied behind. “I wasn’t into it before — because it’s basically just about these people wanting to pay lower taxes — but I’ve since decided that any form of nationalism is good. It doesn’t matter the motivations,” Anglin wrote in a blog post on Daily Stormer.

### A2: Encourages Isolation

#### This simply isn’t true. Charlemagne of the Economist writes in 2012 that an independent Catalonia would have a huge relationship with Spain, accounting for about a third of its exports in a world where Catalonia is independent. This is important because it shows that the two countries would still have major interactions even if they aren’t one nation anymore.

#### Turn, a world with an independent Catalonia would discourage isolation, and force them to branch out and diversify their economy because they would need to establish new relationships.

Cards:

[Charlemagne, 11-23-2012. "The cost of freedom." Economist. https://www.economist.com/blogs/charlemagne/2012/11/catalonias-trade] //BH

One way to understand what is at stake is to consider what an independent Catalonia would mean in terms of its trade with its neighbors. Here, Pankaj Ghemawat, a business thinker at IESE Business School in Barcelona, has cleverly weighed in. He has produced proportional maps of the world, showing Catalonia's "exports" to other regions inside Spain, as if they were autonomous too, and to elsehwhere in Europe (see chart below). Catalans are rightly proud that more than half of their trade flows outside of Spanish borders. France is the top destination, accounting for 10% of Catalonia's exports. But the next three biggest destinations are the regions of Andalucia, Aragon and Valencia. **Indeed, if Catalonia were independent, Spain would be its largest trading partner, accounting for more than one-third of its trade. This suggests that, from an economic standpoint, there is much to gain from staying within the larger political entity.** More of Mr Ghemawat's maps are available at [his website](http://www.ghemawat.com/). For readers ambivalent about proportional maps as a way to present data, read our write-up on the pros and cons on our [Graphic detail blog](http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2012/11/catalonia-and-cartography).

### A2: Harms Universities

#### All of this rests on the fact the Catalonia would exit the EU., but this is simply not true. In the resolution we see that Spain is Granting independence, meaning that Catalonia will be recognized and other countries and organizations, such as the EU, stated that they would recognize an independent Catalonia through the means of the Spain’s constitution, which is what will happen in the aff world. Since Catalonia would still remain in the EU, the Economy would actually grow.

#### Catalonia would gain more money when splitting from Spain. Catalans funnel more money into the government than they receive back

#### Turn this on them. In recent years, the Australian Writes that Spain has been cutting university funding, showing that higher education Is not their focus.

#### Bothwell 16 writes that Research and universities would improve with Catalonia’s independence since they would have more money and more independence to design their own system. Spain currently restricts the flexibility of universities due to their very strict university law and thus hurts and reduces Catalonian University Research.

Bothwell 16- https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/what-impact-would-catalan-independence-have-universities

Professor Cabrales [professor of economics at Carlos III University of Madrid] added that research citations per capita in Catalonia have outperformed Madrid in the past 20 years. **“This means if they were independent they could do even better things – they’d have more money and more independence to design their own system,”** he said. **“I think that’s part of the reason why many people in the Catalan universities feel like they would be better off outside Spain.”** He attributed Andreu Mas-Colell, former minister of economy and knowledge in Catalonia (until January 2016), as the reason for universities’ improvement in the region. Professor Mas-Colell, founder of the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics and economics professor at the city’s Pompeu Fabra University, is an outspoken advocate for independence. **He said that Catalonia has managed to “rise above” some of the bureaucratic challenges that have plagued Spain’s universities but that institutions in the region are still “choking under the straitjacket of organisational laws”. In particular, he cited the requirement for all professors in Spain to be civil servants, although others have also complained of poor professorial salaries and red tape preventing the hiring of international staff as further restrictions.** “We did very well in ERC grants in 2015,” he said, pointing to figures for ERC Proof of Concept grants, which show that researchers in Catalonia got 17.5 per cent of the awards last year. He added that after independence “the impact on research funding can only be positive" given the amount that the region currently contributes in taxes. He also cited the 2014 Scottish referendum as the “closest example” of what Catalonia could achieve, but admitted that reaching this point would be a challenge. “As you know well from Britain, you can live a very long time agreeing to disagree,” he said. **“While research and universities [in Catalonia] are improving, if we could break free from the straitjacket of the university law, we’ll run even faster.**

2014-http://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/spanish-students-march-against-higher-fees-funding-cuts/news-story/e1ff11d8d1705eb2ff408e27570bd839

The national Students’ Union which organised the protests and strike says tuition fees have jumped by 50 per cent since the conservative Popular Party (PP) came to power in December 2011, leaving universities with 45,000 fewer students because they cannot afford to study. The union also says the government has cut spending on public education by around $9 billion since it came to power and fired around 32,000 teachers. Students’ Union secretary-general Ana Garcia said Education Minister Jose Ignacio Wert was “a nightmare” and called on him to resign. Students are also angry at government reforms which tighten academic requirements to access university study grants and require university students to take tests at the end of every academic year to earn re-entry. The reforms also give a greater weighing to Spanish language teaching, a measure which has especially angered students in regions such as Catalonia in the northeast or the Basque Country in the north where other languages are spoken.

Benavides 17-https://www.marketplace.org/2017/09/29/economy/big-reason-catalonia-wants-secede-economic-richest-regions-in-spain

**Catalonia has the highest GDP out of all the regions in Spain, and at 266 billion euros, almost one-fifth of the country’s economic output. Economics professor Elisenda Paluzie said Catalan residents represent about 16 percent of the country’s population.** Yet these same residents contribute 20 percent of Spain’s taxes, and then receive 14 percent back for public expenses**. She said Catalonia is economically important for Spain, and if it were to secede, “they lose a territory that’s relatively rich and contributes a lot to taxes**.”

Alfons Lopez Tena [member of Catalan Parliament from 2010 - 2012] and ElisendaPaluzie [associate professor of economics and the Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Barcelona University], “Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain,” Business Insider, February 24 2016. Available at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/economicsof-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2>

Velvet divorce scenario**: agreed secession. The independent Catalonia is recognized by Spain, becomes a full EU member- state, enters the UN and all the international organizations, assumes its rights and obligations under the existing treaties, etc. In this case few are the economic impacts on economics since almost everything goes on as usual.** Catalonia would gain full control of its own taxes, hence around €16 billion ($21 billion) wouldn’t be siphoned off by Spain every year; economic policies best suited to Catalan needs may be developed if voters choose wisely; and both parts take their fair share of former Spain’s public assets and debt in application of the Vienna Convention of 1983. Spain’s only loss should be the fore-mentioned Catalan taxes, around 2% of Spanish GDP every year: a big but not an overwhelming blow.

SBS News. October 8, 2017. <<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/could-an-independent-catalonia-stay-in-the-eu>>

**European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker has made it clear Brussels would only respect a vote for independence if it was held in line with the Spanish constitution.** EU members "will not recognise Catalonia as a state if it is created in violation of the law and particularly the Spanish constitution", said Jean-Claude Piris, an expert in European law. Membership talks for Catalonia would likely be different from those currently under way for candidate countries such as the Balkan states and Turkey, which have to harmonise their legislation and foreign policy as well as bring human rights standards up to EU standards. Catalonia has sought to get ahead on this point by passing a law last month that said all EU laws would apply in its territory even if it was no longer a member.

### A2: Science Research

#### Turn. Catalan universities would be better off without Spanish influence. Bothwell of Inside Higher Ed writes in 2016 that an independent Catalonia would have more money to delegate to higher education and thus would have a higher amount of science research. This means that in their world they actually mitigate their own impact whereas we give research a chance to flourish in ours.

Cards:

Bothwell 16 [Ellie Bothwell, 3-3-2016. "What impact would Catalan independence have on higher education." No Publication. https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/03/03/what-impact-would-catalan-independence-have-higher-education] //BH

However, the former could enable Catalonia to “flourish,” because it is a “relatively rich region,” with better university management and more influential research than the rest of Spain. Cabrales added that research citations per capita in Catalonia have outperformed Madrid in the past 20 years. “This means if they were independent they could do even better things -- they’d have more money and more independence to design their own system,” he said. “I think that’s part of the reason why many people in the Catalan universities feel like they would be better off outside Spain.” He cited Andreu Mas-Colell, former minister of economy and knowledge in Catalonia (until January 2016), as the reason for universities’ improvement in the region. Mas-Colell, founder of the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics and economics professor at the city’s Pompeu Fabra University, is an outspoken advocate for independence. He said that Catalonia has managed to “rise above” some of the bureaucratic challenges that have plagued Spain’s universities but that institutions in the region are still “choking under the straitjacket of organizational laws.” In particular, he cited the requirement for all professors in Spain to be civil servants, although others have also complained of poor professorial salaries and red tape preventing the hiring of international staff as further restrictions. “Certainly if Catalonia had the legislative tools, that would be changed right away, and surely it would mean a jump in the quality of the university system,” Mas-Colell said.

### A2: Funding for Child Poverty Reduction

### A2: Immigration Troubles

#### Immigration is not a problem for an Independent Catalonia. Migration to Catalonia is high because it's a good place to be a migrant. The economy is strong, and the Catalan have largely welcomed migrants with open arms. Ultimately, immigration is not seen as a problem in Catalonia, given that it has massive benefits to the economy.

#### Lowe 17 writes that Catalonia is based on co-existence of cultures and that Diversity strengthens the Region; many Catalonians don’t view this as a problem.

#### Turn this on them. Dowsett 17 writes that Immigrants support independence and they have served on the campaign.

Lowe, Josh. "Barcelona Attack: 'The problem is not immigration.' says Catalonia's foreign minister." Newsweek. 8/19/17. http://www.newsweek.com/catalan-foreign-minister-barcelona-652318

Immigration and a spirit of “coexistence” between cultures are central to Catalonia's identity, the Spanish region’s foreign minister has said in the wake of attacks on Barcelona and a nearby town. “Catalonia, Barcelona in particular, but Catalonia in general is a place of coexistence. We have had thousands of people coming from different origins. Co-existence has been the norm... that [is] exactly why it is so attractive,” Raül Romeva, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the government of Catalonia, tells Newsweek. “The problem is not the fact that there [are] people of different religions, of different origins, living together,” Romeva continues, “The problem is that some people perceive this as a problem. That’s what we need to combat. Not the coexistence itself, but the perception that it is a problem.”

Dowsett, Sonya. "Catalans woo immigrants in quest to split from Spain." Reuters. 6/16/17. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-catalonia- immigration/catalans-woo-immigrants-in-quest-to-split-from-spain- idUSKBN19711U

With barely three months to go before an independence referendum called for Oct. 1, naturalized immigrants are taking on an important and prominent role in the campaign both as activists and supporters. Catalonia has one of the highest percentages of immigrants in Spain, just under 14 percent of residents are foreign-born, and their votes may gain crucial votes for the independence movement in what is likely to be a close-run race. Including them in the movement for nationhood is key says Catalonia’s deputy governor, Oriol Junqueras. “We want to be a very open and integrated society,” he told Reuters in Barcelona. Campaigners are even encouraging migrants without the right to vote to ask work mates and friends to vote for independence and are advocating Catalan nationality for all migrants living in the region if it leaves Spain.

### A2: War

#### Osuna of the London School of Economics argues that the conflict would mainly be riots with police intervention, not actual military. If anything, few people get killed and their impact is short term.

#### It takes two to tango, and Catalonia won’t dance. Greenhalgh of Veterans Today writes in September that Catalonia does not want bloody confrontation with Spain. This brings the probability of their impacts close to zero.

#### No war would occur, Catalonia doesn’t have forces to fight with. Beckhusen writes on October 5th that an independent Catalonia would be left with no sort of military infrastructure meaning there is no actual army to fight with.

#### Spain doesn’t want conflict. Couzens of Express writes on October 30th that Spain will only be inclined to take military action against Catalonia if they make the first move. Insofar as they haven’t made that move, we’d say the probability is really low.

#### We have to look at the resolution, which states that Spain grants Catalonia independence, showing that Spain will willingly give Catalonia independence in our world, and thus you can cross off all of their points of Spanish backlash on the flow, because if Spain would give Catalonia independence, we would contend they would be super unlikely to go to war, regardless of whether or not actual parties within the country want to fight.

Josh Lowe, 9/29/17, “SPAIN VS. CATALONIA: AS TENSIONS RISE OVER CATALAN INDEPENDENCE VOTE, WILL VIOLENCE ERUPT?”, Newsweek, <http://www.newsweek.com/catalonia-referendum-independence-spanish-government-674191> //BB

As the atmosphere reaches a boiling point, just how serious can things get? Is this a civil war in the making or just a political disagreement ready to fizzle out? The answer, says Jose Javier Olivas Osuna from the London School of Economics, is somewhere between the two. “I don’t think there’s the potential for armed conflict,” he says. But there is, he believes, the potential for violence between civilians, if riots or violent demonstrations break out over the weekend. That could be exacerbated by the presence of out-of-town police officers. The Spanish government has chartered cruise ships to house an additional 6,000 police. Recent demonstrations were prompted partly by the arrest of Catalan government officials by officers from the Guardia Civil, a national police force. Similar activity at the weekend could spark a backlash. There is further uncertainty over the position of the Mossos d'Esquadra, the Catalan regional police force. The central Spanish interior ministry has claimed control over it, but regional police chief Josep Luis Trapero originally refused to accept the order. Osuna says there’s a chance that the Mossos will be unwilling to prevent protesters from occupying buildings or otherwise pursuing direct action: “People are going to go take over things in a peaceful way,” he says, “and then the Mossos will be there, around.”

[Robert Beckhusen, 12-14-2017. "If Catalonia Declares Independence, It’s Going to Want a Military." No Publication. http://warisboring.com/if-catalonia-declares-independence-its-going-to-want-a-military/] //BH

Catalonia, the Spanish autonomous region at the center of a historic secession crisis, could declare independence in a matter of days. If it happens, Madrid will not recognize the breakaway state. It’s not clear if the European Union, which needs Spain’s permission, would allow Catalonia to remain a member. Probably not. R**egardless of what happens, Catalonia would need a military, according to the region’s leading politician. “Armed forces and a defense policy are absolutely essential,”** Catalonia’s pro-independence Pres. Carles Puigdemont said in August 2017. “We are in a global fight and we have seen it with the jihadist threat … Catalonia needs a democratic and modern defense policy.” That view is not shared by some politicians favoring secession. “President, it is unethical to use dramatic terror attacks to [justify the need](http://www.euronews.com/2017/09/07/what-would-a-catalonian-army-look-like) for an army,” parliamentarian Gabriela Serra of the CUP — a pro-independence socialist party in Catalonia — told Euronews. “Nothing justifies militarism.” That debate might have to wait until after independence, if it happens. In any case, an independent Catalonia with 7.5 million people — a population greater than Denmark — and a GDP on par with Portugal could have a military. It would just need to build one. From scratch. Fortunately for Puigdemont, activists with the Catalan National Assembly — a pro-independence organization which had its Catalan web domain pulled by Madrid — have already done some of the work under the name of the Military Studies Society (SEM), which has produced [Spanish- and English-language policy blueprints](http://sem-cat.blogspot.com/p/documents-in-english.html) for the initial steps needed to field an army, air force and navy. While the blueprints are aspirational, they present a pragmatic and realistic guide to constructing a military from the ground-up, befitting an independent Catalonia’s requirements and real, serious constraints**. It would be far from easy. The Spanish military has scarce military infrastructure and no dedicated naval or air bases in the region. Spain’s primary military academies are in Zaragoza, Marin, Toledo and Segovia — not within Catalonia. This is not an accident. In short, an independent Catalonia would wake up one morning without an army, navy, air force or the institutional backbone to support them.** The SEM’s blueprints are a means of laying the initial groundwork for a Catalan military that could one day be equivalent to other smaller European countries such as Denmark. SEM advocates boosting Catalonia’s share of defense spending dedicated to operations and maintenance to 40 percent, lower than many austerity-driven European countries and similar to the Israel Defense Forces in the 1960s. SEM also wants to avoid the “macro-cephalic” — with think this means “officer-heavy” — command system of the Spanish military.

[BBC News, 10-27-2017. "Reality Check: Were Catalonia police violence photos fake?." . http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41677911] //BH

Earlier totals had been disputed by Spanish ministers and newspapers - arguing that people might turn up at a clinic despite having no medical complaint.

However, the Catalan health service insists everyone included in these latest figures received a diagnosis from a medical professional.Twelve police officers were also injured on polling day. This figure is agreed by both the Catalan department of health and the Spanish government. **It is difficult to find examples where as many civilians were injured during clashes with police.** Yet when assessing the level of violence, the degree of force is important, not just the number of injuries. **There are various cases where police in EU member states used an equivalent or even higher degree of force in public.** Here are some recent examples: [A man died last year](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-37356684)when police in Belfast used CS spray during a violent incident in the city centre. [German police in Hamburg used water cannon](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-16981783)to disperse protesters at this summer's G20 summit. 270 were treated for injuries - and 20 of those were treated as inpatients. [Dozens of protesters were injured in Athens](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-17006686) when police used tear gas after anti-austerity protests turned violent in 2012. Portuguese police [beat a man in front of his young children](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-32793901)outside a football stadium in 2015. [Two hundred were injured in Genoa, Italy](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/1471107.stm) after police beat protesters at the G8 summit in 2001. It is worth noting that none of those events were votes.

## A2: Political Args

### A2 Right Wing Rise

#### 1. Turn, Estanol 17 writes that the new Spanish state would be better as its interests would be more aligned with its citizens. In fact, they further that prior to independence, parties on both sides have used economic and non-economic threats against each other. Affirming solves this problem.

