



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



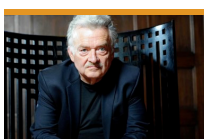
Tsering Woeser,
Tibetan writer and poet



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)



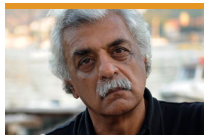
Ronald Kasrils,
South African writer, former
anti-apartheid activist and
minister



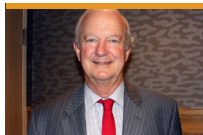
Wuer Kaixi,
Chinese dissident, a leader of
the student protests in
Tiananmen



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