

YES^{TO} CONCORD

PSC/❤️

PSC Declaration on the grant of pardons

This morning, at the Great Theatre of el Liceu of Barcelona, in front of 300 institutional and Catalan civil society representatives, the President of the Spanish Government, Pedro Sánchez, has made an announcement of great importance. This announcement shows equally courage and sense of State and it acquires doubtlessly an enormous political, social and emotional transcendence to the whole Catalan and Spanish society.

Tomorrow, the Council of Ministers will approve the grant of pardons to the sentenced independentist politicians who tried to break off our framework of coexistence in autumn 2017.

This is a constitutional and brave decision that shows magnanimity. The PSC Executive Board supports this decision because it values it as a step forward in the path to find a solution to the last years' complicated political situation, social tensions and though emotional situations in Catalonia, caused by the pro-secessionist project, that aims to divide, and that has brought backwards our society.

Granting these pardons open solemnly a new time for Catalonia and Spain. A new time of re-encounter and concord between Catalan people first, and between the whole Spanish people afterwards.

Dialogue has to drive this new political time that requires an ambitious vision from all the parts: it is time to be truthful, honest and to pursue realistic approaches. It is time to work together to move forward.

It is time to speak, to listen, to discuss and to negotiate. We want to shake hands to conclude agreements that aim to strengthen the ties that unify us.

It is time to overcome pain, confrontation, misgivings and mistrust.

It is time to bring back the world wide admired Catalonia for being a welcoming land, full of talent and with a huge entrepreneurial capacity.

It is time to get back together, to switch discrepancy into a motor of change to move forward and make up for lost time.

It is time to bring back the Catalonia that we have been missing.

Catalonia needs a new start. All Catalan citizens shall know that Catalan socialists will work tirelessly to leave the blind alley where Catalonia has been blocked in for too long. We will do so in Municipalities, the Parliament, in all the institutions where we are represented, including the Spanish Government and, above all, with the society. We want to restore the broken ties within the Catalan society, and between the Catalonia and the rest of Spain.

The PSC, loyal to its basic principles, aims to continue making out of respect, concord, reforms and the civil unity of our people its spearhead of its political actions. This was the ethical cornerstone of Joan Reventós political commitment and this is our main inspiration to tackle the challenges that we are facing. United and with realism. With optimism and with a shared willingness to offer the best proposals to the citizens of Catalonia.

**Barcelona,
21st June 2021**