#### 2. The Local continues by explaining that many people who identify with the far-right simply vote for Spain’s conservative Popular Party, which is currently in power. In other words, their impacts should have already been triggered.

#### 3. [Immigration] Rises of right wing movements have marginal impacts. Frayer of NPR finds that Spain is different than the rest of Europe on the issue of immigration because most immigrants are similar to the people of Spain, and that they don’t take too many government benefits.

#### 4. [Nationalism] Porter writes that people in Catalonia have a unique past in that they just got out of an authoritarian, nationalistic regime. They are really apprehensive to nationalism so if anything their impacts don’t materialize.

**Spanish econ could get better long term**

Albert Banal-Estanol (The Conversation) October 2017

<https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557>

A key factor is whether Catalonia could gain independence and remain in the EU. If Catalonia were to remain as part of the EU, not much would change for either side. If it were required to remain outside the EU for a period of time, it would need to negotiate trade agreements with the new Spanish state and the rest of the EU.Despite the inevitable transition costs for both sides, there may also be some benefits to a split. The new Spanish state would lose a dynamic economy with better economic indicators than its average in terms of GDP, unemployment, exports and innovation. But **this may trigger greater economic development and modernisation in its remaining regions. The new Spanish state may gain in the long run if the preferences of its citizens are more homogeneous and better aligned with the central government than at presen**t. Needless to say, prior to independence, both parties may have vested interests in using economic and non-economic threats against each other. After secession, however, **mutually beneficial agreements would unavoidably be pursued. In any case, both new states are viable, and they could well be better off in the long run**

Lauren Frayer, 3/16/17, “Unlike Elsewhere In Europe, The Far Right In Spain Stays On The Fringe”, NPR, <https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2017/03/16/520281185/unlike-elsewhere-in-europe-the-far-right-in-spain-stays-on-the-fringe> //BB

Spain is where many Arab and African migrants land when they journey by boat across the Mediterranean to Europe. More than 13,000 migrants arrived in Spain last year — the majority by sea. Yet the sudden arrival of tens of thousands of foreigners in recent years has not provoked a rise in xenophobic or anti-Muslim feelings, says Carmen González-Enriquez, a social scientist who recently published a research paper for Madrid's Elcano think tank entitled "The Spanish Exception." Spaniards tend to empathize with immigrants because most newcomers, until recently, have come from Latin America or Romania and integrated easily in terms of language, religion and race, Gonzalez-Enriquez says. And, Ascensión points out, many Spaniards have also been immigrants themselves. Madrid's City Hall is draped in a "Refugees Welcome" banner. And last month, Spain's second city, Barcelona, filled with tens of thousands of demonstrators — marching in favor of accepting even more refugees. Nobody complains about immigrants being on welfare in Spain, because Spanish government benefits are pretty scant. Unlike in the U.K., for example, there is no housing benefit, child benefit or long-term unemployment benefit in Spain.

Jorge Tamames, 11/18/17, “The Roots of Spanish Rage”, Jacobin Mag, <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2017/11/the-roots-of-spains-rage> //BB

This year is likely to witness an especially virulent 20-N. In the context of Catalonia’s bid for independence, nationalist fervor is on the rise. Spanish flags flutter from countless windows in cities and villages across the country. It would be wrong to think that extremists lurk behind each one—the creases of many rojigualdas in Madrid indicate how recently the flags were purchased. Most were hung in response to Barcelona’s longer tradition of adorning its balconies with esteladas. Nevertheless, the widespread increase in anti-Catalan feeling, coupled with the government’s autocratic mishandling of the crisis, has led observers to link the crisis to Spain’s darkest days. The ghost of Franco haunts Catalonia. While it is tempting to read ongoing events as an authoritarian lapse, this interpretation remains incomplete. More than a simple throwback to Spain’s past, the Catalan crisis presents an ominous vision for the future: one in which the reconfiguration of the state takes place along reactionary and punitive lines. Spanish nationalism has become a vehicle for this endeavor, galvanizing the right and presenting a critical challenge for left and progressive forces. But it is, by its nature, incapable of producing a stable political outcome. As long as symbols of national unity remain cudgels in the hands of the Spanish right, disarray will persist.

Alex Porter, 2/14/17, “Nothing to Fear but Fear Itself? Spanish Case Study”, Elcano Royal Institute, <https://www.demos.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Spanish-Case-Press-Summary-Embargoed-14.02.16.pdf> //BB

The research indicates this distinction may be rooted in Spain’s unique past experience with nationalism under the Franco regime, whose use of national symbols and strong references to national identity are more likely to be recalled by the older generations In the author`s words: “An authoritarian, rightist and nationalist recent past acts as a vaccination against extreme right parties in the present. Spain and Portugal shared a similar experience of four decades of nationalist, Catholic, and corporatist authoritarianism, and both countries have until now been immune to this wave of right-wing populist parties, despite the grave economic and political crisis they have suffered. Spain also demonstrates an overwhelmingly positive view of globalisation, with a significant majority feeling a more interconnected world has had a positive effect on Europe (75%), Spain as a whole (63%), their local area (60%), and their personal situation (64%).

Afp, 10-15-2017, "Spain's far-right gains visibility in Catalonia crisis," The Local, https://www.thelocal.es/20171015/spains-far-right-gains-visibility-in-catalonia-crisis

Unlike other European countries such as France or Germany, Spain's far-right is very much on the margin and "has been hugely fragmented since the start of the 1980s," says Jordi Borras, a photojournalist who has long studied the issue. The country's national parliament has not had any far-right lawmaker since 1982. After Spain transitioned to democracy in the 1970s, the far-right found itself unable to broaden its appeal beyond nostalgia for Francisco Franco's 1939-1975 dictatorship, says Borras. Not only that, but many people who identify with the far-right vote for Spain's conservative Popular Party, which is currently in power, he adds.

### A2 Stronger Together

#### 1. Turn, Estanol 17 writes that the new Spanish state would be better as its interests would be more aligned with its citizens. In fact, they further that prior to independence, parties on both sides have used economic and non-economic threats against each other. Affirming solves this problem.

#### 2. Spain’s political system hasn’t been efficient in the last 10 years. Stanford writes that Spain has had political gridlock for 10 years. Make my opponents prove to you why continuing the status quo would make this system any different.

#### 3. If anything, you can turn this argument again because the left wing of Spain has said time and time again that they won’t budge on ANY issues, regardless of whether they have the same stances as right wingers. If you remove Catalonia you get more right wing support so some policies that may be beneficial get passed versus no policies.

**Spanish econ could get better long term**

Albert Banal-Estanol (The Conversation) October 2017

<https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557>

A key factor is whether Catalonia could gain independence and remain in the EU. If Catalonia were to remain as part of the EU, not much would change for either side. If it were required to remain outside the EU for a period of time, it would need to negotiate trade agreements with the new Spanish state and the rest of the EU.Despite the inevitable transition costs for both sides, there may also be some benefits to a split. The new Spanish state would lose a dynamic economy with better economic indicators than its average in terms of GDP, unemployment, exports and innovation. But **this may trigger greater economic development and modernisation in its remaining regions. The new Spanish state may gain in the long run if the preferences of its citizens are more homogeneous and better aligned with the central government than at presen**t. Needless to say, prior to independence, both parties may have vested interests in using economic and non-economic threats against each other. After secession, however, **mutually beneficial agreements would unavoidably be pursued. In any case, both new states are viable, and they could well be better off in the long run**

MILENKO MARTINOVICH, 10/2/17, “Stanford scholar assesses Catalonia referendum and potential impact across Europe”, Stanford News, <https://news.stanford.edu/2017/10/02/stanford-scholar-assesses-catalonia-referendum/> //BB

After the Catalan self-determination referendum was shockingly repressed by the Spanish police, it seems that Catalonia and Spain do not even share the same definition of democracy. The independence of Catalonia also has some pragmatic motivations. Catalonia, one of the wealthiest regions in Spain, wants to be able to take full control of its economy. Indeed, after almost a decade of political gridlock – Spain’s Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy still does not have a majority at the Parliament after two elections. With a wave of austerity measures and multiple cases of corruption affecting Spain’s ruling party, the right-wing Partido Popular, Catalonia is looking for a way out of the economic and political crises.

Tobias Buck, 10/24/16, “Second term for Rajoy will not end Spain's political gridlock”, https://www.ft.com/content/390b4998-99d0-11e6-8f9b-70e3cabccfae , Financial Times, //BB
The Socialists may be ready to help their old rival back into government. But their decision should not be read as the start of a productive new partnership — on the contrary. The Socialist abstentions are born of exhaustion and fear, not conviction. The PSOE hates the thought of another Rajoy government but it hates the thought of yet another election even more. Polls showed the party was in freefall. Another ballot could have delivered a knockout blow. From here on, Socialist leaders insist they will not cede another inch to the PP. The party’s priority now is to win back credibility among its core voters, and to silence the jibes from its far-left rival, the anti-establishment Podemos party. Even in areas where the Socialists and Mr Rajoy share some common ground, the PSOE will be deeply reluctant to offer parliamentary support.

### A2: Spanish Constitution Prohibits

#### Fiat tho

### A2: Staying in the EU – General

#### In this scenario, SBS News writes that Catalonia said it will adopt all EU Policies, making the joining process much, much faster.

#### Even if you do not buy that, the federalist continues that it is against International law to exclude a successor state from treaties that used to apply to it, after it became a part of a different entity.

#### It is in no-one’s interest to expel Catalonia from the EU, since the Financial Times writes that it is too much of an economic powerhouse, comparable to Germany.

#### Sam Jones of the guardian reports that officials believe that Catalonia will continue to be an ally of Spain due to markets, infrastructure, and cultural and linguistic similarities. Europe wouldn’t kick Catalonia out of the EU because they’re so dependent on them.

Sam Jones, 7/27/16, “Separatist movement in Catalonia steps up battle with Madrid”, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/27/catalonia-independence-spain-democratic-mandate> //BB

“In Catalan logic, yes, we don’t like Brexit, but we understand that the democratic deficit in Europe is what allowed leave to win. A process of negotiation has begun: it’s not the end of the world and it’s not paradise.” He also shrugged off the idea that an independent Catalonia might find itself outside the EU. “We have hundreds of European companies in Catalonia. The question is: if Catalonia became an independent state, in whose interests would it be for Catalonia to be out of the EU? Not Catalonia’s. Not Spain’s either,” Romeva said. “Catalonia is and will be an ally of Spain for obvious reasons of markets and infrastructure, as well as cultural and linguistic reasons. Europe wouldn’t want to lose such an economically and socially dynamic reality. So this unthinking assumption that an independent Catalonia would be kept out [of the EU] is false.”

SBS News. October 8, 2017. <<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/could-an-independent-catalonia-stay-in-the-eu>>

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker has made it clear Brussels would only respect a vote for independence if it was held in line with the Spanish constitution. EU members "will not recognise Catalonia as a state if it is created in violation of the law and particularly the Spanish constitution", said Jean-Claude Piris, an expert in European law. Membership talks for Catalonia would likely be different from those currently under way for candidate countries such as the Balkan states and Turkey, which have to harmonise their legislation and foreign policy as well as bring human rights standards up to EU standards. **Catalonia has sought to get ahead on this point by passing a law last month that said all EU laws would apply in its territory even if it was no longer a member.**

Buttin, Thomas. “Independent Catalonia Has to Become the Twenty-Ninth State of the European Union.” The New Federalist, 18 Oct. 2017, www.thenewfederalist.eu/independent-catalonia-has-to-become-the-twenty-ninth-state-of-the-european.

**The principle of the integration of “successor states” was established by the Vienna Convention of 1978. This text implies that the “successor states” of a state, with a territorial continuity, are still under the treaties which were ratified by the state they stem from**. Even though the Kingdom of Spain has not ratified this convention, **it is possible to use this international law principle on behalf of European order. In virtue of this rule and in virtue of the recognition of international law by the EU, there would be no reason for Catalonia to be excluded from the EU.** We need to think first about European general interest and about the citizens’ shared interests: through this process, the European Union’s attractiveness would be reinforced. Today is an occasion to strengthen European identity, through the regions and the territorial entities, already recognized by the Committee of the Regions. It is also time to engage in a strong political speech in favour of a strong federalism for both States and regions.

Mehreen Khan, "The economics of Catalan secession," 10-6-2017, Financial Times, https://www.ft.com/content/2c4aa308-aa63-11e7-ab55-27219df83c97

High-profile relocations have the potential to humble Catalonia’s pro-independence government. In its headlong rush for secession, the region’s leadership has long championed the unique strengths of the Catalan economy, which is the same size as Portugal’s and makes up a fifth of Spanish GDP. There is certainly a case to be made for Catalonia’s economic exceptionalism: the economy is more business-friendly industrialised, and internationalised, than most of the rest of Spain. Artur Mas, Catalonia’s former president, often extolled the region’s virtues as the “Denmark” of southern Europe. This pitch **— that Catalonia is almost Germanic in economic character — has been put to its continental neighbours as a reason to let any independent nation seamlessly join the EU and eventually the eurozone.**

### A2: Staying in the EU - Spain won’t Accept

#### 1. Sam Jones reports that officials believe that Catalonia will continue to be an ally of Spain due do markets, infrastructure, and cultural and linguistic similarities. Europe wouldn’t kick Catalonia out of the EU because they’re so dependent on them.

Sam Jones, 7/27/16, “Separatist movement in Catalonia steps up battle with Madrid”, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/27/catalonia-independence-spain-democratic-mandate> //BB

“In Catalan logic, yes, we don’t like Brexit, but we understand that the democratic deficit in Europe is what allowed leave to win. A process of negotiation has begun: it’s not the end of the world and it’s not paradise.” He also shrugged off the idea that an independent Catalonia might find itself outside the EU. “We have hundreds of European companies in Catalonia. The question is: if Catalonia became an independent state, in whose interests would it be for Catalonia to be out of the EU? Not Catalonia’s. Not Spain’s either,” Romeva said. “Catalonia is and will be an ally of Spain for obvious reasons of markets and infrastructure, as well as cultural and linguistic reasons. Europe wouldn’t want to lose such an economically and socially dynamic reality. So this unthinking assumption that an independent Catalonia would be kept out [of the EU] is false.”

### A2: Staying in the EU - Other Countries won’t accept(France)

#### France and Catalonia are interdependent. Catalonia trade and investment finds in 2016 that Catalonia trades more with France than any other country and trade between the two countries is growing significantly right now. France has a strong incentive to let them EU to keep trading as simple as possible

Catalonia Trade and Investment 2016

<http://www.catalonia.com/en/newsletter_news/newsletter/issue31/exports-2016.jsp>

The EU accounted for 65.8% of Catalan exports in 2016, 7 percentage points more than in 2015. It is followed by the rest of Europe (7.4%) and Asia (6.5%), which moves to third place in terms of exported volume, ahead of Latin America (5.9%). **France accounts for 16.1% of Catalan exports**. Germany (11.9%), along with Italy (9.1%), Portugal (6.7%) and the UK (6.0%) represent nearly half (49.7%) of Catalan exports in 2016.Catalan exports to the EU increased 3.3% in 2016. **What stands out is the growth in France (6.9%)**, Italy (5.7%), Belgium (22.5%) and Germany (2.1%) respectively, the main contributors to the increase in Catalan exports for 2016. However, mention must be made of the decrease shown by the UK (-4.3%) as a result of the depreciation of the sterling.Globally, the fastest growing regions in terms of exports are Oceania (14.9%), especially noteworthy being Australia (14.7%), and the rest of Europe (5.6%), with Switzerland (5.8% ) and Turkey (7.5%) standing out. Catalan exports also grew in Asia (4.0%), driven by China (9.0%). By contrast, exports declined in Latin America (-7.7%) due to the downturn in Brazil (-25.2%). Africa also falls (-5.6%) and the Middle East, where the fall in Saudi Arabia is noteworthy (-4.5%).

### A2: Staying in the EU - EU doesn’t want them

#### Their argument may sound good in theory, but it isn’t really practical. McRae of the independent writes in September that members of the EU rely too heavily on Catalonian exports to cut them off. This means that it would be foolish and unlikely for the EU to shun Catalonia out of membership.

#### Sam Jones of the guardian reports that officials believe that Catalonia will continue to be an ally of Spain due do markets, infrastructure, and cultural and linguistic similarities. Europe wouldn’t kick Catalonia out of the EU because they’re so dependent on them.

Hamish McRae, 9/30/17, “The Catalan independence referendum is a much bigger issue for the EU than Brexit”, The Independent, <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/catalonia-catalan-referendum-spain-eu-economic-powerhouse-brexit-european-union-a7975766.html> //BB

Legally, Spain would be able to push an independent Catalonia out, but in the real world of European politics it would be hard for the rest of Europe to exclude a country that wanted to remain a member – or to be technically more correct, to rejoin. In economic terms Catalonia will be fully viable and there is no practical reason why it should not continue to use the euro, even if technically it were for a time outside the EU. The obvious big question really is not so much the outcome of the referendum but whether Spain and Catalonia can rebuild their relationship.

