

**Question for written answer E-003539/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Dolors Montserrat (PPE)

Subject: Closed-door agreements between the Spanish Government and a fugitive from justice concluded in a non-EU country

The Spanish Government – through the Socialist Party – held meetings in a non-EU country with a fugitive from justice, indicted for corruption, to agree on concessions that go against the rule of law in exchange for parliamentary support and the ability to govern. ‘Lawfare’ is among these concessions, with the prime minister himself now publicly saying that ‘lawfare’ exists in Spain, and there is even talk of a referendum on self-determination.

The secretive nature of the entirely clandestine meeting, devoid of information or transparency, held outside the EU and in the presence of an international mediator, is unacceptable in a European democracy. Nobody knows what agreements have been made.

In view of these events, which are harmful to Spain and the EU's reputation:

1. What is the Commission's view, in the light of the EU Treaties, of the negotiation of concessions that run counter to the rule of law with a fugitive from justice in a non-EU country, meeting in a secret office of a foreign country and not in the national parliament?
2. Will the Commission ask the Spanish Government for the actual minutes of those clandestine meetings with secret agreements?

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