



Liberties and Rights International Spain Call for an Investigation into Police Misconduct in Catalonia



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The Civil Liberties Union for Europe and Rights International Spain urge Spanish authorities to investigate the excessive use of force by police against peaceful protesters in Catalonia.

The organizations ask for fair and unbiased investigations on police abuses last Sunday in Catalonia, Spain. According to video footage evidence, abuses of power and excessive use of police force against peaceful protesters were widespread in this case. Liberties and RIS also ask the Spanish authorities to conduct an investigation about the possible root causes of the abuses.

Liberties and RIS don't have a position on the Catalonia independence referendum, but they do have a clear position on police abuses. The European Convention on Human Rights and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights are all clear about the ban on excessive police force against peaceful protesters expressing

their political opinion. The 800 plus number of injuries strongly suggest that Spanish law enforcement agencies abused their powers.

“It is very hard to believe that what we have seen in Catalonia during the last few days on behalf of the police was necessary and proportionate. It is of utmost importance that all allegations of police misconduct are appropriately investigated and persecuted. Creating [independent police complaints mechanisms](#) is also essential for regaining public trust in state authorities and for safeguarding human rights and the rule of law in Spain.” - declared Balázs Dénes, the Executive Director of the Civil Liberties Union for Europe.

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* [Civil Liberties Union for Europe](#) is an EU-focused human rights watchdog organisation working primarily through campaigning and advocacy. We firmly believe Europeans have to step up for their freedoms and rights against populism and abuse of political power across the EU. Learn [more about us](#) and join to protect our liberties!