



Mr. Michael McGrath
Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection
European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels - Belgium

Dear Commissioner M. McGrath,

Today marks the **45th anniversary of Spain's General Council of the Judiciary (GCJ)**, the Spanish constitutional body that governs the judiciary. We Spaniards cannot celebrate this anniversary properly because, as you know, the GCJ **does not meet European standards for judicial independence** and its reform remains stalled by the two mayor political parties.

In 2024, **your predecessors - Commissioners Didier Reynders and Věra Jourová - agreed to mediate between those two political parties** (PSOE and PP) towards a renewal of the GCJ, which had been blocked since 2018. The negotiations were conducted in an opaque manner: they did not involve the Spanish Parliament, any other parliamentary forces, the judiciary, or civil society. Instead of forcing a reform of the GCJ in line with European standards, your predecessors chose to endorse an agreement to renew the GCJ under the current system which does not meet European standards of judicial independence - and to pursue a legislative reform to reduce political dependence only subsequently.

One year and four months after that agreement was signed, the system sponsored by your predecessors **has led to a standstill** not only between parliamentary forces but also within the GCJ itself. The reform to bring the GCJ in line with European standards remains totally blocked. And as a result we, Spanish citizens, continue to suffer a politicised judiciary.

To unblock the current standstill, the organization I lead, ***España Mejor***, is calling for a **public vote on judicial independence** under Article 92 of the Spanish Constitution (you can find the details in the proposal attached). If the Spanish Parliament cannot agree to bring our judiciary system closer to European standards, **the power to decide on the reform of the GCJ should be returned to the Spanish people.**

Given the Commission's direct responsibility in the current standstill, I am writing to ask for your support to our proposal for a public vote. In 2024, your predecessors chose to side with the two Spanish political parties that have been at the very source of the politisation of the General Council of the Judiciary for 40 years. Today, **we are asking you to side with the Spanish people.**

Yours sincerely,

Miriam González Durántez
Founder of España Mejor
www.esmejor.eu

cc: President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen.