

CATALONIA AND THE PATH TOWARD INDEPENDENCE

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THREE STEPS

- **A JUST CAUSE**
 - **FRESH OPPORTUNITIES: THE NEW INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT**
 - **POLITICAL STRATEGIES**
-

A JUST CAUSE

- **The point of departure: a sovereign nation:**

“The Catalan nation has been constructed over the course of time by means of the active contributions of many generations, traditions and cultures, all of which have found their homeland in Catalonia (...)

(...) the driving force behind this Estatut is the aspiration, project, and dream of a Catalonia with no impediments of any nature to the free and full interdependence that all nations today require.”

“This Estatut therefore provides a definition of the institutions of the Catalan nation and of their relationship with the peoples of Spain, within a framework of freely expressed solidarity with the nationalities and regions that constitute Spain and compatible with the development of a plurinational State.”

(PREAMBLE, Projecte d'Estatut d'Autonomia. Approved by 120 Catalan deputies over 135, October 20, 2005.)

A JUST CAUSE (2)

- **The Spanish response:**
 - **"España es una nación y Cataluña, parte entrañable de nuestro territorio." (G. Peces-Barba, October 28th, 2011)**
 - **"En cuanto al término Nación, ha de advertirse que dicho concepto jurídicoconstitucional no ha suscitado ninguna polémica doctrinal (...) "la Constitución se fundamenta en la indisoluble unidad de la Nación española", dando al término "unidad" una doble dimensión: la de que no hay más Nación que España, y la de que ha de permanecer unida de manera "indisoluble". (Decision of Constitutional Court on the Estatut, July 2010, p. 853.)**
 - **As a minority partner within the Spanish state, Catalonia has no political or legal guarantees of any kind.**
 - **All past attempts at creating those guarantees (through recognition of bilateralism, "historical rights", etc.) have failed.**
 - **Catalan culture, language and finances are permanently threatened.**
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THREE EXAMPLES

(1) “SPOT THE DIFFERENCES”

1993

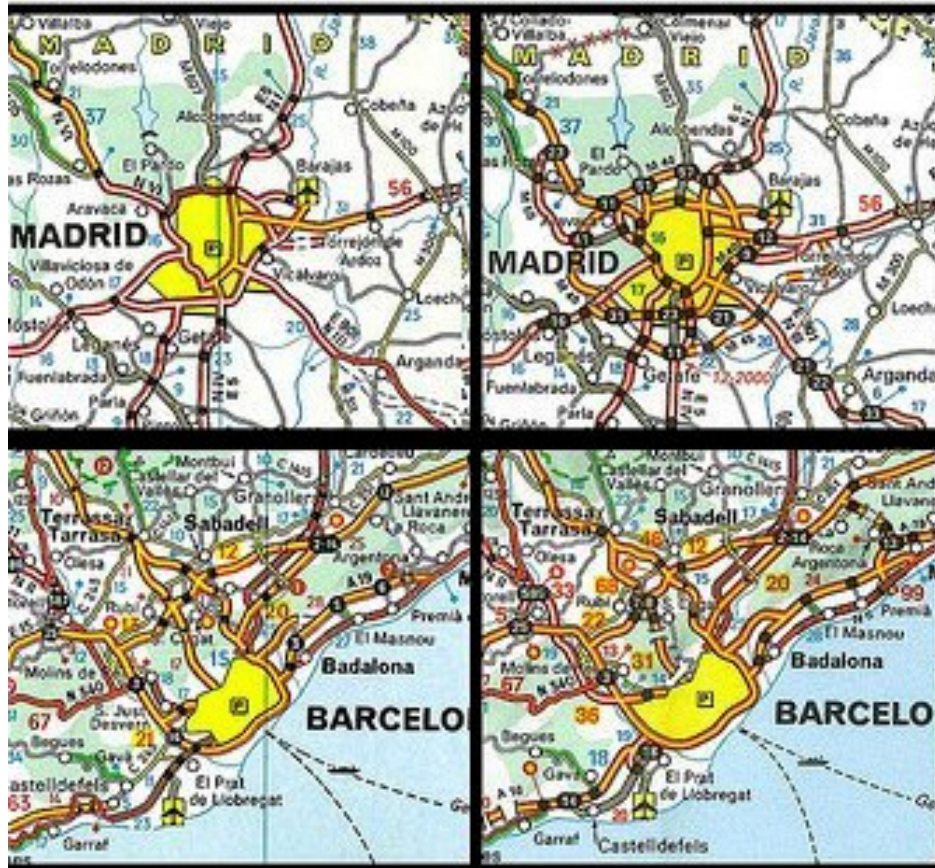


THREE EXAMPLES

(1) “SPOT THE DIFFERENCES”

