

Barcelona, October 2, 2017

STATEMENT

Given the acts of repression experienced yesterday in Catalonia during the celebration of the referendum convened by the President of the Catalan Government, as Writers' Associations who monitor freedom of expression, we want to denounce the violation of fundamental human rights, as those of freedom of expression, right to information and to meeting.

Yesterday, in front of a peaceful society that wanted to exercise its democratic and absolute right to participate in a referendum on self-determination, the Spanish police attacked indiscriminately and with impunity the defenceless people, as the main media from all over the world have shown.

The Spanish authorities have resigned once again from using politics to solve territorial conflicts and, once exhausted the judicial path to get political benefit, they have turned to repressive methods. Violence, and more if it is unjustified, is always unacceptable and it is never proportional. The intention of the attacks yesterday were to hurt Catalan people as a whole, after having violated their rights and undermined their democratic institutions for days.

We want to denounce these actions to the international community and we ask for the solidarity of all those organisations that work for the defence of Human Rights.

PEN Català
Associació d'Escriptors en Llengua Catalana