Sam Jones, 7/27/16, “Separatist movement in Catalonia steps up battle with Madrid”, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/27/catalonia-independence-spain-democratic-mandate> //BB

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### A2: Staying in the EU - Catalonia’s Debt is too High

#### Turn. Affirming is the only way to solve the debt problem. Kottasova of CNN Money writes in September that if Catalonia were to break away from Spain, it would allow the government to shift their economy away from a deficit to a surplus. This is really good because it would allow for Catalonia to reduce their overall debt and help their economy prosper in the long term. This would allow them to meet the EU’s string

Cards:

[Ivana Kottasová, 9-29-2017. "Spain loses 20% of its economy if Catalonia splits." CNNMoney. http://money.cnn.com/2017/09/29/news/economy/catalonia-independence-spain-economy/index.html] //BH

Catalonia accounts for nearly a fifth of Spain's economy, and leads all regions in producing 25% of the country's exports. It contributes much more in taxes (21% of the country's total) than it gets back from the government. Independence supporters have seized on the imbalance, arguing that **stopping transfers to Madrid would turn Catalonia's budget deficit into a surplus. Catalonia has a proven record of attracting investment, with nearly a third of all foreign companies in Spain choosing the regional capital of Barcelona as their base.** Volkswagen ([VLKAY](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=VLKAY&source=story_quote_link)) and Nissan ([NSANF](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=NSANF&source=story_quote_link)), for example, both have plants near Barcelona.

### A2: Staying in NATO

#### Bilateral independence solves

### A/2: Negotiations

1. **Catalans don’t trust Spain with negotiations over autonomy.** **Daniel Boffey** of the Guardian in 2017 writes that back in 2006, after Catalonia and Madrid came to an agreement over Catalonia’s requests for autonomy, in 2010, Rajoy’s party sucessfully lobbied the constitutional court to reinterpret parts of the statute and to rollback reforms. Therefore, the current situation is a strong reminder of the failed negotiations of the past and that’s why Catalans won’t trust the Spanish government.
2. **Ending the cyclical strife.** Autonomy will inherently be a short term impact. That’s because in 2006, Spain granted Catalonia its autonomy. However, in 2010, they took it away. As soon as the Spanish government feels the need to take it away, they will. Therefore, granting autonomy only leads to cyclical conflict.
3. The independence movement is not dying down. **Artiz Parra** of the Chicago Tribune in 2017 finds that Catalan separatists won’t accept anything short of a declaration of secession. Therefore, negotiations for more autonomy won’t be an option for them.
4. **Julia Montana** in 2017 finds that calls for dialogue and political negotiations to deal with Catalonia have been issued eighteen times by Catalan leaders since 2006, which have all been dismissed by Madrid every single time. Make them prove why now is any different given the fact that it’s still under the same conservative prime minister who pulled back reforms in 2010 and is firm on his hardline stance against Catalan independence.
5. We outweigh on recency. Charles Penty on January of 2018 explains that Rajoy has begun pushing Pro-unionists to thwart attempts by pro-independent separatists to form a government in Catalonia and exploit the fact that its two main leaders are in prison or exile. Moreover, Rajoy is now leaning on the Ciudadanos party to explore ways to govern Catalonia in this period of political turmoil. Because actions speak louder than words, Rajoy is clearly uninterested in resolving the Catalan conflic through negotiations with the pro-independence leaders.

Daniel Boffey, 11-21-2017, "Spain 'ready to discuss' greater fiscal autonomy for Catalonia," Guardian, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/21/spain-ready-to-discuss-greater-fiscal-autonomy-for-catalonia

Moves to renegotiate Catalonia’s relationship with the rest of Spain have often been fraught. Many Catalans are still angry over the role that Rajoy’s conservative People’s party played in hobbling the 2006 Catalan statute of autonomy, which would have given the region greater independence. In 2010, the PP successfully lobbied the constitutional court to annul or reinterpret parts of the statute, thereby ensuring that Catalonia was not recognised as a nation within Spain and the Catalan language was not given precedence over Castilian.

Aritz Parra, 10-9-2017, "Spain warns it will act if Catalonia declares independence," chicagotribune, http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ct-spain-catalonia-independence-20171009-story.html

Yet politicians supporting Puigdemont's minority government and civil society groups backing independence say they will not accept anything less than a full declaration of independence. "Credibility and dignity suggest making the declaration of independence tomorrow," Jordi Sanchez, the head of the civil group National Catalonia Assembly, said Monday. A lawmaker with the Catalan CUP party told the Associated Press that the the far-left separatists won't accept anything short of a declaration of secession. "It's very clear to me that those who I represent won't accept any other scenario," Benet Salellas said during an interview at the regional parliament.

Julia Montana, (Epidemiologist & Social Activist), CATALONIA: A CRY FOR UNDERSTANDING AND

RECOGNITION, Nov. 16, 2017. Retrieved Dec. 6, 2017 from https://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europemake-it/j-lia-monta/catalonia-cry-for-understanding-and-recognition.

Calls for dialogue and political negotiations to deal with the Catalan question have been issued eighteen times by Catalan leaders since 2006, calls which Madrid has dismissed every single time. Faced with the impossibility of agreeing on organizing a referendum with Spain, the Catalan Parliament finally voted in favor of organizing a referendum unilaterally. During his speech on October 10, instead of declaring independence, Puigdemont attempted to reach out to Spain one more time by temporarily suspending the declaration of independence to start a dialogue with Madrid. President Mariano Rajoy responded with a threat of direct rule.

Charles Penty, 1-1-2018, "Mariano Rajoy’s government is urging one of Spain’s pro-unity parties to thwart the separatists in Catalonia," Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, http://www.post-gazette.com/news/world/2017/12/31/Mariano-Rajoy-s-government-is-urging-one-of-Spain-s-pro-unity-parties-to-thwart-the-separatists-in-Catalonia/stories/201712310410

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy’s allies are trying to thwart attempts by separatists to form a government in Catalonia and exploit the fact that its two main leaders are in prison or self-imposed exile. Pro-independence groups together won a majority in the Barcelona regional parliament last week, but Ciudadanos gained the most seats of any single party in the election and opposes any breakaway from the rest of Spain. Rajoy’s People’s Party is now leaning on Ciudadanos to explore ways to govern Catalonia, which accounts for a fifth of the country’s economy. “There is an alternative and we have to put it to work because anything can happen in Catalonia,” Fernando Martinez Maillo, general coordinator of the People’s Party, said in a Tweet on Wednesday. “After winning the elections, the logical step would be to try to form a government.”

### A2: More Autonomy Solves

#### NPR writes that Catalonia has already been stripped of its autonomy

#### And Ottens, a Community Manager at the School of International Futures, writes that Spain has been unwilling to negotiate more autonomy

Neuman, Scott. “Spain Moves To Strip Catalonia's Autonomy After Secession Showdown.” NPR, NPR, 19 Oct. 2017, www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/10/19/558691815/yes-or-no-spain-demands-an-answer-on-catalonias-independence.

**At the Cabinet meeting, the government would invoke Article 155 of Spain's constitution allowing it to strip Catalonia of its self-governance**. That would take effect on Saturday, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's office said in a statement. Madrid had given Puigdemont a 10 a.m. (4 a.m. ET) deadline to clarify his government's stance on a non-binding declaration of independence passed by the regional legislature following a successful referendum on secession. But the Catalan leader insisted on keeping his options open, but that wasn't good enough for Spain's government, which had insisted on an unambiguous "no." "If the [Madrid] government continues to impede dialogue and continues with the repression, the Catalan parliament could proceed, if it is considered opportune, to vote on a formal declaration of independence," Puigdemont said in a letter to Rajoy.

Nick Ottens, Community Manager School of International Futures, The Arguments For And Against Catalan Independence, 9-13-2017, Atlantic Sentinel, atlanticsentinel.com/2017/09/the-arguments-for-and-against-catalan-independence/

Arguments for independence: Catalonia is a nation with its own culture and language**. Spain has been unwilling to negotiate more autonomy.** Independence is the only way to take (full) control of Catalan infrastructure, finances and policing. Catalonia pays more into Spain’s central government in taxes every year than it gets back in spending and subsidies. Catalonia has a dynamic and robust economy. It is responsible for more than half of Spain’s total startup investment. Eighteen million tourists visited the region last year, a quarter of Spain’s total. It has the second largest airport of Spain and the seventh busiest of Europe. Its seaport is the third largest of Spain and ninth largest in Europe. Outside Spain, Catalonia could write its own laws and regulations to accommodate its particular economic and social needs.

### A2: Shared Armed Forces

#### As reported by the Atlantic Council, Catalonia has the ability to have highly trained and effective forces due its large GDP and has excellent strategic positioning as for protecting the Mediterranean Sea. This would give any European or North American power a large incentive to allow an independent Catalonia into NATO.

#### If Catalonia were to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO, it would receive protection from all 29 other members of NATO including the US, the UK, and Spain in return for a small percentage of their budget which would have to be spent on defense. This would cement Catalonia’s state as a world power.

#### Considering that Spain is willfully granting Catalonia its independence through its constitution, there will be no problem as many countries said they would recognize Catalonia in this situation, meaning that no one will block them from entering.

James Hasik, Atlantic Council, The Military Implications of Catalonian Secession– an update, 10/2/2017, www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/defense-industrialist/the-military-implications-of-catalonian-secession-an-update.

Even so, as ugly as the Spanish response appeared, the federal government in Madrid may not manage to block a determined move for self-determination. So, assuming that Catalonia was admitted to NATO, what would the newly independent country contribute? At the 2014 [Strategic Foresight Forum](http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/events/past-events/harnessing-disruption-for-global-prosperity) at the Atlantic Council, Anne Marie Slaughter of the New America Foundation opined that an independent Catalonia would do a fine job of defending itself. After all, Catalonia is a country of over 7 million people, with more than $300 billion in GDP. Spending just 1.6% of that—well below the widely-ignored NATO threshold, of course—provides over $4.5 billion annually. That’s roughly the military budget of Denmark, which has well-regarded and efficient armed forces. Catalonian military plans are somewhat vague, but when the issue arose back in 2014, they emphasized a navy. With excellent ports in Barcelona and Tarragona, Catalonia is well-positioned as a minor naval power, “with the Mediterranean as our strategic environment, and NATO as our framework,” as the [nationalists’ think-tank on defense argued](http://www.helpcatalonia.cat/2014/08/dimensions-of-catalan-defence-forces.html). The rough plans called for a littoral security group of a few hundred sailors at first. After a few years, Catalonia would assume responsibility as “[a main actor in the Mediterranean](http://www.vilaweb.cat/noticia/4165031/20140102/catalan-president-mas-sends-letter-to-european-leaders-in-support-of-the-right-to-decide.html),” with land-based maritime patrol aircraft and small surface combatants. Eventually, the nationalist ambition may include an expeditionary group with a [light assault carrier](http://www.helpcatalonia.cat/2014/07/the-nato-russian-crisis-and-mistral.html) and hundreds of marines, to take a [serious role in collective security](http://www.vilaweb.cat/noticia/4165393/20140105/catalan-pm-confirms-nato-membership-commitment-to-collective-security.html). That would be rather more helpful to the Alliance than Madrid’s focus on tanks and artillery to defend Ceuta and Melilla from a Moroccan invasion. Of course, all these plans are subject to the vagaries of the country’s political process, but Catalonia’s ambitions are reasonable in part because they are restrained. If accurately characterized by the few white papers that have surfaced, the separatists’ position suggests a valuable and refreshing view of specialization in collective defense: build a navy that is comparatively focused on influencing events ashore. After all, in broad terms, the further one sits from Russia, the less important ground forces, and the more needed naval forces. By de-emphasizing the military forces that any landlocked country will have, and instead steering investments towards those it is comparatively positioned to provide, Catalonia could punch above its weight in European political affairs. There may be no further [Álvaro de Bazáns](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%81lvaro_de_Baz%C3%A1n-class_frigate) in Barcelona, but there may be new littoral forces—flying the four bars of the Senyera—that NATO needs around the periphery of the Mediterranean.

### A2 Fractures Spanish Politics

#### Judge, this is Non-Unique. Torres 17 writes that Spanish politics are already corrupted and in need of repair.

#### Jofre-Bonet 17 write that granting Catalonia independence would make Spain more homogenous and homogeneity, generally, leads to more stability.

#### Turn this on them. Hamid and Pretus ’17 write that not only are Spanish politics corrupted, but the continuous rise of the Catalonian independence movement only adds to the instability of Madrid. Denying Catalonia self-determination fuels demands for independence, eroding the stability and reputation of Madrid.

#### If we do not grant independence now, Boix ’14 writes that independence will result after a long and arduous fight, hurting the Spanish Government even more. Independence now is the only long-term solution.

Carles Boix. "The View from Catalonia," Foreign Affairs. 9-11-2014 <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/spain/2014-09-11/view-catalonia>

In Catalonia, the pros and cons of independence have been and continue to be thoroughly debated by politicians, academics, the media, and the public. Studies produced by international institutions have attested to the strength and viability of the Catalan economy, and Catalonia can already count on a solid and effective institutional structure that could be put to work immediately. By contrast, the Spanish government, backed by much of the political opposition, not only denies Catalans the possibility of a vote, it also refuses to present a proposal that could make Catalans and Spaniards more comfortable with each other. Except for a minority of Spanish nationalist diehards, maintaining the status quo is not an option in Catalonia. As for the rest of the unionist camp, some proposal from Madrid would have the virtue of reaching out to those who want to vote against independence but would also like to know what they are voting for. A proposal from Madrid would also introduce balance into the current political debate**. Refusing to engage the Catalans is a poor way to deal with a problem that won’t simply go away. Even if the independence movement could be defused one way or another, it would eventually resurface again, and likely more forcefully.** If at the end of the day Catalans do indeed choose independence, either because they believe it is the best solution or simply because no other option has been put forward, it would be in the interests of all -- Catalonia, Spain, and Europe -- to ensure that the transition is swift and smooth.

Hamid, Nafees and Pretus, Clara. [Research fellow at Artis International and Faculty at the department of psychiatry and forensic medicine at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, respectively]. “How Spain Misunderstood the Catalan Independence Movement,” The Atlantic. 1 October 2017.

The actions of the Spanish government reveal a deep misunderstanding about the psychology of the independence movement. Authorities are attempting to wear down the movement by denying a vote. Our findings suggested that Madrid’s current approach may well backfire**: The government’s muscular response to Catalans’ desire for self-determination could increase the number of independentists and heighten their passion, which, in the long run, may further erode the stability and reputation of Spain’s central government. Allowing a vote to proceed, meanwhile, could actually strengthen Madrid.** The independence movement is driven by strong personal identification with Catalan culture and what social psychologists call sacred values: moral values of the highest significance that, in some cases, people would give their lives for. According to our research, the top two sacred values motivating the Catalan movement were the right to vote for independence and the protection of Catalan identity. In studies of conflicts around the world, our colleagues have found that threats to sacred values and identities often lead to increased activism and, sometimes, violence. The denial of a vote is a threat to these values and identity and, most likely, will only further fuel the independence movement.

Jofre-Bonet, Mireia and Banal-Estanol, Albert. [both are Professors of Economics from City, University of London]. “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split,” City, University of London’s Press Office. 18 October 2017.

Catalonia would of course need to invest in creating new state structures, such as embassies and a central bank. This may cost more than what Catalonia pays now as a proportion of the same structures for a larger state. Conversely, **the new Spanish government could use the split as an opportunity to simplify its own administrative structures, as the preferences of the rest of the Spanish population would be more homogeneous without Catalonia.**

Diego Torres. “Spain’s never-ending corruption problem” Politico. May 18, 2017. <https://www.politico.eu/article/spain-corruption-pp-rajoy-never-ending-problem-graft-ignacio-gonzalez/>

**Almost 1,500 people in Spain faced trial for corruption between July 2015 and the end of 2016, according to official figures. Around 70 percent of them were found guilty. Since the country’s transition to democracy in the late 1970s, those sitting on the defendant’s bench have included top business people, ministers, regional presidents, mayors and even** [**Princess Cristina**](https://www.politico.eu/article/spains-princess-cristina-acquitted-of-tax-fraud/)**, the king’s sister. Mariano Rajoy will soon become the first sitting prime minister to appear as a witness in a Spanish court when he gives evidence in a** [**massive corruption case**](https://www.politico.eu/article/spains-cash-corruption-and-construction-trial-caso-gurtel/) **involving the alleged illegal financing of his Popular Party (PP).** For years, corruption has been ranked as the second biggest cause for concern after unemployment. The combination of a seemingly never-ending series of graft scandals and a devastating economic crisis has led many to question hitherto esteemed Spanish institutions and shaken up the political landscape. In 2013, the Group of States Against Corruption — which was set up by the Council of Europe — said in a [report about Spain](https://rm.coe.int/16806ca048): “While the independence and impartiality of individual judges and prosecutors have been broadly undisputed to date, much controversy surrounds the issue of the structural independence of the governing bodies of the judiciary and the prosecutorial service — the primary concern being the appearance **that partisan interests could penetrate judicial decision-making processes.”** The organization issued 11 recommendations to help Spain tackle corruption. [Three years later](https://rm.coe.int/16806ca04a), it concluded that none of the recommendations had been “implemented satisfactorily.”

### A2: Harms Rajoy’s Government

#### Non-unique. Faber '17 finds that Rajoy's administration is already losing power

#### Turn their impact. Faber continues that Rajoy has passed policies that harmed democratic principles

Faber, 1-29, 17, The Nation, Catalonia’s elections take Spain back to square one, Sebastiaan Faber is a professor of Hispanic Studies at Oberlin College. His most recent book is Memory Battles of the Spanish Civil War: History, Fiction, Photography, https://www.thenation.com/article/catalonias-elections-take-spain-back-to-square-one/

Investigations so opposed to freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are in keeping with Rajoy’s policies. Since becoming PM in 2011, **Rajoy most famously curbed civil and constitutional liberties with the 2015 “gag law,” which, The New York Times noted, “disturbingly harkens back to the dark days of the Franco regime.”** That the judicial system’s investigations today complement Rajoy’s political strategy is far from coincidental. Whether in the opposition or in the government, the PP has often looked to the courts instead of to the Parliament in order to carry out its political objectives. It happened back in 2006, when the PP filed an appeal against a new statute for Catalonia after parliaments in Barcelona and Madrid had already agreed on it. In recent years, the PP-appointed attorney general has appeared to orient investigations into the Catalan pro-independence movement: José Manuel Maza, who unexpectedly died in November, was the one who first framed Catalan claims to self-determination as rebellion or sedition—charges that were then taken at face value by the conservative judges who Maza made sure ended up with the case. And while the Spanish judiciary is notoriously slow when it comes to corruption cases involving politicians or the royal family, in the Catalan case the courts have been in overdrive. Two weeks after the referendum, two civil-society leaders were imprisoned awaiting trial; less than a week after Catalonia’s failed attempt to proclaim the republic, the same fate befell Vice President Junqueras and other members of the government.

