

S/M/S4.004|1-19|

MANDATE

MSU Support of the Catalan Independence movement

Submitted by: Community Senator (Liam Cosgrove)

Seconded by: MSU President (Katie Deegan)

Student Senate notes:

- Catalonia is a semi-autonomous region located in the northeast of Spain. The region has its own culture, traditions and language separate from Spain which date back almost 1,000 years. The capital Barcelona, houses Catalonia's semi-autonomous government and parliament. It is recognised as one of the wealthiest regions in Spain with a GDP of over €200 billion per capita.
- The people of this region have a strong sense of nationalism and consider themselves distinct from Spain. The region pays €10 billion more in taxes per year than it received in money spent in the region. Catalonia has suffered brutal treatment from the Spanish government. Under the Franco regime Catalans were forced to conform to Spanish culture, the use of their native language was outlawed, and thousands were executed including the region's President.
- Over the past number of years there has been a concerted effort in Catalonia to succeed from Spain. This has been done through peaceful and democratic protests have been met with violent backlash from police on the streets of Barcelona. Images of police in riot gear attacking peaceful protestors continue to emerge as citizens grow fearful.

Student Senate therefore mandates:

Maynooth Students' Union take a stance in support of the Catalan Independence Movement.