

**Question for written answer E-007106/2017/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jordi Solé (Verts/ALE), Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE), Ana Gomes (S&D), Bart Staes (Verts/ALE), Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE), Bronis Ropé (Verts/ALE), Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE), Estefanía Torres Martínez (GUE/NGL), Helga Stevens (ECR), Igor Šoltes (Verts/ALE), Indrek Tarand (Verts/ALE), Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE), Jill Evans (Verts/ALE), Josu Juaristi Abaunz (GUE/NGL), Mark Demesmaecker (ECR), Martina Anderson (GUE/NGL), Matt Carthy (GUE/NGL), Merja Kyllönen (GUE/NGL), Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL), Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL), Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL), Marina Albiol Guzmán (GUE/NGL), Kateřina Konečná (GUE/NGL), Eleonora Forenza (GUE/NGL), Gabriele Zimmer (GUE/NGL), Petras Auštrevičius (ALDE), Benedek Jávor (Verts/ALE), Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez (GUE/NGL) and Stelios Kouloglou (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Violence employed by the Spanish police in Catalonia

After the recent violent intervention in Catalonia, where the police employed brutal force and violence against peaceful voters, leaving more than 844 injured and using rubber bullets that are banned in Catalonia, Mr Timmermans said during the plenary session on 4 October 2017 that the action of the Policía Nacional and Guardia Civil was proportionate to uphold the rule of law. Having regard to the founding values of the Union as set out in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), the rights set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and taking into account the following evidence<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>:

How does the Commission justify the proportionality of the actions of the Spanish police on 1 October 2017 in Catalonia?

Does the Commission consider that the police intervention was in line with the fundamental values of freedom and the rule of law as enshrined in Article 2 TEU?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/10/spain-excessive-use-of-force-by-national-police-and-civil-guard-in-catalonia/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-europe-41459692/catalonia-video-shows-violence-as-police-tackle-voters>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.eldiario.es/rastreador/prensa-internacional-portadas-policiales-Catalunya\\_6\\_692990695.html](http://www.eldiario.es/rastreador/prensa-internacional-portadas-policiales-Catalunya_6_692990695.html)