The results of the election were a triple failure for Rajoy. **His party lost nearly two-thirds of its representatives in the Catalan parliament, while its direct competitor on the right won the election and now has nine times more representatives.** The election also failed to produce what the prime minister had hoped for: a loss of the pro-independence majority after their failed bid to proclaim an independent republic. Instead, Catalan voters made clear they wouldn’t be intimidated by Rajoy’s de facto rule over the region. Turning out in record numbers, they unexpectedly heeded deposed president Carles Puigdemont’s call, from his exile in Brussels, to leverage the artificially imposed election and reinstate the government that Rajoy had fired. The campaign also revealed the PP’s lack of strategy going into the Catalan elections. “We are running in these elections in order to recover a Catalonia that is stronger, more prosperous, freer, more just, and with a brighter future,” read the only document the PP released during the campaign. Catalan voters, it appears, saw through this empty rhetoric.

### A2: Secession Undemocratic

#### Mancini ’08 tells us that democratic procedural models of secession solve many of the problems of secession like majority opinion.

#### Kreptul ’03 reveals that there are seven constitutions that currently have provisions for secession, despite international law.

#### Majority of people in Catalonia, as referenced by the most recent parliamentary election, seek independence from Spain, meaning that Spain is actually the one suppressing democracy and the ability to let the people choose.

Susanna Mancini, Professor of public comparative law, Law School of the University of Bologna; adjunct professor of international law, Johns Hopkins University, 2008, Rethinking the Boundaries of Democratic Secession: Liberalism, Nationalism, and the Right of Minorities to Self Determination, p. 580581

A good example of a democratic procedural model that takes into account the will of trapped minorities was that applied in Switzerland to the “domestic ” secession of the canton of Jura from that of Bern in 1979. The separation was the result of some thirty years of pressure from separatists in the Frenchspeaking area of the Bern canton. The northern part of the Bernese Jura was strongly Roman Catholic, and many of its inhabitants felt they suffered both religious and linguistic discrimination. However, the breakaway movement was opposed not only by the cantonal government but also by many in the Southern Jura who were Protestants, like the German-speaking Bernese. The procedure took place through a series of plebiscites held in the various Jura communes, in order to determine as precisely as possible the extent of the territory to be separated. The referenda showed that popular opinion favored both the formation of a new canton in the north and the adherence of the south to Bern.

Andrei Kreptul, JD Seattle University School of Law and attorney, Fall, 2003, The Constitutional Right of Secession in Political Theory and history, p. 72

**Monahan and Bryant found seven constitutions, both present and past, which contained or do contain procedures for constitutional secession: Austria, Ethiopia, France, Singapore, St. Christopher and Nevis, the former Soviet Union, and the former Czech and Slovak Federative Republics. To this list, we can add Switzerland, which has a provision in place to allow for the secession and creation of new cantons,** and the current draft of the European Union Constitution of 2003, which allows for the voluntary withdrawal of Member States from the Union. **Finally, we can add Canada, which now has a statute in force clarifying the steps required for a province to secede from the federation, based on a Supreme Court opinion on the issue of Quebec’s potential secession from the rest of Canada.**

Dewan, Angela. “Catalonia Elections: Separatist Parties Win Majority.” *CNN*, Cable News Network, 22 Dec. 2017, www.cnn.com/2017/12/21/europe/catalonia-election-results-independence-spain-intl/index.html.

Voters in the Spanish region of Catalonia have delivered a blow to Madrid by backing [pro-independence parties in regional elections.](http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/19/europe/catalonia-youth-election-spain-intl/index.html) Former Catalan President Carles Puigdemont celebrated the results from Brussels where he's been in self-imposed exile since Spanish authorities announced they were seeking his arrest. Puigdemont was pushed from power after his government held an [illegal independence referendum](http://cnn.com/2017/10/19/europe/catalonia-independence-spain-crisis/index.html) and MPs declared the region's unilateral independence from Spain. [Catalonia: Rajoy's efforts to snuff out independence push backfire](http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/21/europe/catalonia-election-lister-analysis-intl/index.html) "The Catalan Republic has won," he announced in Brussels in the early hours of Friday morning. "The Spanish government was defeated." The Spanish government had called an early election in the hope of quelling the separatist movement, whose push for independence triggered the country's worst political crisis in decades. But Madrid's hopes were clearly dashed. **With more than 99% of the vote counted, no single party gained an outright majority but the three separatist parties together took 70 seats. They needed 68 to keep their grip on the 135-seat Parliament. To govern the pro-independence parties will need to join in a coalition.** Such a scenario would push the Madrid-Barcelona relationship back to where this all began three months ago, with a provocative separatist government in Barcelona rattling Madrid. The anti-independence Ciutadans (Citizens) did win the most seats of any party, but not enough to form a majority government.

### A2: Secession = Instability

#### Turn their impact, as secession is sometimes the only viable option to bring stability and peace to the region as evident with Kosovo explains Martin ‘08

#### Their world promotes instability, as without secession grating laws, civil war becomes inevitable finds Chirikba ’09. If you vote aff, then the path towards secession is peaceful as the Spanish Government will grant it; however, in the neg world, Catalonia still has to fight.

#### Siroky 09 writes that “In wealthier states without third party involvement, the probability of recursive secessionist conflict is approximately zero.” Spain is one of the richest countries in the world and Catalonia is one of the richest regions in Spain, meaning that they fulfil the first requirement. Since the resolution implies that Spain is granting independence instantly if the aff wins the debate, there would be no third-party involvement, meaning that there is no conflict, since Spain and Catalonia are an exception from the general rule he presented.

#### Turn this on them. Ritter 18 Writes that all the violent harms happen during the fight for independence. If Spain can just grant Catalonia Independence, then that solves future violence. However, in the con world, this continues as the fight for independence will continue on, meaning that the violence will continue.

#### Titanji ’09 reminds us that the alternative to legal secession is bloodshed.

“Michael J. Ritter, J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, B.A., Trinity University; “Topic Overview: Catalonia Independence,” The Forensics Files LLP, Jan. 2018”

**All of the harms that usually attend to a country getting its independence is in the process of declaring independence and violent fighting for that independence. If Spain can just “grant” Catalonia independence, that solves any need for future violence.** It is difficult to think of a time when a country voluntarily gave one of its territories independence without war or significant violence. Compared to other circumstances, the situation in Catalonia is not that bad. In the most recent violence, no one died, but there were nearly one thousand people injured. Voluntarily granting a region independence, which the resolution proposes, its virtually unheard of.

Siroky, David S. “Secession and Survival: Nations, States and Violent Conflict.” pdfs.semanticscholar.org, Duke University, 2009, <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/c637/60e3f257bf10372e8949bb5716920d5d843b.pdf>

The available data are consistent with this story: the predicted probability of conflict in poorer states without third party involvement is comparable to the probability of states with third party involvement but without high levels of heterogeneity. In this sense, a poor state serves as a functional equivalent for heterogeneity and third party involvement combined, even though the mechanisms are distinct**. In wealthier states without third party involvement, the probability of recursive secessionist conflict is approximately zero.** That said, we should not fail to consider the possibility that third parties may be less likely to become involved as nosy neighbors or irredentist actors in wealthy states in the first place, since better endowed states can more easily secure their borders and peripheral populations. The data do not provide evidence for this conjecture, however. In fact, among states with wealth levels beneath the mean, third party party involvement was slightly less likely than it was in states above the mean wealth level in the data set. Moreover, if we look only at cases that experienced recursive secessionist conflicts in the first five years, then we see that third parties were actually considerably more likely to interfere in wealthy states than in poor states.

Dr. Viacheslav A. Chirikba, Foreign Policy Adviser to the President of the Republic of Abkhazia: Dept. of Geopolitics, Centre for Strategic Studies, Sukhum, Republic of Abkhazia: Chief negotiator, the Abkhaz delegation to the EU, UN & OSCE, May, 2009, The International Legal Status of the Republic of Abkhazia in the Light of International Law, p. 9

Paradoxically**, in the condition of absence of any rules of international law managing the balance between the right of self-determination and the principle of territorial integrity, “the present international legal situation encourages the use of force in order to make demands for secession successful”. Furthermore, “if the State authorities are the first to use violence, breaching fundamental human rights or even the prohibition of genocide, then the secessionists may offer armed resistance. In the absence of international recognition of the seceding State, the civil war, once started, will continue until a de facto solution has been imposed by force. Either the metropolitan State has regained control over the seceding territory, or the secessionists have stabilized their authority and have managed to secure the exercise of all elements of statehood, that is, they have created an independent State”** (cf. Duursma 1996: 104, 426).

Bridgette Martin, Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand, October, 2008, Secession and Statehood: The International Legal Status of Kosovo, p. 28

**Yet significantly, Kosovo’s independence has not been construed by its supporters as the sanction for Serbia’s previous wrongdoings. It is instead “the outcome of a pragmatic reflection that has led the international community of states to support collectively the option of independence as the only viable option to ensure stability in the region”. The framing of Kosovo’s secession in this manner is essential, because there is no legal right or precedent within international conventions or State practice supporting this unilateral secession.** Instead, the position taken by the Supreme Court in the Quebec Case remains true even today; “[i]nternational law neither specifically grants component parts of sovereign states the legal right to secede unilaterally from their “parent” state, nor denies such a right.”

Ernest Duga Titanji, Barrister-at-law and lecturer of law, University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon, 2009, The Right of Indigenous Peoples to Self-Determination Versus Secession: One Coin, Two Faces?, p. 63

However**, this has been accepted only after long and devastating wars or where the sovereign state consents to self-determination of part of its territory. The cases of the secession by Eritrea from Ethiopia and Bangladesh from Pakistan are examples of cases where the right may be exercised after long and bloody wars.** The self determination of then countries of the former Soviet Union was only achieved with the consent of Russia. Kohen states.

### A2: Secession = Violence

#### Tir ’05 finds that this argument is false, as peaceful secessions can limit territorial disputes and resultant violence, which is what will happen since Spain grants independence.

#### Kreptul ’03 finds that a legal, balanced constitutional provision on secession would ensure legitimate needs for secession could be granted.

#### Turn this on them. Ritter 18 Writes that all the violent harms happen during the fight for independence. If Spain can just grant Catalonia Independence, then that solves future violence. However, in the con world, this continues as the fight for independence will continue on, meaning that the violence will continue.

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“Michael J. Ritter, J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, B.A., Trinity University; “Topic Overview: Catalonia Independence,” The Forensics Files LLP, Jan. 2018”

**All of the harms that usually attend to a country getting its independence is in the process of declaring independence and violent fighting for that independence. If Spain can just “grant” Catalonia independence, that solves any need for future violence.** It is difficult to think of a time when a country voluntarily gave one of its territories independence without war or significant violence. Compared to other circumstances, the situation in Catalonia is not that bad. In the most recent violence, no one died, but there were nearly one thousand people injured. Voluntarily granting a region independence, which the resolution proposes, its virtually

Andrei Kreptul, JD Seattle University School of Law and attorney, Fall, 2003, The Constitutional Right of Secession in Political Theory and history, p. 54

**On the one hand, they would not want to make secession too easy, because they would be foregoing advantages of democratic cooperation (i.e., redistribution of wealth by the state). On the other hand, they would not want secession made too hard, because if they are actually oppressed or discriminated against, they would not be able to legitimately leave the remaining state. Therefore, a balanced right of constitutional secession would be desired, which would necessarily entail the imposition of procedural hurdles.** Some of the procedural hurdles that Weinstock has in mind include mandatory waiting periods between referenda and mandatory waiting periods between referendum calls and the actual vote, in order to prevent impulsive, public opinion-driven secessions.

Jaroslav Tir, Professor of Political Science at University of Colorado Boulder, October, 2005, Keeping the Peace after Secession: Territorial Conflicts between Rump and Secessionist States, p.736

Second, **if it is not possible to resolve impending ethnically based territorial disputes, policy makers should keep in mind that peacefully conducted secessions can negate the problematic influence of these disputes. For instance, Czech Republic and Slovakia separated peacefully and later peacefully altered their border-showing that such disputes can be resolved constructively given the precedent of peaceful interactions. Disputants therefore stand to gain much from peaceful secessions.** Resolving potential border issues will be more productive if the protagonists can negotiate the new boundaries. Unilaterally imposed, violent "solutions" are unlikely to induce peace except in those rare scenarios in which a violent secession does not leave behind an ethnically based territorial dispute( e.g., SloveniaYugoslavia)

Siroky, David S. “Secession and Survival: Nations, States and Violent Conflict.” pdfs.semanticscholar.org, Duke University, 2009, <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/c637/60e3f257bf10372e8949bb5716920d5d843b.pdf>

The available data are consistent with this story: the predicted probability of conflict in poorer states without third party involvement is comparable to the probability of states with third party involvement but without high levels of heterogeneity. In this sense, a poor state serves as a functional equivalent for heterogeneity and third party involvement combined, even though the mechanisms are distinct**. In wealthier states without third party involvement, the probability of recursive secessionist conflict is approximately zero.** That said, we should not fail to consider the possibility that third parties may be less likely to become involved as nosy neighbors or irredentist actors in wealthy states in the first place, since better endowed states can more easily secure their borders and peripheral populations. The data do not provide evidence for this conjecture, however. In fact, among states with wealth levels beneath the mean, third party party involvement was slightly less likely than it was in states above the mean wealth level in the data set. Moreover, if we look only at cases that experienced recursive secessionist conflicts in the first five years, then we see that third parties were actually considerably more likely to interfere in wealthy states than in poor states.

### A2: Political Corruption

#### DL. Judd 14 finds that there are anti-corruption laws in Catalonia

#### DL again. Catalan leaders are not criminals, Faber 17 finds that the Spanish government is only criminalizing these people to preserve its territorial makeup

####  Turn this as the current system in Madrid encourages corruption with a weak legal system and poor campaign finance laws finds Moffett 14. He furthers that the AFF solves for corruption as there is an "opportunity to create an institutional environment that is better." This is further evident by the fact that as Judd 14 reports that 95% of Spaniards believe that corruption is widespread and that the trust in their government fell from 48% to 34%

#### We gain access to impacts such as economy as Judd 14 concludes that corruption threatens overall economic performance, and deters outside investment

Ryan T. Judd, J.D. Candidate, University of South Carolina, “Corruption and Catalan Independence,” SOUTH CAROLINA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONL LAW & BUSINESS v. 10, Spring 2014, p. 334-335.

While the realization of an independent Catalonia is far from certain in such a volatile political and socioeconomic environment, the question remains whether corruption would "undermine state capacity and legitimacy" in a newly independent Catalonia and effectively "derail" the "political and economic transition." Although the political consequences of corruption can be "difficult to quantify," the general consensus is that "growing perceptions of corruption diminish trust in public institutions." In a similar vein, while uncovering corruption is essential to rooting out the problem, exposing corrupt political institutions and actors can cause further political destabilization, which is only intensified by "excessive expectations on the part of both voters and international actors." **Recent reports confirm that the Spanish population has developed a profound mistrust in its politicians and political parties in recent years. The OECD's How's Life? 2013 Measuring Well-Being report, published in November 2013, confirmed that since the global financial crisis began in 2007, the number of Spanish citizens who trust their government has fallen from 48% to 34%. Furthermore, the EU Anti-Corruption Report released by the European Commission in February 2014 revealed that 95% of Spanish citizens believe that corruption is widespread in Spain.** The Commission also found that among all EU-member nations, the people of Spain were most likely to respond that corruption personally affected them, and that their political parties were not sufficiently transparent and supervised.

Moffett, M. (2014, Mar 24). World news: Catalan independence on trial --- string of corruption charges undermine spanish region's push to break away. Wall Street Journal Retrieved from http://ezproxy.library.unlv.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1509396310?accountid=3611

Other Catalans see such cases as another argument for independence. **Graft is fostered by a weak legal system and poor campaign finance laws -- constructs of Madrid, said Xavier Sala-i-Martin, a Columbia University economist and independence-backer. "We have the opportunity to create an institutional environment that is better" in an independent Catalonia**, he said, noting that it has taken almost five years to bring Mr. Millet to trial

Faber, 12-29, 17, The Nation, Catalonia’s elections take Spain back to square one, Sebastiaan Faber is a professor of Hispanic Studies at Oberlin College. His most recent book is Memory Battles of the Spanish Civil War: History, Fiction, Photography, https://www.thenation.com/article/catalonias-elections-take-spain-back-to-square-one/

The PP’s strategy, instead, has remained at the national level. With Catalan autonomy still revoked, the region is now ruled by a party that won barely more than 4 percent of the vote. (Rajoy has said that he will restore Catalonia’s regional autonomy once a government is formed, but his party’s rhetoric over the past few months suggests that that is far from a guarantee.) T**he PP has deployed what can only be called a McCarthy-style criminalization of any challenge to Spain’s territorial makeup.** The leaders of two of the three largest parties in Catalonia, the deposed president Puigdemont of PDeCAT and vice president Oriol Junqueras of the ERC, were forced to campaign from exile and prison, respectively. And the number of politicians and civic leaders indicted or under investigation is only rising. Since September, dozens have been called to testify in a sweeping judicial investigation coordinated by Spain’s Supreme Court. The charges they face—rebellion, sedition, and embezzlement—carry up to 30 years in prison. Following the lead of the country’s attorney general and the national police, the Court is treating the events leading up to the October 1 referendum and the declaration of independence four weeks later as a giant subversive plot. An extensive police report delivered to the Court on December 15 concluded that the independence movement had systematically encouraged “hatred” of Spain, damaging the country’s “dignity” while “deploying a permanent strategy of carefully planned disobedience.” The report even named former FC Barcelona manager Pep Guardiola for having read a pro-independence text at a public protest in June.

