

30th March 2018

Catalan Political Prisoners* Updated (below) 5th April 2018

As a result of a European Arrest Warrant (EAW) issued by a Spanish Judge, pro-independence Catalonia's deposed leader Carles Puigdemont is under arrest in Germany awaiting extradition to Spain to face trial for Rebellion, Sedition:-

"First Minister Carles Puigdemont has been detained in Germany when he was crossing the border from Denmark," Jaume Alonso-Cuevillas, Puigdemont's lawyer, tweeted Sunday (25 Mar2018)

Meanwhile in Scotland - pro-independence Catalan politician Clara Ponsatí surrendered to Police in Edinburgh, was arrested - and later released on bail

Scotland's first minister, Nicola Sturgeon, said that while her government supports "the right of the people of Catalonia to determine their own future and that we strongly oppose the Spanish Government's decision to seek the arrest and imprisonment of independence supporting politicians," her government is "legally obliged" to comply with extradition requests.

Adding that - *"Under Extradition Act 2003, Scottish Ministers have no power to intervene in the process and our police and courts are legally obliged to follow due process. This does not change @scotgov political view..."*

The Extradition Act 2003 was brought in by Jack Straw and the Labour Party, and came into effect in 2004 - Part 1 of the Act is the United Kingdom's implementation of the European Arrest Warrant framework decision ([Wikipedia](#)) and included Britain's acceptance of the European Arrest Warrant (EAW) related to European countries in the EU (Part 2 relates to other countries outside the EU) - Theresa May has agreed to continue with EAW after Brexit - as part of what can only be interpreted as a *one way* "deep and special" relationship between the UK and the EU - which could easily be translated to "ever closer union" (the EU's Mantra).

In response to the arrest MP Ian Blackford stated:

"I will be writing to the Spanish Ambassador in London, asking for a meeting and an explanation for the arrest warrant for Clara Ponsatí. Spain needs to think carefully, arresting politicians in such a situation is not the right thing to do in a democracy." (25th March 2018)

EU Political Prisoners

One thing that does not seem to have been mentioned much is that Catalan politicians are also EU citizens and therefore EU "Political Prisoners" since Brussels have turned its back on the Catalan politicians and stated that it is a matter for Spain.

Amazing how the EU pretends that it does not interfere in the affairs of its Member States when it actually supports their actions if they brutally suppress their own people - but this is about freedom of the Catalan people to rule themselves - not be ruled by Spain - even though, like Scotland (SNP anyway) they still want to be ruled by the EU.

- The EU wants nothing to do with attempts to gain autonomy and is actively punishing the UK population for such an attempt - even though it is lawful under EU Treaties and that punishment will enter a new dimension - courtesy of Theresa May's "Transition Period" - when it will force the UK into unacceptable terms and conditions in order to neutralise its competitive advantages.

- The EU cannot be trusted - it can clearly ignore the treaties and make up rules to suit its own objectives whilst legally enforcing the treaties on the Member State populations - through the Commission controlled European Court of Justice (ECJ).

So rather than treat the Catalan politicians as EU citizens - an inconvenience for the EU - it has tacitly encouraged Spain to continue actions which are supposedly contrary to EU "principles" and has made no attempt to prevent or even criticise the application of Franco era laws designed to suppress political expressions of freedom by the Catalan people.

The UK's continuation of alignment with the EU's foreign legal system (Corpus Juris) - which denies us our English Common Law rights and protections - is totally unacceptable and our government must seek to extricate Britain from such an alien system - which is designed for rule over countries under occupation and colonisation.

There is no place for political prisoners anywhere in the World - and tacit support by the EU for such political suppression in a Member State exposes its own disdain for democracy and lack of morality.

***Update 5th April 2018**

Carles Puigdemont has been given bail (£66,000) by the German court hearing the extradition court case and has stated that he cannot be extradited to face rebellion charges because the equivalent charge in Germany (Treason) must involve violence - that is to say it is only valid if he was involved in violence. The charge of misuse of public funds is still under consideration by the German (Schleswig) court ([Philip Oltermann, Guardian 5th April 2018](#))