

A colony, until when?

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The PSOE government's method for dealing with the conflict with Catalonia has not essentially changed from that applied by the previous government of the corrupt PP party. That is, it consists fundamentally of applying repression to try to avoid talking about the subject, either within the state or abroad. A member of the PSOE government, the foreign minister, Mr Borrell, during the election campaign of December 2017 even went as far as to claim that Catalonia was a sick country. Simply for demanding human rights! That takes us back to the times of the USSR, when political dissidents were sent to psychiatric hospitals, and we all know how that ended. However, it is not an individual problem, but a collective one, that of a millennial nation. That's why he also talked about "disinfecting" in referring to the Catalan case. This is even worse: if we remember the Nazis' approach to the Jews.

However, despite the numbers of political prisoners and exiles, despite all the neo-fascist drift of Spain, this policy has failed because of the democratic resistance of the Catalan people to put an end to the colonial treatment it receives from the central State. The recent massive and peaceful rally, the largest in Europe in recent times, on the national day of Catalonia on September 11, 2018, convened to support the proclaimed Catalan Republic on October 27, 2017, made this clearly evident.

Yet, there are still people who think time

points to a unification of states, rather than segregation. Are they right? Since 1990, over a dozen new states have been created in Europe, of which seven are members of the European Union (EU). And is the size of states important? With regard to the welfare of the population it appears that it does not. In Europe, relatively small countries, such as Luxembourg, Norway,

come valid? It would not seem so. And more in the case of Catalonia, which has the central state against it, which lately has taken its structural Catalanophobia to intolerable extremes.

Above all, unification or not, international law must be respected. And a key point is the right of self-determination of peoples. Unlike the example of the United Kingdom with Scotland, Spain does not accept this for the Catalan people. So, despite having ratified the Charter of the United Nations and the International Covenants where this right is enshrined, and which the Spanish constitution itself (art. 96) obliges respect for ratified international agreements. Therefore, it is not correct at all to argue that it is an internal problem with respect to the Spanish Constitution. On the other hand, the Catalan case has great political importance. In the eyes of the whole world, the democratic credibility of the EU was damaged with the violation of national and human rights that have occurred in Catalonia. Even in non-democratic states, such as Russia and China, the criticisms by the



Banner at the Camp Nou stadium. EFE

Switzerland, Ireland and Denmark lead the ranking of income per capita.

Structural Catalanophobia

In the last few years within the EU, the states have gained in power. So, is the argument that it is not worth the trouble to create a new state because the states are over-

EU for the lack of respect of human rights in these countries were considered as hypocritical in view of the clear violation of national and human rights in Catalonia in the most recent months. In any case, the EU can still only restore its democratic reputation with the recognition of the Catalan Republic.