
CATALONIA WANTS DECLARATION OF "INTERDEPENDENCE, NOT INDEPENDENCE"

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25.01.2017

EuroNews (24 January 2017)

Carles Puigdemont was elected as head of Spains Catalonia region in January last year on a platform of delivering independence.

He has promised a referendum on that issue by September 2017 at the latest.

During a visit to Brussels, he spoke to euronews Sergio Cantone, who started by asking him what he hoped to achieve.

Carles Puigdemont: It is not my objective today, when I am here in Brussels now, to be received by the representatives. The time will come when I will ask for a meeting and I expect, as has happened with other leaders from the European regions, to be received by the highest authorities and speak freely and openly about Catalonia

Euronews: Do not you think that the word referendum, the word separation today in Europe frightens other countries, and the EU institutions?

Carles Puigdemont: It should be noted that the first time the referendum word was associated with something governments opposes is when citizenship is expressed in a manner contrary to the interests of states.

Euronews: Would you agree to find a new form, bearing in mind Spanish constitutional reforms, of coexistence between Catalonia and the rest of Spain?

Carles Puigdemont: When the status of the autonomy of Catalonia was modified it was within the constitutional framework, it was a compromise to remain part of Spain and to have better relations than we have today . But in all these remarks Spains answer has always been the same: no. Spain has always said No. Now, if Spain after always saying no, says we are ready to talk, we always said we are ready to listen. I do not want to make a declaration of independence. I want to make a declaration of interdependence, because we must accept that in the twenty-first century the relations between states must be based on cooperation.