PRESS RELEASE

Meeting at the European Parliament in Brussels between Amalio de Marichalar, Count of Ripalda, coordinator of "De español a español por la Constitución" 'From Spaniard to Spaniard for the Constitution', on behalf of 30 civil society associations, and Sergio Alonso de León, Legal Adviser to the President of the European Parliament

The Coordinator of "De español a español por la Constitución" 'From Spaniard to Spaniard for the Constitution', Amalio de Marichalar, Count of Ripalda, was received by the Legal Adviser to the President of the European Parliament, Sergio Alonso de León, and, on behalf of 30 civil society associations from many parts of Spain, discussed the following issues with him, after thanking the President of the European Parliament for facilitating the meeting.

- 1. The formal complaint against the unconstitutional amnesty law, which since its proposal and approval has been denounced by all the competent bodies and civil society, with numerous reports and opinions all denouncing this unconstitutional law without reservation, as it promotes seven corrupt votes in order to govern by changing sentences for political favours, which ends judicial independence, ends equality for all Spaniards, favours embezzlement, terrorism and Rusiangate, and has been met with daily protests in the streets since it came to light, with 566 consecutive days of opposition in the streets, a unique example in defence of democracy, in addition to the recent demonstrations in Burgos on 6 April and in Colón in Madrid on 10 May, as well as the one we are going to hold in Seville on the 30th of this month. Furthermore, our entry into Europe must have been fraudulent, as we had to grant an amnesty that had already been granted when the regime changed. Does this mean that we were not eligible to join Europe at the time?
- 2. The formal denunciation of the indiscriminate and extremely serious attack by the Government, led by its president, on judges and judicial independence, and therefore on the separation of powers; as well as the attack on the free media and the extremely serious contempt and attack on the Crown on a daily basis.
- 3. The condemnation of the flagrant failure to renew the General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ) which, having been agreed between the PP and the PSOE, has not been implemented, and the failure to comply, either before the agreement or now, with the European requirement that judges be elected by judges, and therefore the extremely dangerous lack of defence in Spain.

- 4. The formal denunciation of 41 attacks on the Constitution and the rule of law by the government, listed one by one before the Legal Adviser.
- 5. The complaint about the debt forgiveness for Catalonia, which breaks the equality of all Spaniards.
- 6. The complaint about everything related to Rusiangate, sponsored by the Catalan authorities, and everything related to the embezzlement of public funds by those authorities, who carried out a coup. All of this was allowed and endorsed by the government.
- 7. The complaint regarding the failure to recognise President Edmundo González Urrutia by the Prime Minister and the complicit support of a usurper, despite the fact that the European Parliament has recognised him, except for the socialist vote at the request of their leader, the Prime Minister of Spain.
- 8. The complaint regarding the appointment of the Vice-President of the European Commission, who, together with the Prime Minister, is ultimately responsible for not providing all necessary aid to Valencia, Castilla La Mancha and Malaga from the outset, in addition to the circumstances that may have contributed to the worsening of the tragedy, and for not even visiting Valencia since 29 October. He was also not seen during the recent visit of victims' and affected associations to Brussels, where they were received by the President of the European Commission.
- 9. The explicit condemnation of what it means to have a president of the Constitutional Court under the orders of the government. A Prosecutor General under the orders of the Government and under investigation, as well as the rest of the institutions swallowed up and taken over by the Government (Court of Auditors, CIS, Council of State, RTVE... and now also private companies such as Indra and Telefónica.
- 10. The denunciation of the lack of transparency and detailed information on the whereabouts of European funds and how they are being invested.
- 11. The complaint against the Catalan authorities for the failure of the Minister of Education to appear in the European Parliament last week to explain why Spanish cannot be spoken in Catalonia.
- 12. The complaint for not receiving two ministers on Monday to meet with a delegation from the European Parliament to explain why European rules requiring minimum percentages for parliamentary representation are not being applied.
- 13. The complaint about agreeing with a party that has murderers and terrorists on its electoral lists and having denounced Europe for not prescribing blood crimes and investigating more than 350 murders that are still unsolved, and not doing so, but at the same time facilitating the fraudulent reintegration of many convicted criminals.