Ryan T. Judd, J.D. Candidate, University of South Carolina, “Corruption and Catalan Independence,” SOUTH CAROLINA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONL LAW & BUSINESS v. 10, Spring 2014, p. 337.

In the final analysis, it is likely that the Catalan people's lack of trust in their politicians and government institutions would represent a critical issue for a newly independent Catalonia. On the positive side, Catalonia has long been a part of one of the world's most developed nations, and has functioned as an autonomous government to varying degrees throughout the centuries. **It is also fortunate that Catalonia's regional government already has a substantial framework of anti-corruption laws and institutions in place, including the AntiFraud Office, which has been the leading body for anti-corruption efforts in Spain since 2008.** While corruption would certainly be a significant obstacle for a newly independent Catalonia, it would not be an insurmountable one if Catalan leaders were able to convince the public that they are moving toward the eradication of corruption from their government institutions and the renewal of political integrity.

Ryan T. Judd, J.D. Candidate, University of South Carolina, “Corruption and Catalan Independence,” SOUTH CAROLINA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONL LAW & BUSINESS v. 10, Spring 2014, p. 316-317.

While the international community now recognizes that the effective implementation of the rule of law plays a vital role in any new nation's success, there is also a broad consensus that "the degree of corruption within that state can fundamentally alter whether laws lift people up or . . . pull them under." Corruption is an expansive term that may refer to a wide range of behaviors from lower-level "administrative" corruption, such as bribery of a mid-level bureau-crat, to "grand" corruption, such as a large corporation's promise of campaign financing to a national legislator to gain influence over policy at the highest level. The World Justice Project broadly characterizes corruption as "the use of public power for private gain," and--more specifically--as "a manifestation of the extent to which government officials abuse their power or fulfill their obligations under the law." Corruption is typically thought to involve a monetary exchange, but its currency can be more insidious, such as a promise of future favor, an offer to secure a tenured job for a friend or family member, or a pledge of political support from a powerful interest group. Transparency International contends that more extreme forms of corruption can lead to "the capture of the state itself, whereby powerful individuals, institutions, companies, or groups use [it] to shape a whole nation’s policies, legal environment and economy to serve their own private interests." **Other critics have asserted that widespread government corruption can effectively "derail political and economic transitions, undermine state capacity and legitimacy, exacerbate poverty, and inflame grievances linked to conflict."** As one commentator pointed out: "Corruption undermines both state effectiveness (the ability to govern) and state legitimacy (the recognition of the right to govern). While effectiveness may matter over time, legitimacy is essential for sustaining fragile states that are not yet effective."

### A2: Control of Organized Crime

### A2: Access to European Courts

### A2: Training of Security Agents

### A2: Control of Terrorism

1. **Protection from terrorism is already weak In the status quo. Raphael Garica from the University of Duesto explains that Spanish and Catalan law enforcement do not share information, which causes ineffective combating of terrorism. This contributed to the recent Barcelona terrorist attack.**
2. **Catalonia is not part of Europol, the collective European law Enforcement Organization that shares information to help prevent terrorism. The reason for this comes from Catalan News in 2017, which found that Spain has continually blocked Catalonia from access to the Europol. Turn this argument because when you affirm, Catalonia has a greater ability to protect itself from terrorism.**

Catalan News June 21, 2017 "Catalan police exclusion from Europol 'can compromise' European security, warns Eurocop"

Politicizing security puts citizens at risk. The Catalan police force, the **Mossos d'Esquadra**, should have access to Europol databases and forums just like any other competent security authority in Europe, said the president of Eurocop, Àngels Bosch, in an interview with the CNA. Following the outrage in Catalonia that the Basque police force, **Ertzaintza**, was granted access to Europol by the Spanish government while the Mossos were kept out, the European police union leader said this can "compromise" Europe's security. "A lack of commitment between different security forces, a lack of coordination, or subpar communication and exchange of information can compromise the whole European area," she explained. Mossos d'Esquadra agents are the "competent" police force in Catalonia, including in the fight against terrorism and organized crime. "Europol should be able to maintain direct contact with every competent authority on security in every member state," said **Àngels Bosch**, who is also vice secretary general of the police union in Catalonia. In fact, the European police union has "lobbied for years" to achieve this, she said. "A large part of the border territory between Spain and France is in Catalonia, and the Mossos d'Esquadra, the Catalan police, is the competent authority, so it's only normal that it have access to **Europol** forums," the union leader added. According to Bosch, agents "do not understand" why the Mossos and the Basque police are treated differently when it comes to accessing Europol information.

Raphael Garcia University of Duesto December 2017

https://www.redpepper.org.uk/surveillance-arrests-and-fear-mongering-the-crackdown-on-catalonia/

Catalan media, as well as many users of social media, responded with expected revolt. Quite common comments were that the responsibility for anti-terrorist security was of the **Spanish police forces and of the Spanish secret service that should share the information collected with the Catalan police service**s (and vice versa). In other words, there’s a shared responsibility and a tremendous breach of trust.

### A2: Catalonia would be a refuge for Criminals

### A2: Harms Globalization

### A2: Environmental Management

### A2: Damages Spain’s International Images

### A2: Loss of European Aid

### A2: Spanish Firefighting Forces Good

### A2: Basque Seperatism

#### Basque Country isn't pushing for independence rich now independence movement has petered out since the Basque Country cannot sustain itself economically and needs Spain.

#### ETA, the main group pushing for independence, is no longer a threat. They have surrendered their arms to france

Reuters Staff. "The Basque Country: Spain's effective but expensive antidote to secession." Reuters. 10/9/17. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-politics- catalonia-basques-anal/the-basque-country-spains-effective-but-expensive- antidote-to-secession-idUSKBN1CE2G6

Among the verdant mountains of Basque Country, which borders France**, a once- violent campaign for independence has petered out, with generous fiscal autonomy from Madrid helping to keep popular agitation for independence in check. “We don’t have that economic resentment,”** Aitor Esteban, organizer for the Basque National Party in Spain’s parliament, told Reuters in an interview at party headquarters in Bilbao. “People don’t feel that need to act upon a grievance about money; that makes a big difference.” The Catalan government is not calling for a Basque-style deal, insisting instead on independence after declaring overwhelming support for secession in an Oct. 1 referendum banned by Madrid.

"'It has been done.' Eta hands over weapons in France.' The Guardian. 4/7/17. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/08/it-has-been-done-eta-hands- over-weapons-in-france

**The Basque separatist group Eta, which has promised to give up all its remaining arms by Saturday, has handed over the weapons to members of “civil society” in France, one member of the group has said. “We have the political and technical responsibility for Eta’s disarmament, and it has been done,” Txetx Etcheverry, a Basque environmentalist, said on Friday.** “Eta has handed over its weapons to civil society. They are on French soil,” he said. Etcheverry gave no other details about the purported arms transfer or the contents of the arsenal itself, saying they were “confidential”. But on Saturday morning sources told AFP that Eta had given the French police a list of 12 arms caches in southwestern France. The caches were located in the departments, or counties, of the Gers, Pyrenees- Atlantiques and Hautes-Pyrenees, they said.

### A2: Precedent Set

#### 1. Turn this argument. Expatica writes that a neg world where Spain continually suppresses the Catalonia also sets a bad precedent of anti-democratic practices as Spain has actively detained organizers and seized campaign material. We would argue that suppression of movements is worse than countries seceding.

#### 2. The precedence has already been set. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008 and has actively been recognized by major countries such as the U.S. or the UK. Not to mention the decolonization of all most all of Africa and South east asia.

**3. Other movements don’t even want independence. Rick Noack of the Washington Post explains that generally the majority of nationalist movements don’t want independence but rather autonomy. We say in case that specific to Catalonia more autonomy won’t work.**

#### 4. Al Jazeera reports that there have been 0 studies that have found that the success of independence movements in one country have caused independence movements to become more successful in others.

Expatica, 9/25/17, “'We are Catalans': Scots voice referendum solidarity”, <https://www.expatica.com/es/news/country-news/Spain-Catalonia-referendum-Britain-Scotland_1418025.html> //BB

There were just a handful of arrests, mostly for minor disorders such as egg throwing and online abuse. The detention of organisers and seizure of campaign material in Catalonia have shocked Scotland. Some in Scotland fear that if Madrid successfully suppresses the Catalan vote, it could set a precedent for London, which has refused to allow a re-run in Scotland in the near future. Jonathon Shafi, founder of Scotland's Radical Independence Campaign, said: "If we allow the Spanish state to set the precedent that this type of anti-democratic practice can take place, then it is a precedent that is not just set for Spain, it's set for the United Kingdom and indeed beyond." "This is a question for the whole of Europe -- and it's a question for democrats everywhere."

Marko Milanovic, 3/20/14, “Crimea, Kosovo, Hobgoblins and Hypocrisy”, Blog of the European Journal of International Law, <https://www.ejiltalk.org/crimea-kosovo-hobgoblins-and-hypocrisy/> //BB

Moreover, the Crimean authorities referred to the well-known Kosovo precedent – a precedent our western colleagues created with their own hands in a very similar situation, when they agreed that the unilateral separation of Kosovo from Serbia, exactly what Crimea is doing now, was legitimate and did not require any permission from the country’s central authorities. Pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 1 of the United Nations Charter, the UN International Court agreed with this approach and made the following comment in its ruling of July 22, 2010, and I quote: “No general prohibition may be inferred from the practice of the Security Council with regard to declarations of independence,” and “General international law contains no prohibition on declarations of independence.” Crystal clear, as they say.

Rick Noack (Washington Post) October 2017

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/10/11/europe-has-many-independence-movements-apart-from-catalonia-few-of-them-want-full-self-determination/?utm_term=.f62b59972e1f>

**Independence movements within the European Union have mostly rallied supporters to try to negotiate better deals and more autonomy rather than seceding. Such efforts have not resulted in full independence and are unlikely to do so in the near future**.While the motivations to split off from their home countries can be varied, they often boil down to a desire to have more control over their finances and revenue sources. Secessionist regions may want to expand the leeway of local police forces or counterterrorism units. It is also seen as a way of protecting unique cultural identities or regional languages and dialects from being swamped.

Jason Sorens, 12/21/17, “Cracking down on independence movements is a bad idea”, Al Jazeera, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/cracking-independence-movements-bad-idea-171219075614245.html> //BB

If minorities around the world enjoyed a right to independence, few would exercise it. In most places with secession movements, evidence suggests only a minority of the population supports their aims. Moreover, contrary to conventional wisdom, secessionism generally does not spread across borders. Some evidence suggests that self-determination claims are more likely to arise when there are more such claims in nearby countries, but no one has yet found that the success of independence movements in one country causes independence movements to become more successful in nearby countries. Even within countries, independence claims often do not spread.

## A2: Econ Args

### A2: Catalonia Econ

#### All of this rests on the fact the Catalonia would exit the EU, but this is just not true. In the resolution we see that Spain is Granting independence, meaning that Catalonia will be recognized and other countries and organizations, such as the EU, stated that they would recognize an independent Catalonia through the means of the Spain’s constitution, which is what will happen in the aff world.

#### Catalonia would gain more money when splitting from Spain. Catalans funnel more money into the government than they receive back

#### Mcrae ‘17 writes that Catalonia’s size, location, previous economic standing, and brand recognition combine for a perfect route to a successful European economy.

#### Alexander 17 analyzes from an OECD report that an independent Catalonia would have a GDP of 314 billion, making it the 34th largest economy in the world, bigger than Portugal or Hong Kong. Its GDP per capita would be 35,000, wealthier than South Korea, Israel or Italy.

#### Four reasons we solve in the long-term.

#### McRae 17 explains that because Catalonia can use its brand as economic leverage, it will be able to attract more businesses and create more jobs as an independent country, stating that its brand is tarnished being under Spain.

#### The Guardian explains that the resources garnered from independence could be used to improve Catalan infrastructure.

#### This is critical because Wilson 12 finds that for every $1 increase in infrastructure spending, the economy is boosted $2.

#### Cabrales of the University of Madrid argues that Catalonia would be much better off education-wise independently, being able to invest much more into their universities. The World Bank impacts that for every dollar a government spends on education, GDP grows by $20.

Alfons Lopez Tena [member of Catalan Parliament from 2010 - 2012] and ElisendaPaluzie [associate professor of economics and the Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Barcelona University], “Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain,” Business Insider, February 24 2016. Available at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/economicsof-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2>

Velvet divorce scenario**: agreed secession. The independent Catalonia is recognized by Spain, becomes a full EU member- state, enters the UN and all the international organizations, assumes its rights and obligations under the existing treaties, etc. In this case few are the economic impacts on economics since almost everything goes on as usual.** Catalonia would gain full control of its own taxes, hence around €16 billion ($21 billion) wouldn’t be siphoned off by Spain every year; economic policies best suited to Catalan needs may be developed if voters choose wisely; and both parts take their fair share of former Spain’s public assets and debt in application of the Vienna Convention of 1983. Spain’s only loss should be the fore-mentioned Catalan taxes, around 2% of Spanish GDP every year: a big but not an overwhelming blow.

SBS News. October 8, 2017. <<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/could-an-independent-catalonia-stay-in-the-eu>>

**European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker has made it clear Brussels would only respect a vote for independence if it was held in line with the Spanish constitution.** EU members "will not recognise Catalonia as a state if it is created in violation of the law and particularly the Spanish constitution", said Jean-Claude Piris, an expert in European law. Membership talks for Catalonia would likely be different from those currently under way for candidate countries such as the Balkan states and Turkey, which have to harmonise their legislation and foreign policy as well as bring human rights standards up to EU standards. Catalonia has sought to get ahead on this point by passing a law last month that said all EU laws would apply in its territory even if it was no longer a member.

Benavides 17-https://www.marketplace.org/2017/09/29/economy/big-reason-catalonia-wants-secede-economic-richest-regions-in-spain

**Catalonia has the highest GDP out of all the regions in Spain, and at 266 billion euros, almost one-fifth of the country’s economic output. Economics professor Elisenda Paluzie said Catalan residents represent about 16 percent of the country’s population.** Yet these same residents contribute 20 percent of Spain’s taxes, and then receive 14 percent back for public expenses**. She said Catalonia is economically important for Spain, and if it were to secede, “they lose a territory that’s relatively rich and contributes a lot to taxes**.”

Hamish Mcrae, 10-28-2017, "Catalonia could be an extremely successful economy and EU member state," Independent, http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/catalonia-spain-independence-vote-economy-population-location-trade-currency-a8025051.html

What can be said, though, **is that if Catalonia were to become a fully independent country there is no reason why it should not – after a period of disruption – be an extremely successful economy.** There are a number of reasons why this is likely to be so. For a start, it has a population of 7.5 million. There is no right or wrong size as such, for there are successful countries that are very small: **Luxembourg, with a population of just under 600,000, is the richest country in the world in terms of GDP per person.** (Monaco probably comes in higher, but it is a special case.) And of course the three largest countries in terms of population – China, India and the US – are also success stories in their own ways. **But there does seem to be a sweet spot in the 5 million to 15 million bracket, where countries are big enough to offer their citizens a full range of services but are also small enough to be socially cohesive. This includes Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland. Catalonia would naturally join that group.** Countries cannot choose their location, and have to make the best of what they have. But if your neighbours are doing well, unless you deliberately cut yourself off from them, you will tend to be pulled along too. Catalonia, in that sense, is lucky in several ways**. It has prosperous neighbours, France and the rest of Spain** (though relations with the latter would be difficult for a while). **It has a coastline, and a Mediterranean one at that. Barcelona and Tarragona, a little to the south, are Spain’s two largest ports. It is a manufacturing centre, has two top-ranking business schools, and the usual array of service industries. Separatists have noted that though Catalonia has about 18 per cent of Spain’s population, it generates more than 20 per cent of its GDP. Were it to be fully independent, with Barcelona and its 1.6 million people, it would have one of the glitziest capital cities on earth.** Brand is an intangible advantage, but can be deployed to leverage other economic advantages. Ireland is a fine example of that, using its brand (and its educated workforce) to make it a base for high-tech American companies seeking to enter the European market**. On its own, Catalonia could be nimble in attracting business, and consequently creating jobs, than it has been as part of Spain.**

Alexander, Harriet. “Why Does Catalonia Want Independence from Spain?” The Telegraph, Telegraph Media Group, 5 Oct. 2017, [www.telegraph.co.uk/news/0/does-catalonia-want-independence-spain/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/0/does-catalonia-want-independence-spain/).

Secession would therefore cost Spain almost 20 per cent of its economic output, and trigger a row about how Catalonia would return 52.5 billion euros of debt it owes to the country’s central administration. **It would have a gross domestic product of $314 billion (£195bn), according to calculations by the OECD, which would make it the 34th largest economy in the world. That would make it bigger than Portugal or Hong Kong. Its GDP per capita would be $35,000, which would make it wealthier than South Korea, Israel or Italy**. And Catalonia's contribution to the Spanish economy is twice that of Scotland’s to the UK.

