

**TORNAREM
MÉS
FORTS**

**Commitment
to freedom**



**ESQUERRA
REPUBLICANA**

SOBIRANISTES

I. COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM

The women and men that make up Esquerra Republicana's election ticket to the Spanish Congress and Senate are fully aware of the historical moment that the country is experiencing and the challenges the future holds for the citizens of the Catalan-Speaking Countries. And we are all aware that the November 10 elections form part of the context of institutional crisis of Spain's 1978 constitutional regime, in a climate of retribution and reactionary demagoguery against Catalonia driven by the powers of the State and most of the Spanish political class in the face of the democratic, peaceful will of our people to build a future replete with opportunity.

The defence of the right to self-determination, the call for amnesty in the face of an intolerable situation of political repression—with people jailed and exiled—and the need to recover the economic and social rights that have been worn away during the years of crisis, also depend on the results we can achieve in these elections. Now is the time to make ourselves heard once again.

That is why we must consider the wishes of all the citizens of Catalonia in favour of a democratic remedy to the conflict with Spain, and to commit to work for a political solution based on rights and democracy. We therefore publicly address our following **Commitment to Freedom**:

1. **We reject the unfair and unjustifiable ruling** against independence and **denounce repression in all its forms.**
2. **We defend the prerogative of the citizens of Catalonia to exercise their right to self-determination through a referendum.** It is a thoroughly democratic demand made by an ample majority of the people, without which it will not be possible to resolve the conflict between Catalonia and Spain.
3. **We will knit a broad popular democratic alliance for a political accord on amnesty,** an internationally recognized legal solution for exceptional political situations such as that we are in, implying recognition that those convicted have been victims of reprisal because of their political ideas and that they are exempt of any guilt.
4. **We will denounce and combat the repressive strategy of the Spanish State.** It is necessary to put an end to a series of repressive practices by both the judiciary and the police, as well as of the demonization by certain media outlets, mainly affecting those in favour of independence but which also touches different sectors of society—workers, media activists, journalists, civic leaders, etc.
5. **We are the best guarantee for the defence of the rights and freedoms of the citizens** and we aim to be a veritable bastion against the far right.
6. **We foster republican values of transparency and accountability,** opposing a monarchist, conservative state of poor democratic credentials, with disturbingly dark sanctums and free rein in the judiciary, the police and among high-ranking civil servants.
7. **We combat gender inequality and we are inflexible with any display of sexist violence.** Women must play a leading role in our society and feminist approaches must inform public policy across the board.
8. **We protect the interests of the common people and the innovative and productive economy,** inspired by republican principles and in support of social justice.

9. **We will strengthen the Catalan model of citizenship**, open to people of all backgrounds and respectful of everyone's sense of belonging. It is necessary to overcome the old mind frame of strong authoritarian identity nationalism that still persists in Spain.
10. **We will tackle the climate emergency**, working in a mutually concerted manner to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations to reverse the effects of climate change.
11. **We will pay special attention to the defence of the national context of the Catalan-Speaking Countries**, unceasingly asserting the right to self-determination of the different territories that make them up.
12. **We will continue to kindle partnerships with those parties favouring the Catalan Republic**, while also weaving alliances with the pro-independence left in the Basque Country and Galicia, and with progressive groups and movements throughout Spain.
13. **We will continue working for the Catalan Republic** since it is the only possible way to preserve democracy, guarantee social justice, equal opportunities, and the people's rights and freedoms. **To this end, we must redouble our forces in order to come back stronger still.**