- 14. The complaint about the most damaging corruption surrounding the Prime Minister, his government and his party, which scandalises the whole of Europe on a daily basis, as well as the democratic world, and violates the most basic ethical and compliance standards. This issue is extremely serious for good governance and the good reputation that must be demanded of any member of the State administration and, of course, with the utmost rigour from its highest representative. For example, Spain is being singled out for corruption involving the wife of the Prime Minister in the world press.
- 15. The transmission of the exceptional and democratic effort that Spanish society is making with daily demonstrations in Madrid and Burgos, which have now been going on for 566 days against the unconstitutional amnesty law; a unique example of the demand for democracy from the most diverse social base and of all ideologies. The daily cry for democracy by 'we the people'. The 293 consecutive days, today, of demonstrations for Venezuela and its President González Urrutia, his heroic opposition and for María Corina Machado, a beacon of freedom and democracy in the world.

The multi-million-strong demonstration in Burgos on 6 April, the mass demonstration in Madrid's Plaza de Colón on Saturday 10 April... the next one, in 'real time' in nine days' time in Seville... along with the other four mass demonstrations in Madrid, Barcelona and Seville in the last two years, something absolutely exceptional in more than 40 years of democracy. The new demonstration that we will probably also hold in Santander, in a relentless response to this exceptional and extremely serious situation.

As a result of all the above, Amalio de Marichalar has strongly requested the Legal Adviser to:

- 1. The European Parliament to make a firm statement at institutional level on all the above points and demand that Spain strictly comply with the Constitution in the face of indiscriminate attacks against it.
- 2. A statement calling for strict compliance with the principles of the rule of law that Europe advocates in the various articles of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.
- 3. An explicit statement to the other European institutions conveying these demands from civil society, and a request to visit them urgently with the mediation of Parliament.
- 4. The proposal to examine any legal and technical aspects in greater depth, with the relevant department, in order to resolve any issues arising from the demands made, based on the comprehensive documentation provided at the meeting.

- 5. The urgent need to obtain, from today's meeting itself, with a clear timetable, practical and convincing results that can provide solutions, reassurance and hope to citizens, whatever their views, but who see Spain's reality as being in a state of abyss, confirmed by daily FACTS that make the situation one that requires the implementation of extraordinary measures.
- 6. The urgent need for the President to be able to travel at the highest level to meet with civil society throughout Spain and confirm the extreme necessity and urgency in the face of a government that does not believe in the minimum foundations of democracy, and that the sequence of events indicated here show the absolutely exceptional nature of the extraordinary and exceptional measures that must be taken.

The extreme urgency of all this, in view of the situation that is also overwhelming the opposition parties, with the rule of law completely blocked at this moment and unable to adopt its own measures to defend it, as the institutions that act as a counterweight, such as the Constitutional Court, have been curtailed.

7. The confirmation of the long history of complaints over the last five years, which proves that there has been no reaction on the part of the government and, rather, a deepening of the rejection of the rule of law and the need, therefore, not only to draw attention to this but also to demand immediately a full return to the rule of law in spirit and letter, and not only to immediately cancel European funds to Spain but also to demand, as of now, compliance with fundamental rules.

Following a detailed explanation of all the above points, it has been agreed to follow up on what has been discussed, given the extreme urgency of the situation in Spain and where the Legal Adviser to the President of the European Parliament has recognised both the seriousness of the Amnesty Law, which is undoubtedly having an impact in Europe, as well as the agreement on the other points addressed, the complete dossiers of which have been handed over by Amalio de Marichalar to Sergio Alonso de León, Legal Adviser to the President of the European Parliament.

Amalio de Marichalar has asked Sergio Alonso de León to convey his special thanks to the President of the European Parliament for this meeting and to convey everything that was discussed in view of the extremely serious situation on which both parties agreed.