



# ELDH European Association of Lawyers for Democracy & World Human Rights

EJDM Europäische Vereinigung von Juristinnen & Juristen für Demokratie und Menschenrechte in der Welt  
EJDH Asociación Europea de los Juristas por la Democracia y los Derechos Humanos en el Mundo  
EJDH Association Européenne des Juristes pour la Démocratie & les Droits de l'Homme  
EGDU Associazione Europea delle Giuriste e dei Giuristi per la Democrazia e i diritti dell'Uomo nel Mondo



Equality Privacy Social Rights  
No Racism Peace No Torture No War  
Self-Determination of Peoples Civil Rights Democracy  
Human Rights Rights of Migrants

London/Düsseldorf, 26 July 2021

## ELDH: Unacceptable guarantees for former Catalan politicians

The European Lawyers for Democracy and Human Rights (ELDH) expresses its grave concern at the extraordinary measures taken by the Spanish Court of Auditors on 29 June 2021. The proceedings concern 34 former Catalan government officials, prime ministers, ministers, and other high level government office holders, who face allegations of alleged “misuse” of public funds for international activities to promote the cause of the Catalan independence process. In this case, the Court considers that expenditure (€5.4 million) made between 2011 and 2017 by the Catalan Ministry of Foreign Action was used for illegal purposes. \_

The Court has the power to oblige defendants to deposit a financial guarantee before deciding whether or not the trial phase should begin. If the amount (which can run into millions of Euros) is not deposited, a defendant’s assets (personal property, bank accounts, etc.) may be seized to cover it.

In the opinion of ELDH this action may constitute a violation of Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights, since the right of the defendants to a fair trial may be entirely inhibited.

One of the defendants is Andreu Mas-Colell (former minister of economic affairs and responsible for the Catalan government budget). An international campaign and petition of support has been signed by 33 Nobel prize laureates and other leading academics. Mr Mas-Colell was a distinguished economics professor at Harvard University and later held the post of President of the European Research Council. The Court of Auditors ordered him to deposit as a guarantee/bail 2.8 million, or his personal assets will be embargoed.

The members of the Court are not judges, but are political figures, elected by the Spanish Parliament and Senate. This makes a fair trial even less likely. These actions and the nature of the Court of Auditors pose a grave threat not only to the defendants and their right to a fair trial under the ECHR and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, but also to the rule of law itself.

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ELDH demands that these proceedings are terminated and that the 34 defendants are relieved of the order to pay these unacceptable guarantees.

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Below is a complete list of financial guarantee/bail to be deposited.

1. Albert Royo: 3.633.253,85 euros
2. Mireia Vidal: 3.164.694,10 euros
3. Francesc Homs: 2.952.689,85 euros
4. Andreu Mas-Colell: 2.803.115,96 euros
5. Artur Mas: 2.803.115,96 euros
6. Raül Romeva: 2.108.838,32 euros
7. Oriol Junqueras: 1.981.475,02 euros
8. Carles Puigdemont: 1.981.474,47 euros
9. Rosa Vidal: 1.735.885,74 euros
10. Andrew Scott Davis: 241.382,47 euros
11. Sergi Marcén: 177.952,73 euros
12. Joaquim Nin: 163.889,75 euros
13. Aleix Villatoro: 150.812,42 euros
14. Jordi Vilajoana: 147.168,45 euros
15. Manuel Manonelles: 141.187,33 euros
16. Adam Casals: 136.829,79 euros
17. Josep M. Suárez: 115.103,60 euros
18. Luca Bellizzi Cerri: 95.747,54 euros
19. Amadeu Altafaj: 66.609,94 euros
20. Marie Katinka: 49.130,73 euros
21. Roger Albyniana: 38.666,56 euros
22. Martí Anglada: 34.691,61 euros
23. Ewa Adela Cylwik: 29.456,38 euros
24. Maryse Olivé: 22.725,27 euros
25. Mar Ortega: 15.833,64 euros
26. Ramón Font: 12.300,00 euros
27. Maria Badia: 7.198,17 euros
28. Jordi Solé: 6.363,59 euros
29. Luis Bertran: 5.122,96 euros
30. Erick Hauck: 4.794,72 euros
31. Albert Carreras: 4.291,92 euros
32. Francesca Guardiola: 3.039,42 euros
33. Pere Puig: 1.117,69 euros
34. David Mascort: 1.058,70 euros