McRae, Hamish. “Catalonia Could Be an Extremely Successful Economy and EU Member State.” The Independent, Independent Digital News and Media, 28 Oct. 2017, www.independent.co.uk/voices/catalonia-spain-independence-vote-economy- population-location-trade-currency-a8025051.html.

“A final point: **Catalonia has brand recognition. Brand is an intangible advantage, but can be deployed to leverage other economic advantages**. Ireland is a fine example of that, using its brand (and its educated workforce) to make it a base for high-tech American companies seeking to enter the European market. **On its own, Catalonia could be nimble in attracting business, and consequently creating jobs, than it has been as part of Spain.”**

“Would Catalonia Be Better as an Independent Nation?” The Guardian, Guardian News and Media, 20 Nov. 2012, www.theguardian.com/world/2012/nov/20/readers-panel-independent- catalonia-spain.

“'Catalonia would no longer be a support fund for the rest of Spain' If Catalonia becomes independent and that process is led by the current CiU government, then judging by the policies they have implemented over the last two years we can expect a skeleton welfare state, big tax breaks for foreign multinationals, public funds to pay off the private debts of banks and a close relationship with the unionist PP on most economic and social issues. This is not the change that many Catalans who want to be part of an independent state are looking for, though and the advantages are clear if the left leaning social majority here can take political control: **Catalonia would no longer become a support fund for the rest of Spain, resources could be used to improve the country's infrastructures** and much cultural and economic energy would be released in the euphoria of independence. At a stroke we could rid ourselves of the dysfunctional monarchy, the bastions of reaction that are the army and the Spanish Church and the insidious influence of the right wing Madrid media.”

Kawa, Lucas, citing Daniel Wilson. “STUDY: Every $1 Of Infrastructure Spending Boosts The Economy By $2.” *businessinsider.com*, Business Insider, 11/30/12, <http://www.businessinsider.com/infrastructure-economic-multiplier-2012-11>

Sylvain Leduc and **Daniel Wilson studied the effect of unexpected infrastructure grants on state GDPs (GSPs) since 1990 and found that, on average, each dollar of infrastructure spending increases the GSP by at least two dollars**. Valerie Ramey, Professor of Economics at UC San Diego and member of the National Bureau of Economic Research, reports that the typical fiscal multiplier is between 0.5 and 1.5.

Carmignani, Fabrizio, citing The World Bank. “Does government spending on education promote economic growth?” *theconversation.com*, The Conversation, 6/2/2016, <http://theconversation.com/does-government-spending-on-education-promote-economic-growth-60229>

**Using data available from The World Bank’s World Development Indicators (WDI) database**, it is possible to estimate the bivariate relationship between government education expenditure and GDP across a large sample of countries. **The estimates show that for every dollar the government spends on education, GDP grows on average by $20.**

Jordi Ribalaygue, 9/10/17, “Year I of the independent Catalonia: collapse and 'corralito' when disconnecting from its main market”, EL Mundo, <http://www.elmundo.es/economia/2017/09/10/59b2c7e5468aeb81558b4607.html> //BB

A professor of finance - who asks for anonymity to MARKETS - points out that the economy's progress would depend on how secession was generated: "If the scenario is one of total rupture between the parties, the economic effects can be adverse for both Spain and Catalonia and hardly evaluable, although they would be temporary, if there was negotiation, the wealth obtained during the next few years in Catalonia would tend to be maintained and gradually increase in later periods ". In that sense, Paluzie adds that the benefits that peek at the separation would be greater "in case of negotiated independence, with a cumulative 3%, than with a unilateral independence, with a cumulative 2%." The break without an agreement would imply a cost of 4,500 to 5,000 million monthly for which sources of financing should be found, according to the Advisory Council for the National Transition of the Generalitat in 2014.

### A2: Spain Econ

#### The Key to Economic Success in Spain is exports, not Catalonia. Spain can bounce back and it has bounced back from much worse.

#### López Tena 17 writes that Spain, due to the loss of Catalonia, would see a decline in GDP of 2%.

#### By contrast, Spain went through a decline of GDP of 8% during the great recession in 2008. It has recovered from it now and Spain will be able to recover quick from Catalan Seccesion quick.

#### All of this is just in the Short Term. In the long term, Enero 17 explains that because the important Spanish businesses, such as Ibex 35, aren’t exposed to Catalonia and the uncertainty created, the economic impact of an independent Catalonia on Spain would be little to none.

#### Bonet 17 explains that without Catalonia, Spain would be forced to develop its economy in its other regions, triggering greater economic development than before in the long run.

#### Yeomans 15 claims that upon independence, Catalonia would become Spain’s biggest trade partner. Remember, the verb of the resolution is “grant,” implying peaceful secession, meaning they’d still be on good terms to trade. Since Catalonia holds a great economic influence, Spain would want to trade with Catalonia. Why would Spain want to hurt itself on purpose.

#### In result, both Spain and Catalonia would be better off in the long run.

Pauly, Christoph. “Back from the Brink: Spain Emerges as Model for Europe - SPIEGEL ONLINE - International.” SPIEGEL ONLINE, SPIEGEL ONLINE, 25 Mar. 2015, www.spiegel.de/international/europe/how-spain-recovered-from-the- economic-crisis-a-1025327.html.

It was exports, and not domestic demand, that lifted Spain out of the worst economic crisis since the civil war in the 1930s. "Ninety percent of our Mercedes vans and trucks, which we produce in two plants in the Basque region, head outside of the country," López says. The model being emulated by the country during its upturn is unmistakable. During the crisis, Spain copied the German economic model, successfully putting its emphasis on exports. In 2014, almost one third of Spanish goods and services were shipped outside of the country. 25,000 new jobs were created in the Spanish car factories of Opel, Seat, Renault, Ford and Nissan alone. Once the unions consented to making production more flexible, Mercedes invested €190 million ($208 million) in the factories. "We've been on the move," says López, who also once worked in Stuttgart. The European Central Bank is predicting that Spain will be one of the economic drivers of Europe in 2015. Powered by a cheap euro and low interest, economic growth is predicted to rise by 2.3 percent this year. The Spanish government is expecting one million additional jobs for 2014 and 2015.

López Tena, Alfons. “Here Are the Economics of a Catalan Secession from Spain.” Business Insider, Business Insider, 24 Feb. 2016, [www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2](http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2).

The independent Catalonia is recognized by Spain, becomes a full EU member- state, enters the UN and all the international organizations, assumes its rights and obligations under the existing treaties, etc. In this case few are the economic impacts on economics since almost everything goes on as usual. Catalonia would gain full control of its own taxes, hence around €16 billion ($21 billion) wouldn’t be siphoned off by Spain every year; economic policies best suited to Catalan needs may be developed if voters choose wisely; and both parts take their fair share of former Spain’s public assets and debt in application of the Vienna Convention of 1983. **Spain’s only loss should be the fore-mentioned Catalan taxes, around 2% of Spanish GDP every year: a big but not an overwhelming blow.**

“Spain's Economy Back on Its Feet.” The Economist, The Economist Newspaper, 8 Aug. 2015, www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21660550-growth-has-returned-dangers-still-lurk-back-its-feet.

It is in any case important to put the Spanish recovery in perspective**. It follows a decline of 8% in GDP between its peak in the spring of 2008 and its trough five years later.** The economy may now be growing fast, but it is still 4% smaller than seven years ago, a bigger shortfall than that of the euro area as a whole, whose GDP is about 1% below its peak. Despite the decline in unemployment, the jobless rate in Spain is still the second-highest in Europe, exceeded only by Greece’s.

Enero, David. [Works for a Tech Hub called Apiumhub]. “Catalinia’s Economic Impact of the Referendum,” Apiumhub. 16 November 2017.

In front of all these positions that defend the worst case if Catalonia gets the autonomy stand those who, on the opposite site, claim that the Catalan economic impact or the Spanish one won’t be even affected. An analyst for the Société Générale states that “**the actual exposure of Ibex 35 companies to Catalonia is minimal” That is good news for the Spanish economy. There is a 34% of revenue coming from inside Spain for those companies and a 50% of investors away from the European Union, that is a huge amount of business outside of the Spanish market.**

Jofre-Bonet, Mireia and Banal-Estanol, Albert. [both are Professors of Economics from City, University of London]. “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split,” The Conversation. 12 October 2017.

Despite the inevitable transition costs for both sides, **there may** also **be some benefits to a split**. The new **Spanish state would lose a dynamic economy** with better economic indicators than its average in terms of GDP, unemployment, exports and innovation. **But** **this may trigger greater economic development and modernisation in its remaining regions.**

Yeomans, Jon. “Why Catalonia's Bid for Independence Is Europe's next Headache.” The Telegraph, Telegraph Media Group, 10 Sept. 2015, www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/economics/11849126/Why-Catalonias-bid-forindependence-is-Europes-next-headache.html.

Were Catalonia to be cast out of the EU, it would have to introduce a new currency; serve a public debt in a foreign currency without access to bond markets; and have restricted access to the EU market. It would be unable to call upon the help of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and the European Central Bank (ECB), which were both central in bailing out Greece. **Spain would become Catalonia’s biggest trading partner**, but Madrid could seek to recoup some of the billions it would lose in tax revenue from the region by imposing duties on Catalan goods and services. Foreign investors may also think twice about putting money into the breakaway state while legal and political instability exists.

### A2: Mutually Beneficial

#### Turn: There are three reasons that splitting from Spain is beneficial for all parties involved

#### First is Capital Flight. Amanda Erickson of the Washington Post observes that as a result of the Catalan independence referendum earlier this year, over 2700 Catalan financial institutions have moved their head offices into other parts of Spain This is really integral as Esteban Duarte of Bloomberg sees that the day the banks announced their moves out of Catalonia, their stocks jumped from the worst recession they had ever seen to a growth of over 3%, which is expected to promote long term economic growth and stability in Spain.

#### Second is trade. Pankaj Ghemawat of The Economist finds that as a developing economy, Catalonia would immediately pivot west for convenience as a growing economy and Spain would begin to make up the vast majority of Catalonia’s trade, which Albert Estanol of the University of London finds forces long-term mutually beneficial agreements to be pursued. Estanol concludes that Catalan secession would in fact trigger greater economic development and modernisation throughout Spain and Catalonia, and both states would be better off in the long run.

#### Third is economic diversification. The Conversation reports that long-term, businesses will search out new international markets, as seen with Catalonia seeking out new places to sell products after boycotts. Josep Raya finds that this diversification has boosted Catalonia’s GDP 15% in recent years, and this would only increase with secession.

Amanda Erickson, 11/30/17, “Since Catalonia’s independence vote, 2,700 businesses have moved their headquarters”, The Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/11/30/since-catalonias-independence-vote-2700-businesses-have-moved-their-headquarters/?utm_term=.eb2c95b3dc2a> //BB

The European Union has been leery to suggest a relationship as well. In theory, independence was supposed to make the region more prosperous. But the October referendum — and Spain's subsequent takeover — has left businesses nervous. Since the vote, more than 2,700 firms have moved their headquarters from the region, according to Spain's commercial registrar's office, the Agence France-Presse reported. That list includes major banks like Caixabank and Sabadell, along with small and medium firms. Many of these shifts are administrative. But they may be the first step to relocating staff and production.

Esteban Duarte, 10/4/17, “Catalan Banks Weigh Moving Headquarters to Reassure Clients”, Bloomberg, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-04/catalan-depositors-torn-on-who-to-bank-with-amid-secession-fears> //BB

Sabadell, the region’s second-biggest bank, called a board meeting for Thursday to discuss a potential relocation. “The political situation is a pain in the neck for these banks,” Cesar Molinas, founder of Multa Paucis, an investment consultancy firm, said in an interview. “They don’t want clients in Madrid to see them as Catalan banks, nor clients in Barcelona to see them as Spanish banks. They’re treading on thin ice.” Sabadell will hold an extraordinary board meeting at 5 p.m., according to a press officer for the bank who asked not to be named citing corporate policy. The company’s preferred destination for new headquarters is Catalonia’s neighboring region of Valencia, specifically the area of Alicante, the person said. CaixaBank is considering a temporary move of its legal domicile to the Balearic Islands if plans for independence go ahead, newspaper El Mundo reported Thursday. “CaixaBank reiterates that all the necessary decisions will be taken, at the right time, always with the goal of prioritizing the interests of clients, shareholders and staff," the bank’s press office said in an emailed statement. Both banks’ shares rebounded Thursday, with CaixaBank rising 3 percent at 3:28 p.m. in Madrid and Sabadell gaining 3.5 percent. The stocks suffered their biggest losses in more than a year Wednesday.

The Economist, “The cost of freedom”, 11/23/12, <https://www.economist.com/blogs/charlemagne/2012/11/catalonias-trade>, //BB

Catalans are rightly proud that more than half of their trade flows outside of Spanish borders. France is the top destination, accounting for 10% of Catalonia's exports. But the next three biggest destinations are the regions of Andalucia, Aragon and Valencia. Indeed, if Catalonia were independent, Spain would be its largest trading partner, accounting for more than one-third of its trade. This suggests that, from an economic standpoint, there is much to gain from staying within the larger political entity. More of Mr Ghemawat's maps are available at his website.

Albert Estanol, 10/12/17, “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split”, The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557> //BB

A key factor is whether Catalonia could gain independence and remain in the EU. If Catalonia were to remain as part of the EU, not much would change for either side. If it were required to remain outside the EU for a period of time, it would need to negotiate trade agreements with the new Spanish state and the rest of the EU. Despite the inevitable transition costs for both sides, there may also be some benefits to a split. The new Spanish state would lose a dynamic economy with better economic indicators than its average in terms of GDP, unemployment, exports and innovation. But this may trigger greater economic development and modernisation in its remaining regions. The new Spanish state may gain in the long run if the preferences of its citizens are more homogeneous and better aligned with the central government than at present. Needless to say, prior to independence, both parties may have vested interests in using economic and non-economic threats against each other. After secession, however, mutually beneficial agreements would unavoidably be pursued. In any case, both new states are viable, and they could well be better off in the long run.

Albert Estanol, 10/12/17, “Catalonia, Spain and the economic consequences of a split”, The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557> //BB

Because of the size difference, Catalonia would end up suffering more from this (the rest of Spain accounts for one third of Catalan exports). But it is unclear how long boycotts would last, and how restrictive they might be. Businesses may also search out other markets, as they have even in the recent past. Exports of Cava from Catalonia to other countries, for example, increased substantially following an informal boycott from the rest of Spain ten years ago.

Josep Raya (Barcelona Graduate School of Economics) July 2014 <https://www.barcelonagse.eu/sites/default/files/working_paper_pdfs/770.pdf>

Second**, the main source of growth of the sector lately has been the foreign market. The sector exports 66.4% of its production (2012), but this percentage was only 51.6% in 2001 and 33.9% in 1990. Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the United States and Japan are the main export destinations.**21 This, together with the fact that more or less half of the domestic sales take place in the Catalan market, make the potential impact of a boycott in the Spanish market much less important today than a few years ago.The data is also disaggregated by eight different territories in Spain (see Map 2) which include the two main metropolitan areas (Madrid, in the geographical centre of Spain and political capital of the country, and Barcelona, the main city in the region of Catalonia) and six other regions which group all Spanish provinces (except the Canary Islands) according to geographical criteria which do not correspond exactly to administrative and political divisions in Spain.

### A2: Reduced Mobility of Labor

#### This assumes they wouldn’t get into the EU – we’d say there’s a high probability of this happening so this isn’t a concern.

### A2: Avoid Exit of the Euro

#### Assumes they don’t get into the EU

#### You don’t even have to be part of the EU to use the Euro. BBC News explains in October that multiple countries such as San Marino and Montenegro are actively using the euro even though they are not part of the EU

#### Catalonia is one step ahead in this regard as the ENCA reports in October that Catalonia is actively passing laws to ensure that in a world were they are independent all EU laws still apply

**BBC News October 2017**

[**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41474674**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41474674)

In theory, that means even if Catalonia became a new EU member state, it may well take time to rejoin the eurozone - and Spain and its allies could block that. In practice, we just don't know what would happen. Nobody has ever declared independence from a member of the ]]eurozone then asked to rejoin as a new country. **Could Catalonia use the euro without joining the eurozone? It does happen. Some countries such as San Marino and Vatican City do so with the eurozone's blessing, since they're too small to ever become EU member states. Others, such as Kosovo and Montenegro, use the euro without the EU's blessing,** and so don't have access to the European Central Bank. Again, whether either solution would be practical in Catalonia remains to be seen.

ENCA October 2017

<https://www.enca.com/money/could-an-independent-catalonia-stay-in-the-eu>

**Catalonia has sought to get ahead on this point by passing a law last month that said all EU laws would apply in its territory even if it was no longer a member**.Questions have also been raised about the legal solidity of the Prodi doctrine and whether the relevant treaty clauses could be open to different interpretation.A European Commission spokesman said Friday that "this is the way we read the treaty, this is our position" but acknowledged that "everybody has his or her right to his or her own opinion".

### A/2- Infrastructure Spending Loss if Secession

#### 1. Infrastructure spending is incredibly low right now. Make them tell you why affirming makes it any different because the London School of Ecnomics reports that Spain’s investment in infrastructure in Catalonia has been reduced by 45 percent.