1993

2000



THREE EXAMPLES

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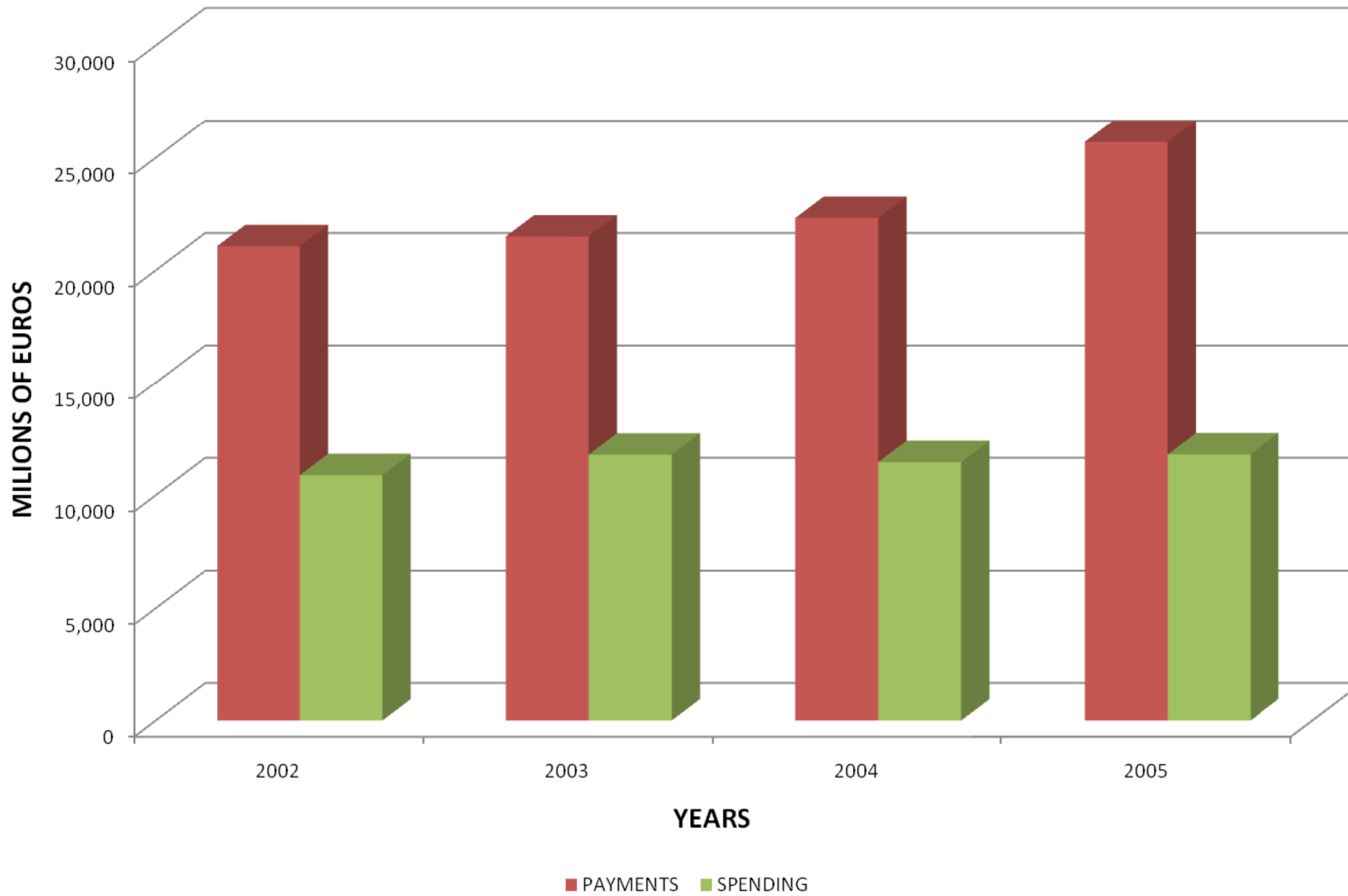
1993

