

**Question for written answer E-003486/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Commission position in the face of a possible unilateral declaration of independence in Catalonia

The Autonomous Government of Catalonia intends to present the 'Ley de Transitoriedad Jurídica' [Law of legal transience] once the illegal referendum that the Constitutional Court has already unanimously ruled null and void is finally prevented from happening.

The aim of the legal transience law is to launch, irrespective of the law and the current constitutional order, a constituent project to establish a Catalan republic that is independent of Spain. The project provides for a unilateral declaration of independence.

The document states that the new country would continue to be part of the European Union. The Commission has already refuted this idea on numerous occasions; in 2004 for example, through former Commission President Romano Prodi, or more recently when the Commission stated that the Treaties would no longer apply and that Catalonia would become a third country vis-à-vis the EU.

Bearing in mind the threat this law will pose to the territorial integrity of a Member State, the Commission's position in this matter, and Articles 4 and 49 of the Treaty on European Union:

1. What will be the Commission's position in the event that the territorial unity of a Member State – Spain – is unilaterally broken up?
2. Does it plan to make a pronouncement on the EU's future relationship with Catalonia in the event that this law is passed?