Montserrat Guibernau, 5/29/12, “The rise of secessionism in Catalonia has emerged out of the will to decide the region’s political destiny as a nation”, London School of Economics Blog, <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2012/05/29/catalonia-secession/> //BB

According to the latest available data Catalonia’s average contribution to the Spanish Central Administration and Social Security corresponds to 19.40 per cent of the total. In contrast, Catalonia receives 14.03 per cent. After contributing to Spain’s Solidarity Fund, Catalonia is worse off than those autonomous communities subsidized by the Fund and finds itself below average in per capita spending. The 2012 Budget presented by Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy does not contemplate the State paying back its pending debts to Catalonia. According to the Statute these include, €759 million for 2008 and €219 million for 2009. In addition, the State’s investment in infrastructure in Catalonia has been reduced by 45 per cent, and now stands at 11 per cent of the total, far from the 18.6 percent that would be an equal share for Catalonia. In December 2009, with the support of 15000 volunteers, 166 Catalan cities held referendums on Catalonia’s independence. The referendums were not legally binding, but they contained an important symbolic content. Participation amounted to 27 per cent, and 94.71 per cent voted in favor of Catalonia’s independence. To date the Spanish State forbids the holding of a legally binding or consultative referendum in Catalonia.

### A2: Spain is the Main Market for Catalan Products

#### No reason why they still can’t negotiate mutually beneficial trade deals. It would be in both countries best interests so its most probable

#### Reliance on Spain is decreasing in the status quo. Josep Raya of the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics finds in 2014 that the percentage of Catalan exports that go to Spain are down 32% in the last 25 years.

#### Albert Banal Estanol of the Conversation explains in October that if there were losses in exports to Spain in an independent Catalonia they would just diversify, which is something they’ve done in the past following Spanish boycotts. Josep Raya continues that diversification could be successful because in recent years, exports to foreign markets like Germany, the UK and the US are up 15%.

#### Spain cannot also keep that up. Tena 16 explains that Spanish goods and services flowing through the Catalan market account for 36 billion, or 3% of the country’s total GDP, meaning Spain would just be hurting itself in the long run. Why would spain want to do that?

Tena, Alfons L. and Elisenda Paluzie. “Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain.” *businessinsider.com*, Business Insider, 2/24/16, <http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2>

A completely different outcome will arise if Spain succeeds to implement an unanimous EU decision to wipe Catalonia off the euro and the single market, hence to impose tariffs on Catalan goods and services as a third country. **A Spanish commercial war would follow to take Catalonia out of the Spanish market**, where Catalan goods and services are sold up to €39 billion ($51 billion), 18.5% of Catalan GDP. Since even newly independent countries are not prone to turn the other cheek to their would-be ruffians, **those Spanish moves would surely provoke akin Catalan measures to wipe Spain off the Catalan market, where Spanish goods and services are sold up to €27 billion ($36 billion), 3,1% of Spanish GDP**. Catalonia could also block or otherwise clog the main land Spanish connections with Europe, that happen to pass through Catalan territory.

Josep Raya (Barcelona Graduate School of Economics) July 2014

<https://www.barcelonagse.eu/sites/default/files/working_paper_pdfs/770.pdf>

Why a consumer boycott? The incident of 2004-05 was not the first of this kind in Spain. For instance, there were similar calls when a Catalan Statute of Autonomy was discussed in 1932, during the democratic period of the Second Spanish Republic (1931-39). Part of the explanation for this may be based on historical circumstances that influence collective attitudes. Catalonia has traditionally been regarded as the “factory” of Spain and Catalan firms and politicians supported protectionist policies in the past. From a political economy view, one could interpret that fiscal transfers from Catalonia were the compensation paid for Catalan producers to the rest of Spain in exchange for market protection from foreign competition. Although this logic does not apply any more (Spain has been part of the European Union since 1986), many in Spain still see the Catalan fiscal transfer as a fair compensation for all the commercial activity undertaken by Catalan firms in the Spanish market. Therefore, any intent of reducing the transfer is seen as a breach of a sort of contract and the obvious retaliation against this is to reduce the purchases of Catalan products. Although **the percentage of Catalan exports that go to the Spanish market has gone down rather dramatically in the last twenty five years from 75% in 1987 to 43% in 2012**, there still exist a widespread belief that consumer boycotts might be an effective channel to put pressure on Catalan electorate and politicians and make them think twice about some political moves that part of the Spanish population consider contrary to their interests. In any case, this kind of political reactions generated by the relation between Catalonia and Spain seem at odds of what happens in other countries with similar problems (Scotland and the U.K., Québec and Canada, Flanders and Belgium, etc.), where politically motivated boycott calls of this type are unheard of.

Second, **the main source of growth of the sector lately has been the foreign market. The sector exports 66.4% of its production (2012), but this percentage was only 51.6% in 2001 and 33.9% in 1990. Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the United States and Japan are the main export destinations**.21 This, together with the fact that more or less half of the domestic sales take place in the Catalan market, make the potential impact of a boycott in the Spanish market much less important today than a few years ago.The data is also disaggregated by eight different territories in Spain (see Map 2) which include the two main metropolitan areas (Madrid, in the geographical centre of Spain and political capital of the country, and Barcelona, the main city in the region of Catalonia) and six other regions which group all Spanish provinces (except the Canary Islands) according to geographical criteria which do not correspond exactly to administrative and political divisions in Spain.

Albert Banal-Estanol (The Conversation) October 2017

<https://theconversation.com/catalonia-spain-and-the-economic-consequences-of-a-split-85557>

Another issue is government debt. The new Spanish state and Catalonia would need to negotiate the allocation of joint assets and liabilities. Currently, most of the public debt in Spain is issued by the Spanish government. The Catalan government has a relatively small public debt of its own, on top of its proportional share of the Spanish government debt, which Catalonia would probably also need to take on as part of the split negotiation. The Catalan government would probably need to seek funding from financial markets. This could be possible if it becomes an independent state which raises its own taxes. Although the new Spanish state may be in a worse financial situation than it currently is, it would retain the support of the European Central Bank. In the short-run the split may be costly, as both sides may also face economic uncertainty and disruptions to trade, as their populations may boycott each other’s goods and services (as has happened [at previous times of tension](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/13/world/europe/a-war-of-words-over-catalonia-sets-off-a-war-of-wine.html)). Because of the size difference, Catalonia would end up suffering more from this (the rest of Spain accounts for one third of Catalan exports). But it is unclear how long boycotts would last, and how restrictive they might be. **Businesses may also search out other markets, as they have even in the recent past. Exports of Cava from Catalonia to other countries, for example, increased substantially following an informal boycott** [**from the rest of Spain ten years ago**](https://econpapers.repec.org/article/bpjbejeap/v_3a16_3ay_3a2016_3ai_3a1_3ap_3a185-218_3an_3a3.htm)**.**

### A2: Infrastructure Financed by the State

### A2: Tourism

#### De-Link this argument. Burgen 17 writes that Public unrest caused by Catalonia’s referendum led to the decrease in tourism. Public unrest caused by Catalonia’s struggle for independence is not the same as an independent Catalonia

#### Turn this argument. Ritter 18 writes that the violence is mainly found in the fight for independence. If Spain grants Catalonia its independence, police violence against separatist supporters and public rallies and protests for independence will all end. These are the factors which scared off tourists in the first place and lead to the decrease in tourism. If these factors no longer exist, that means tourists no longer have a reason to avoid Catalonia, leading to tourism resuming at its normal pace. However, if the status quo remains, the fight for independence will continue and public unrest and protests will remain and tourism in Catalonia will still decrease.

“Michael J. Ritter, J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, B.A., Trinity University; “Topic Overview: Catalonia Independence,” The Forensics Files LLP, Jan. 2018”

**All of the harms that usually attend to a country getting its independence is in the process of declaring independence and violent fighting for that independence. If Spain can just “grant” Catalonia independence, that solves any need for future violence.** It is difficult to think of a time when a country voluntarily gave one of its territories independence without war or significant violence. Compared to other circumstances, the situation in Catalonia is not that bad. In the most recent violence, no one died, but there were nearly one thousand people injured. Voluntarily granting a region independence, which the resolution proposes, its virtually unheard of.

Burgen, Stephen. “Catalonia tourism slumps 15% since referendum violence.” The Guardian. Oct 20, 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/20/catalonia-tourism-slumps-15-since-referendum-violence

**Tourism to Catalonia has slumped by 15% in the two weeks since the region’s controversial referendum on independence, according to industry experts. August’s terror attacks in Barcelona and the seaside resort of Cambrils, which left 16 people dead, scarcely dented tourist numbers, but images of police violence and rallies around the 1 October vote on independence are taking their toll.** There has been no sign of tensions easing between the Catalan and Spanish governments following the vote, which has led to Spain’s biggest political crisis for 40 years, and has seen thousands turn out on the streets for opposing protests for and against the independence movement. On Thursday, the Spanish government said it would [make good on its threat to suspend Catalonia’s autonomy and impose direct rule](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/18/spain-direct-rule-catalonia-deadline-direct-rule) after the region’s president refused to abandon the push for independence. **It plans to hold an emergency meeting on the issue on Saturday. José Luis Zoreda, vice-president of the tourist association Exceltur, said tourist activity in Catalonia had fallen by 15% in the weeks following the referendum compared to the same period last year.**

### A2: Currency

#### Parada 17 contends that Catalonia could still use the euro even without EU consent, similar to Kosovo or Montenegro and continues that that no economic agent in Europe or in the world would want Catalonia to leave the euro, due to Catalonia’s robust economy

#### Catalonia would still remain the EU and would remain in the Eurozone. In the resolution we see that Spain is Granting independence, meaning that Catalonia will be recognized and other countries and organizations, such as the EU, stated that they would recognize an independent Catalonia through the means of the Spain’s constitution, which is what will happen in the aff world.

Parada, Guiomar. [Reporter for East West]. “The economic challenge of an independent Catalonia,” EastWest. 21 September 2017.

**Catalonia could actually continue to use the euro even without an EU consent, like Kosovo and Montenegro. ”No economic agent in Europe or in the world would want Catalonia to leave the euro**,” said economist David Ros, a member of the College of Economists in Catalonia. ”For the ECB it would entail little more than changing a zip code, and it would be in its interest, and in that of the EU, if the goal is to preserve the integrity of the European single market, its unified payment system, supervision over systemic risk, liquidity….”

Alfons Lopez Tena [member of Catalan Parliament from 2010 - 2012] and ElisendaPaluzie [associate professor of economics and the Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Barcelona University], “Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain,” Business Insider, February 24 2016. Available at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/economicsof-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2>

Velvet divorce scenario**: agreed secession. The independent Catalonia is recognized by Spain, becomes a full EU member- state, enters the UN and all the international organizations, assumes its rights and obligations under the existing treaties, etc. In this case few are the economic impacts on economics since almost everything goes on as usual.** Catalonia would gain full control of its own taxes, hence around €16 billion ($21 billion) wouldn’t be siphoned off by Spain every year; economic policies best suited to Catalan needs may be developed if voters choose wisely; and both parts take their fair share of former Spain’s public assets and debt in application of the Vienna Convention of 1983. Spain’s only loss should be the fore-mentioned Catalan taxes, around 2% of Spanish GDP every year: a big but not an overwhelming blow.

SBS News. October 8, 2017. <<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/could-an-independent-catalonia-stay-in-the-eu>>

**European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker has made it clear Brussels would only respect a vote for independence if it was held in line with the Spanish constitution.** EU members "will not recognise Catalonia as a state if it is created in violation of the law and particularly the Spanish constitution", said Jean-Claude Piris, an expert in European law. Membership talks for Catalonia would likely be different from those currently under way for candidate countries such as the Balkan states and Turkey, which have to harmonise their legislation and foreign policy as well as bring human rights standards up to EU standards. Catalonia has sought to get ahead on this point by passing a law last month that said all EU laws would apply in its territory even if it was no longer a member.

### A2: Harms Euro

#### It would hurt the euro more to have the conflict continue escalating, which we say is going to happen in the con world.

#### Parada 17 contends that Catalonia could still use the euro even without EU consent, similar to Kosovo or Montenegro and continues that that no economic agent in Europe or in the world would want Catalonia to leave the euro, due to Catalonia’s robust economy

#### Catalonia would still remain the EU and would remain in the Eurozone, so this won’t be a problem. In the resolution we see that Spain is Granting independence, meaning that Catalonia will be recognized and other countries and organizations, such as the EU, stated that they would recognize an independent Catalonia through the means of the Spain’s constitution, which is what will happen in the aff world.

Alfons Lopez Tena [member of Catalan Parliament from 2010 - 2012] and ElisendaPaluzie [associate professor of economics and the Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Barcelona University], “Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain,” Business Insider, February 24 2016. Available at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/economicsof-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2>

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**Catalonia could actually continue to use the euro even without an EU consent, like Kosovo and Montenegro. ”No economic agent in Europe or in the world would want Catalonia to leave the euro**,” said economist David Ros, a member of the College of Economists in Catalonia. ”For the ECB it would entail little more than changing a zip code, and it would be in its interest, and in that of the EU, if the goal is to preserve the integrity of the European single market, its unified payment system, supervision over systemic risk, liquidity….”

Peters, Will. “Euro's Catalan Weakness to be Short-Lived say Analysts.” The Pound Sterling Live, 2 Oct. 2017, www.poundsterlinglive.com/eur/7687-euro-down-vs-british-pound-and-us-dollar-as-catalan-referendum-reminds-investors-that-eurozone-political-risk-remains-alive.

For now Catalonia will remain part of Spain as the Spanish constitution does not allow for the break-up of Spain under any circumstance; so the impacts to the Euro are likely limited.**"The Euro has weakened modestly** during the Asian trading session **in response to the Catalan independence referendum.** At the current juncture, the initial modest Euro sell-off appears reasonable. **The situation would have to continue to escalate to have a more material and lasting impact on the value of the Euro beyond the near-term**," says Lee Hardman, Currency Analyst with MUFG.

### A2: Cheaper External Financing

### A2: Railway Corridor

### A2: Cheaper Medicine

### A2: Lower Risk Premium

### A2: Capital Flight

#### Turn. Even if companies leave Catalonia, the economy would not be as adversely affected as you might think. Kottasova of CNN Money writes in September that if Catalonia were to break away from Spain, it would allow the government to shift their economy away from a deficit to a surplus. This is really good because it would allow for Catalonia to reduce their overall debt and help their economy prosper in the long term.

#### El Mundo reports that this capital flight is very shortterm . Overtime, capital would come back meaning their impact is small at best.

Cards:

[Ivana Kottasová, 9-29-2017. "Spain loses 20% of its economy if Catalonia splits." CNNMoney. http://money.cnn.com/2017/09/29/news/economy/catalonia-independence-spain-economy/index.html] //BH

Catalonia accounts for nearly a fifth of Spain's economy, and leads all regions in producing 25% of the country's exports. It contributes much more in taxes (21% of the country's total) than it gets back from the government. Independence supporters have seized on the imbalance, arguing that **stopping transfers to Madrid would turn Catalonia's budget deficit into a surplus. Catalonia has a proven record of attracting investment, with nearly a third of all foreign companies in Spain choosing the regional capital of Barcelona as their base.** Volkswagen ([VLKAY](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=VLKAY&source=story_quote_link)) and Nissan ([NSANF](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=NSANF&source=story_quote_link)), for example, both have plants near Barcelona.

Jordi Ribalaygue, 9/10/17, “Year I of the independent Catalonia: collapse and 'corralito' when disconnecting from its main market”, EL Mundo, <http://www.elmundo.es/economia/2017/09/10/59b2c7e5468aeb81558b4607.html> //BB

Paluzie disagrees as to a possible disbanding of capital. He argues that "in the last five years, with the issue of independence on the table, foreign investment has not been affected ", although he adds that "if this increase occurred because the unilateral independence scenario was not credible, A slowdown in the new investment could occur in the short term until the situation becomes clear. "For the former dean of the Faculty of Economics of the UB, "it is doubtful that productive investments already established, beyond the threats of some companies such as Planeta, which have the political objective of changing the vote in Catalonia on independence" .

### A2: Fewer costs for financial institutions

### A2: Greater banking security

### A2: Tariffs(EU countries wont import)

#### EU Tariffs are very low. Fullfact finds that in 2013, the average EU tariffs for non agricultural goods are 2%. This isn’t a problem for Catalonia as Catalonia trade and investment finds in 2016 that the majority of Catalan exports aren’t agricultural goods. If countries trade heavily with Catalonia right now, a 2% increase in import cost probably isn’t enough to make them stop

#### Catalonia can negotiate free trade deals. Given that Catalonia is an important market in the EU, even if they’re not part of the EU its beneficial for all parties not to have tariffs. Catalonia trade and investment finds in 2016 that 2/3rds of Catalan exports go to EU countries, no reason why they wouldn’t want to keep this

Fullfact June 2016

<https://fullfact.org/europe/uk-leaving-eu-trade/>

There are exceptions for regional free trade areas and customs unions like the EU, but the principle implies that, outside of these, the tariff that applies to the ‘most-favoured nation’ (MFN) must similarly apply to all. In practice, this should prevent the EU introducing tariffs on the UK which would discriminate against us or punish us, or the UK introducing similar tariffs on the EU. The maximum tariff that can be applied will be the same as the tariff applied to the MFN. The EU’s MFN tariff has generally fallen over time, meaning that in this particular context the ‘advantage’ of membership has declined**. In 2013, the EU’s trade weighted average** MFN **tariff was**[**2.3%**](https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/tariff_profiles15_e.pdf)**for non-agricultural products**. This is an average figure and tariffs on some individual products are much higher, especially on agricultural goods

Catalonia Trade and Investment 2016

<http://www.catalonia.com/en/newsletter_news/newsletter/issue31/exports-2016.jsp>

**The automotive sector (17.9% of the total) and the chemical industry (16.4%) were Catalonia’s main export sectors in 2016**, followed by the food industry (12.3%). Along with pharmaceuticals (7.4%), textiles and clothing (7.1%) and machinery (6.3%), six sectors account for two-thirds of Catalan exports.In 2016, what stands out is the growth in vehicle exports(6.5%), food and beverage (7.3%), pharmaceuticals (7.6%) and computer and electronic products (13.7%). By contrast, exports decreased in chemicals (-1.7%), textiles and clothing (-3.2%) and metallurgy (-3.0%).Exports of high-technology products grew 8.9% in 2016, well above the growth in exports in the rest of all technology levels. Catalan exports are concentrated at a medium-high technology level, representing almost half (49.6%) of industrial exports in 2016.