2000

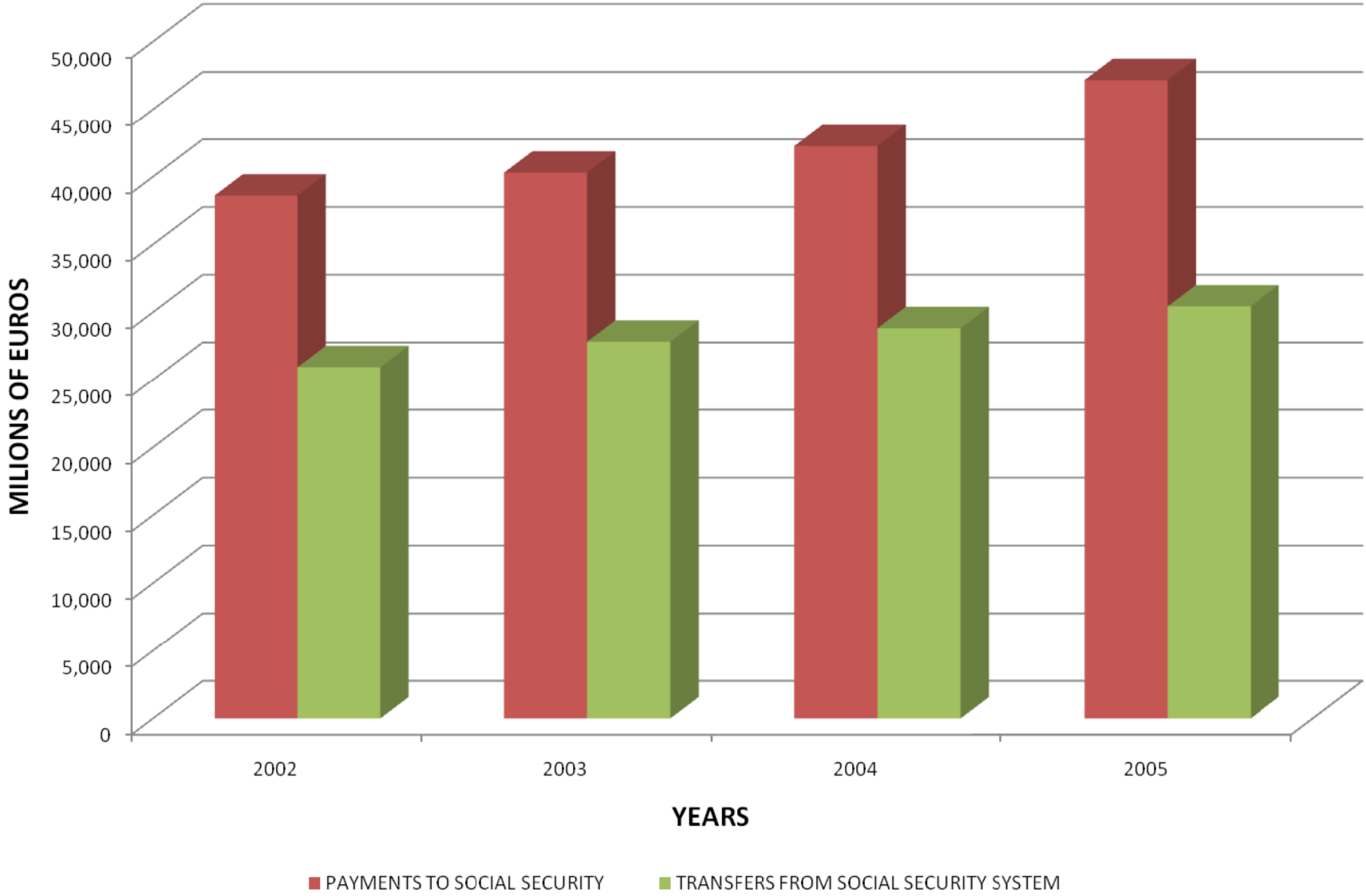
2007



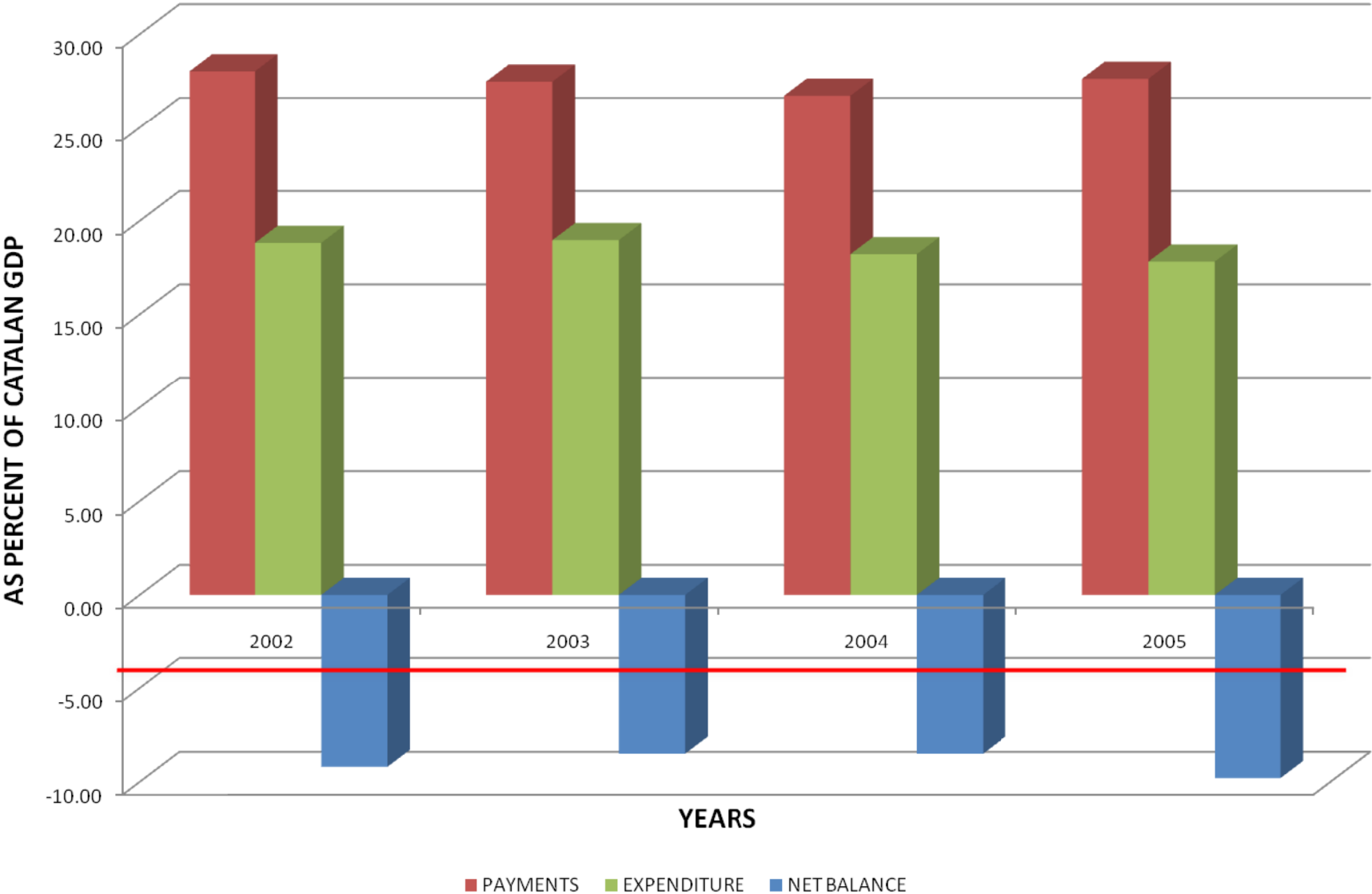
PAYMENTS TO AND SPENDING FROM PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN CATALONIA



