



Dear President Tajani,

In a letter addressed to you when you were a candidate to preside the European Parliament, a group of Catalan-speaking MEPs requested you to allow the oral use of the Catalan language in the plenary and committee sessions. On one side, these MEPs wielded that the use of co-official languages of member states in the European institutions strengthens the link between citizens and the European Union; on the other side, they also reminded that there are several bilateral agreements between Spain and the EU institutions, such as the European Commission or the Council, which allow the use of co-official languages in the communications between citizens and these institutions. Similar agreements have been reached between these institutions and the United Kingdom with regards to its co-official languages.

The response you gave to this letter stated that, in case the national authorities made such a petition, you would allow the use of Catalan in the European Parliament. We understand that there is no need for a request on the part of the Spanish government, since rule 158 of the rules of procedure of the European Parliament obliges to guarantee the oral use of EU official languages, but it does not impede to use member state co-official languages when possible. To this effect, it is important to highlight that the oral use of Catalan in the European Parliament would entail no costs for the institution, since there are several Spanish language interpreters who are also fluent Catalan speakers. Hence, we understand that this measure could be implemented instantly with no cost to the budget of this chamber.

Therefore, we call upon you to allow the oral use of the Catalan language in the plenary and committee sessions of the European Parliament. We strongly believe that such a measure would contribute to balance the unsuitable legal status of Catalan in the EU institutions, since despite having 10 million speakers and being the 14<sup>th</sup> most spoken language in the EU it does not hold an official status.

Best greetings,

Òscar Escuder i de la Torre.  
President of Plataforma per la Llengua.

With the support of the undersigning MEPs:

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**L'ONG**  
**del català**

**PLATA  
FORMA  
PER LA  
LLENGUA**

**L'ONG del català**

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