**The EU accounted for 65.8% of Catalan exports in 2016, 7 percentage points more than in 2015**. It is followed by the rest of Europe (7.4%) and Asia (6.5%), which moves to third place in terms of exported volume, ahead of Latin America (5.9%). France accounts for 16.1% of Catalan exports. Germany (11.9%), along with Italy (9.1%), Portugal (6.7%) and the UK (6.0%) represent nearly half (49.7%) of Catalan exports in 2016.Catalan exports to the EU increased 3.3% in 2016. What stands out is the growth in France (6.9%), Italy (5.7%), Belgium (22.5%) and Germany (2.1%) respectively, the main contributors to the increase in Catalan exports for 2016. However, mention must be made of the decrease shown by the UK (-4.3%) as a result of the depreciation of the sterling.Globally, the fastest growing regions in terms of exports are Oceania (14.9%), especially noteworthy being Australia (14.7%), and the rest of Europe (5.6%), with Switzerland (5.8% ) and Turkey (7.5%) standing out. Catalan exports also grew in Asia (4.0%), driven by China (9.0%). By contrast, exports declined in Latin America (-7.7%) due to the downturn in Brazil (-25.2%). Africa also falls (-5.6%) and the Middle East, where the fall in Saudi Arabia is noteworthy (-4.5%).

### A2: Unemployment in Catalonia

#### El Mundo writes that because the new state would have to make new sectors of government, they predict an increase in employment due to the need of positions, subsequently decreasing unemployment.

Jordi Ribalaygue, 9/10/17, “Year I of the independent Catalonia: collapse and 'corralito' when disconnecting from its main market”, EL Mundo, <http://www.elmundo.es/economia/2017/09/10/59b2c7e5468aeb81558b4607.html> //BB

In contrast, the third expert insisted that a pension system in Catalonia would be viable "if the Catalan economy continues the current trend of growth and continues to lead the number of enrolled members of the Social Security." At the same time, it foresees that the creation of organizations of the new State would result in an "increase in employability, thus reducing the unemployment rate", which in Catalonia stood at 13.2% in the second quarter of the year. Elisenda Paluzie argues that the expense of building a new administration with, for example, its embassies and its own defense policy "would not only be covered by the taxes generated in Catalonia itself, but would have a fiscal surplus of 6% of the GDP , so the government would not need to raise taxes. "

### A2: Security and Stability of Investment

### A2: Catalonian Debt

#### Turn. We solve for debt in 2 key ways

#### Pastor 14 concludes that the debt is caused by the central government’s failure to compensate Catalonia for running its own affairs. It furthers that independence would halt growing debt and can easily be paid off through economic prosperity.

#### A Catalonian state would be able to meet its pension obligations finds Barcia 14

#### Bosch says that an independent Catalonia would bring in 16 billion euros in revenue a year which we would contend allows them to solve for their debt very soon.

 Oriol Martinez Alòs-Moner, economist and Vincent Pastor, economist “The Position of an Independent Catalonia in the International Context,” trans. Mike Holt, THE ECONOMY OF CATALONIA: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INDEPENDENCE, Comissió d’Economia Catalana, 2014, p. 14.

Alongside this, **the devolution process, involving a considerable transfer of powers from the Spanish central government to the Government of Catalonia, the Generalitat, in recent decades (basically from a demand point of view, in the areas of policing, justice, health, education and so on), has not been accompanied by a similar transfer in fiscal terms to meet the cost of running the functions transferred. This has contributed above all to the gradual increase in the indebtedness** on the Generalitat’s finances. The beginning of the global financial crisis (2007-2008) and the subsequent fall in public revenue made this deficit in the transfer of resources from the State to the Generalitat even clearer. All this is illustrated by two figures: the infrastructure deficit of 5.5% over the period 2007-2012 (taking this as the difference between central government spending on infrastructure in Catalonia and total spending in Spain given the proportion of Spanish GDP accounted for by Catalan GDP) and the fiscal deficit, has remained at about 8% over the last fifteen years. **To sum up, we therefore consider that, after repeated failures, the “compensation” mentioned above represents a phase which is now over. For this reason, we believe it is now particularly pertinent to highlight various features, all of them critical, in which the Catalan economy clearly shows a markedly European and international positioning. The different economic features discussed below - industrial fabric, exports, capacity for innovation, tourism and attractiveness to investment - are, as well as foundations of the Catalan economy, elements with which to leverage higher economic growth in a hypothetical Catalan State which is fully integrated into the international economy.**

Maria Garcia Barcia, J.D. Candidate, Nova Southeastern University, and J.D., Universitat de Barcelona, “Catalonia: The New European State,” ILSA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW v. 20, Summer 2014, p. 418-419.

**Catalonia would be able to afford its pension and unemployment compensation as an independent State, according the calculations of the Economic Ministry.** If Catalonia had had its own Social Security be-tween 1995 to 2010, it would have accumulated more than 24,774 million Euros. Catalonia, however, contributes 19.2% of the social contributions to the Spanish State, and it only receives 17.3% of the benefits.

[Sofia Bosch, 9-20-2017. "Spain's economy losing Catalonia would be like the US losing California and Florida combined." CNBC. https://www.cnbc.com/2017/09/21/heres-how-bad-economically-a-spain-catalonia-split-could-really-be.html] //BH

While Catalans only account for about 16 percent of the Spanish population, Catalonia makes a hefty contribution to the overall Spanish economy, [making 223.6 billion euros ($262.96 billion) a year, according to the regional government.](http://www.catalonia.com/en/catalonia-barcelona/catalonia-barcelona/Catalonia-facts-figures.jsp) This is around 20 percent of its total gross domestic product (GDP). Larger than the contribution that California makes to the whole United States. Using figures from official European and Catalonian organizations,[Business Insider](http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2) claimed earlier this year that the region would quickly gain about 16 billion euros yearly in the case of a split, as they would no longer have to pay taxes to Spain. This would then result in a loss of about 2 percent to the Spanish [GDP (gross domestic product](https://www.cnbc.com/id/44505017)) yearly. At the same time, Catalonia could take a potential hit, [as 35.5 percent of Catalan exports are to the Spanish market](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8-uo-o8-Ny_amg5WUl6ZkMtcTA/view). Catalonia would also have pay to create new state structures (embassies, central banks, etc.) which carry a large price tag. Earlier this month, Spanish Economy Minister Luis de Guindos claimed that Catalonia could see its economy shrink by 25 to 30 percent and its unemployment double if it splits to form a separate state.

### A2: Companies left w/o financing

#### Turn. Even if companies leave Catalonia, the economy would not be as adversely affected as you might think. Kottasova of CNN Money writes in September that if Catalonia were to break away from Spain, it would allow the government to shift their economy away from a deficit to a surplus. This is really good because it would allow for Catalonia to reduce their overall debt and help their economy prosper in the long term.

1. **Violence makes it harder to combat debt. Colm Kelpie of the Independent writes in October that borrowing costs have spiked following violence between the two countries**

Cards:

[Ivana Kottasová, 9-29-2017. "Spain loses 20% of its economy if Catalonia splits." CNNMoney. http://money.cnn.com/2017/09/29/news/economy/catalonia-independence-spain-economy/index.html] //BH

Catalonia accounts for nearly a fifth of Spain's economy, and leads all regions in producing 25% of the country's exports. It contributes much more in taxes (21% of the country's total) than it gets back from the government. Independence supporters have seized on the imbalance, arguing that **stopping transfers to Madrid would turn Catalonia's budget deficit into a surplus. Catalonia has a proven record of attracting investment, with nearly a third of all foreign companies in Spain choosing the regional capital of Barcelona as their base.** Volkswagen ([VLKAY](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=VLKAY&source=story_quote_link)) and Nissan ([NSANF](http://money.cnn.com/quote/quote.html?symb=NSANF&source=story_quote_link)), for example, both have plants near Barcelona.

Colm Kelpie ( The Independent) October 2017

<https://www.independent.ie/business/world/catalonia-poll-violence-hikes-spain-borrowing-cost-and-hits-euro-36189654.html>

Spanish **borrowing costs jumped yesterday as investors were unsettled by the violent police crackdown during an independence vote in Catalonia.**The country's government bond yields rose seven basis points to 1.69pc when trading began yesterday, their highest since mid-July, according to Tradeweb data, and outstripping a two basis point rise in benchmark German equivalents The gap between Spanish and German 10-year bond yields stretched to 121 bps, just below the 122 bps breached on September 26, which was the highest since June 12.Spanish stocks slid and the euro declined as well, with more than 85pc of those who voted backing independence - defying the central government which deemed the ballot illegal. "The sell-off makes sense, for today at least, given the headlines over the weekend and therefore perceptions of increased domestic political risk and uncertainty," said John Davies, a strategist at Standard Chartered in London.  "I suspect the market will need to see continued newsflow suggesting deteriorating political stability in Spain in order for government bonds to suffer sustained selling pressure."

### A2: Arrival of Goods to Ports

### A2: Catalan Pension System

### A2: Inequality in Spain

1. **Inequality in Spain is already really high. Claudi Perez of El Pais reports in February of this year that the levels of inequality, poverty and exclusion are among the highest in the EU and the wealth gap is increasing in the status quo. We would argue that their impact is minimal at best.**
2. **Cross apply gridlock. We get a risk of solvency of policy passage.**

Claudi Perez (El Pais) February 2017

<https://elpais.com/elpais/2017/02/22/inenglish/1487749800_131055.html>

The report, which EL PAÍS has seen, underscores the unquestionable progress made by the Spanish economy in the last three years, but warns that this is not automatically reflected in improved social indicators. Economic achievements have resulted in minimal drops in poverty and social exclusion rates, says the study. **The levels of inequality, poverty and social exclusion in Spain are “among the highest in the EU.**” The conclusions mirror [similar studies](https://elpais.com/elpais/2016/11/25/inenglish/1480064680_295464.html) by other international observers. Brussels is also worried about the [Spanish job market](https://elpais.com/elpais/2017/01/24/inenglish/1485269711_682910.html?rel=mas), which despite major reforms, still shows persistently high levels of temporary employment. According to the report, 13.1% of Spanish workers are at risk of slipping into poverty. **Inequality was already an issue before the crisis, and it continues to be so now. “**[**The gap between**](https://elpais.com/elpais/2017/01/31/inenglish/1485851381_419060.html)**the wealthiest 20% and the poorest 20% is one of the biggest in the Union, and it continues to rise**,” reads the report. The Gini index, a major indicator of inequality that measures wealth distribution, is also “among the highest in the Union” both before and after factoring in the redistribution [effects of taxes](https://elpais.com/elpais/2016/11/21/inenglish/1479718675_731634.html) and cash transfers such as unemployment checks and other benefits.

**A/2: Loss of EU taxes**

1. **Decrease reliance on Catalonia means modernization in other regions like we say in case**
2. **No recession. Spain has been bailed out before like in 2012, probable to happen again**
3. **We can pass policies now**

# Frontlines

### A2 Negotations

#### Lynch 17 writes that the Spanish government wont negotiate unless it’s in Spain but many Catalonian officials will be arrested if they go to Spain meaning negotiations won’t work.

#### Beer 17 writes that parties looking for negotiations have failed to take office meaning they won’t happen.

#### [Fiscal Autonomy] Catalonia already had fiscal autonomy but got it stripped away. We would argue that they would be extremely unlikely to push for it again

Edward Lynch, 12/30/17, “Trump has another shot to help Catalonia score independence”, The Hill, <http://thehill.com/opinion/international/366860-america-has-a-second-chance-to-help-catalonia-win-independence> //BB

While the Ciudadanos Party, which opposes independence, got a plurality of the votes, the majority of seats in the 135-seat body went to three pro-independence parties. Assuming that they can form a coalition, Catalonia once again will have a government committed to independence. For Rajoy, this is not going back to square one. He is appreciably worse off, since he cannot credibly condemn an election that was his idea. Predictably, the prime minister rejected negotiations with Catalan officials, unless those negotiations take place in Spain. With an arrest warrant outstanding for Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont, currently in exile in Belgium, Rajoy’s position is a nonstarter. Support from the U.S. government for Catalonia back in October might very well have led to serious negotiations between Madrid and Barcelona

Patrice de Beer, 12/23/17, “Catalan Elections: all for that?”, Open Democracy, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europe-make-it/patrice-de-beer/catalan-elections-all-that-for-that> //BB

Now we have a Catalonia still miles away from a consensus. Uncrushed, pro-independence movements feel much more confident, even after bungling their own independence process through overconfidence and under experience. Compromises appear as hard to achieve, the parties advocating for it – Socialists and Podemos – having failed to convince enough voters. And, bolstered by his personal success, against Madrid as well as against his ERC rival Junqueras, Mr Puigdemont feels more confident than ever. Another standstill. For how long, when Catalans are desperately wanting a solution and a return to stability? Spain as a whole needs politicians of a higher calibre and moral standard, but also with a vision. Yet they have to do what they can with what is available.

Sebastian Balfour, 10/18/17, “A Brief History of Catalan Nationalism”, Foreign Affairs, <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/spain/2017-10-18/brief-history-catalan-nationalism> //BB

In 2006, a popular campaign to improve the terms of Catalonia’s 1979 Statute of Autonomy led to a new statute, approved in the Spanish parliament and by a referendum in Catalonia. Significantly, Catalonia was referred to as a “nation” in the preamble. The new statute also extended Catalonia’s privileges in terms of taxation, judicial independence, and the official use of the Catalan language. Spain’s current prime minister, Mariano Rajoy, then leader of the center-right Popular Party, opposed the new statute and referred it to the Constitutional Court, which decreed in 2010 that parts of it were unconstitutional, including its expansion of Catalonia’s fiscal powers and its reference to the region as a nation.

#### Catalonians will only discuss independence while spain will only discuss autonomy

### **Write something about bilat vs unilat**

### A2 Most shit that says warrants aren’t true

#### Our warrants are about our independence movement’s perceptions on the world, not what is actually true.

### A2 Spain’s Economy would be Harmed

#### First, we would argue that voting neg also hurts spain’s economy so it’s nonunique

#### Spengler 17 reports that spain’s economy will implode over the next 20 years simply because its population is aging so fast that the cost of supporting its elderly will break the national budget. Remove Catalonia from the picture to have some chance of not only keeping Catalonia out of that mess but also make Spain now have to pay for Catalonia.

**Spengler**, No Publication, 9-30-2017, ["Independence for Catalonia is a rational choice," http://www.atimes.com/article/independence-catalonia-rational-course-action/, DOA: 12-30-2017] // ZWS

On the contrary: **the Catalans would be foolish to stay. Spain faces an insurmountable economic crisis over the next generation**, and the German-led bailout that got Spain out of free-fall in 2013-2014 will not happen again. “Sálvese quien pueda” – every man for himself – is the rational course of action under present circumstances. The relatively rich and productive Catalonians are better off on their own**. Spain will implode during the next 20 years, simply because its population is aging so fast that the cost of supporting its elderly will break the national budget. That is less an economic failure than a cultural one**. Spain once was Europe’s most Catholic country, with a correspondingly high birth rate. Its Civil War of 1936-1939 brought to power a Catholic caudillo, Francisco Franco.

### A2 Neg also causes independence, solves for harms

#### 1. We would argue that the aff world is a world of bilateral independence but the neg world is a world of unilateral independence as it is Catalonia seceding. This is really bad because the Guardian reports that a unilateral declaration of independence would only serve to create more uncertainties in Catalonia meaning we get to access our first impact of economic collapse.

Sam Jones, 10/27/17, “Spain poised to strip Catalan government of powers over independence push”, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/26/catalonia-crisis-deepens-president-carles-puigdemont-rules-out-snap-election> //BB

Miquel Berga, a professor of English literature at Barcelona’s Pompeu Fabra University, said images of Catalans being beaten by Spanish police as they tried to vote in the unilateral independence referendum held on 1 October had been “a great asset for the fight to obtain a legal referendum on the issue”. But he added: “A unilateral declaration of independence, although it would bring an emotional release for many supporters, would supersede those powerful images, cause them to fade, and create more uncertainties and division in Catalonia.” On Thursday Spain’s economy minister, Luis de Guindos, said officials dispatched from Madrid to oversee the implementation of 155 could face resistance. He told Spanish radio: “I hope that [Catalan] civil servants, who are highly professional … will be conscious that any act against Catalan society will be negative.”

### A2 Unemployment Turn

#### El Mundo writes that state employment would increase because Catalonia would have to establish new organizations within the state. They further that because of the taxes generated in Cataloniaitself, it would have a fiscal surplus of 6%.

Jordi Ribalaygue, 9/10/17, “Year I of the independent Catalonia: collapse and 'corralito' when disconnecting from its main market”, EL Mundo, <http://www.elmundo.es/economia/2017/09/10/59b2c7e5468aeb81558b4607.html> //BB

At the same time, it foresees that the creation of organizations of the new State would result in an "increase in employability, thus reducing the unemployment rate", which in Catalonia stood at 13.2% in the second quarter of the year.Elisenda Paluzie argues that the expense of building a new administration with, for example, its embassies and its own defense policy "would not only be covered by the taxes generated in Catalonia itself, but would have a fiscal surplus of 6% of the GDP , so the government would not need to raise taxes. "