



## LET CATALANS VOTE

**A majority of Catalans have repeatedly expressed in different ways the wish to exercise their democratic right to vote on their political future.**

**This strong demand to vote is the result of longstanding dissension between the governments of Catalonia and Spain** over the degree of cultural, political, and financial autonomy that Catalans should enjoy, despite several attempts to reach an acceptable solution.

As the precedents in Quebec and Scotland show, **the best way to solve legitimate internal disputes is to employ the tools of democracy.**

**To prevent the Catalans from voting seems to contradict the principles that inspire democratic societies.**

Accordingly, **we call on the Spanish government and institutions** and their Catalan counterparts **to work together to allow the citizens of Catalonia to vote on their political future and then negotiate in good faith based on the result.**

## SIGNATORIES 2017



**Rigoberta Menchú**,  
leader Maya K'iche in  
Guatemala, UNESCO Goodwill  
ambassador and winner of the  
Nobel Peace Prize



**Ahmed Galai**,  
vice-president of the Tunisian  
League for Human Rights,  
which is a member of the  
National Quartet Dialogue,  
winner of the Nobel Peace Prize



**Mirta Baravalle**,  
Argentinian activist,  
co-founder and president of  
Madres de la Plaza de Mayo



**Gerry Adams**,  
Irish politician, Sinn Féin  
president



**Angela Davis**,  
African-American activist and  
philosopher, professor at  
California-Santa Cruz  
University, USA



**Jason Y NG**,  
member and reporter of the  
pro-democracy political  
movement in Hong Kong  
"Umbrella Revolution", president  
of the Hong Kong PEN Club



**Piedad Córdoba**,  
lawyer and politician, mediator  
of the humanitarian agreement  
between FARC and Colombia's  
government, leader of  
Colombians for Peace



**José Bové**,  
activist of alter-globalization  
movement and French  
syndicalist, MEP for the  
European Greens



**Irvine Welsh**,  
Scottish writer



**Tsering Woeser**,  
Tibetan writer and poet



**José Shulman**,  
Argentinian writer and national  
secretary of the Argentinian  
Human Rights League



**Hélder Mateus da Costa**,  
Portuguese playwright theatre  
and writer



**Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht**,  
German intellectual,  
Comparative Literature  
professor at Stanford University



**Viggo Mortensen**,  
american actor

## SIGNATORIES 2014



**Desmond Tutu,**  
South African archbishop and  
winner of the Nobel Peace  
Prize



**Adolfo Pérez Esquivel,**  
Argentinean pacifist and winner  
of the Nobel Peace Prize



**Dario Fo,**  
Italian dramatist and winner of  
the Nobel Prize in Literature  
(1926-2016)



**Zygmunt Bauman,**  
Polish sociologist (Leeds)  
(1925-2017)



**Noam Chomsky,**  
American linguist (MIT)



**Saskia Sassen,**  
Dutch sociologist (Columbia)



**Richard Sennett,**  
American thinker (NYU)



**Harold Bloom,**  
American literary critic (Yale)



**Paul Preston,**  
English historian and Hispanist  
(LSE)



**António Lobo Antunes,**  
Portuguese writer



**Ignacio Ramonet,**  
journalist and former Director of  
Le Monde Diplomatique



**Johan Cruyff,**  
former Dutch footballer  
(1947-2016)



**Ronald Kasrils,**  
South African writer, former  
anti-apartheid activist and  
minister



**Wuer Kaixi,**  
Chinese dissident, a leader of  
the student protests in  
Tiananmen



**Hu Jia,**  
winner of the European  
Parliament Sakharov Prize for  
Freedom of Thought



**Tariq Ali,**  
Pakistani writer and activist



**Ambler Moss,**  
former US ambassador



**Andrea Camilleri,**  
Italian theatre director and  
writer



**Colm Tóibín,**  
Irish writer



**Bill Shipsey,**  
founder of Art for Amnesty  
International



**Peter Sís,**  
American writer and illustrator,  
winner of the Hans Christian  
Andersen Award



**Bořek Šípek,**  
Czech architect (1949-2016)



**Saúl Hernández,**  
Mexican rock star



**Pēteris Vasks,**  
Latvian new age composer



**Mārtiņš Brauns,**  
Latvian composer, author of  
the anthem of the Baltic Way



**Ken Loach,**  
English film maker