PAYMENTS TO AND EXPENDITURE & TRANSFERS FROM PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM IN CATALONIA

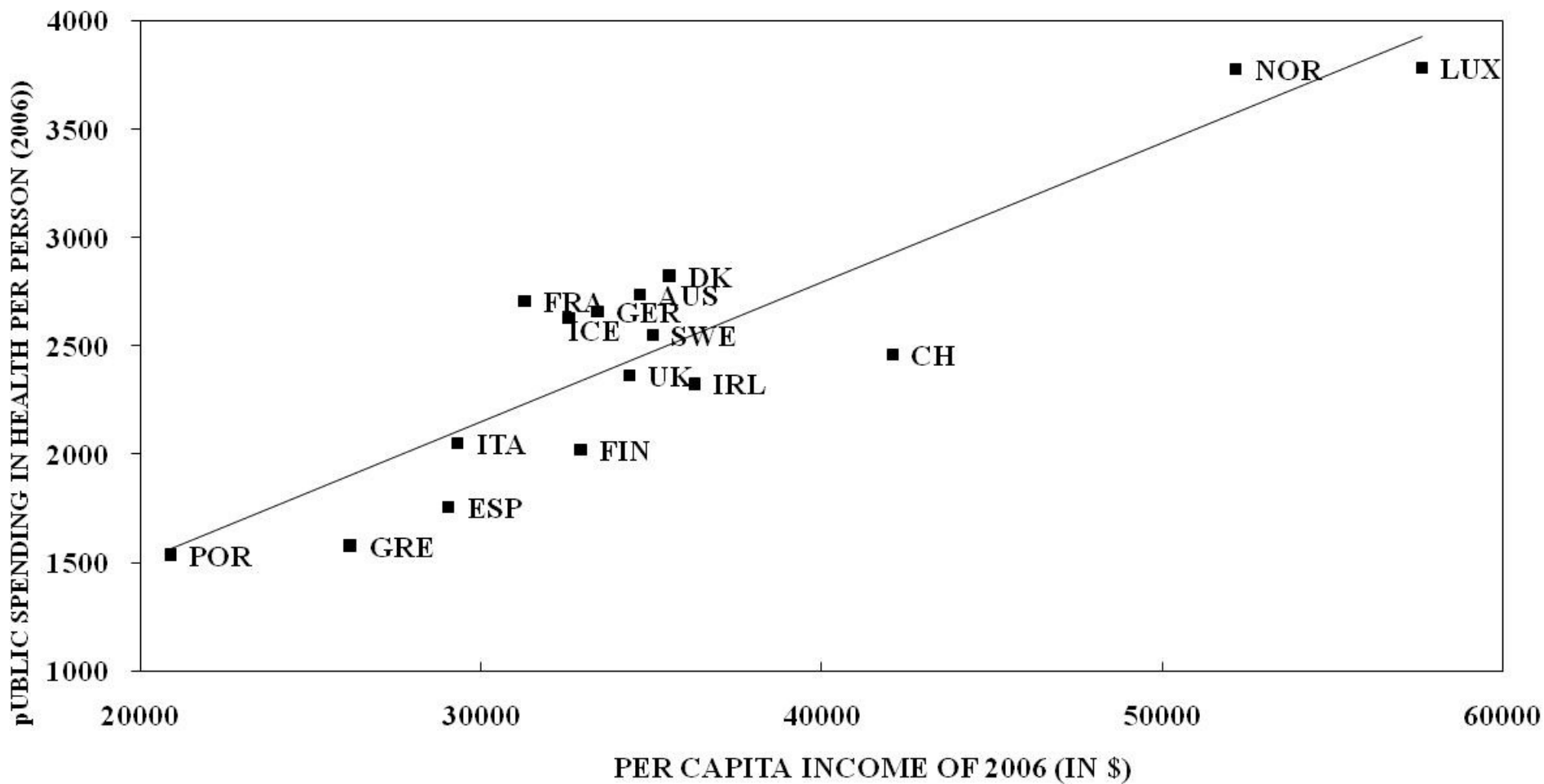


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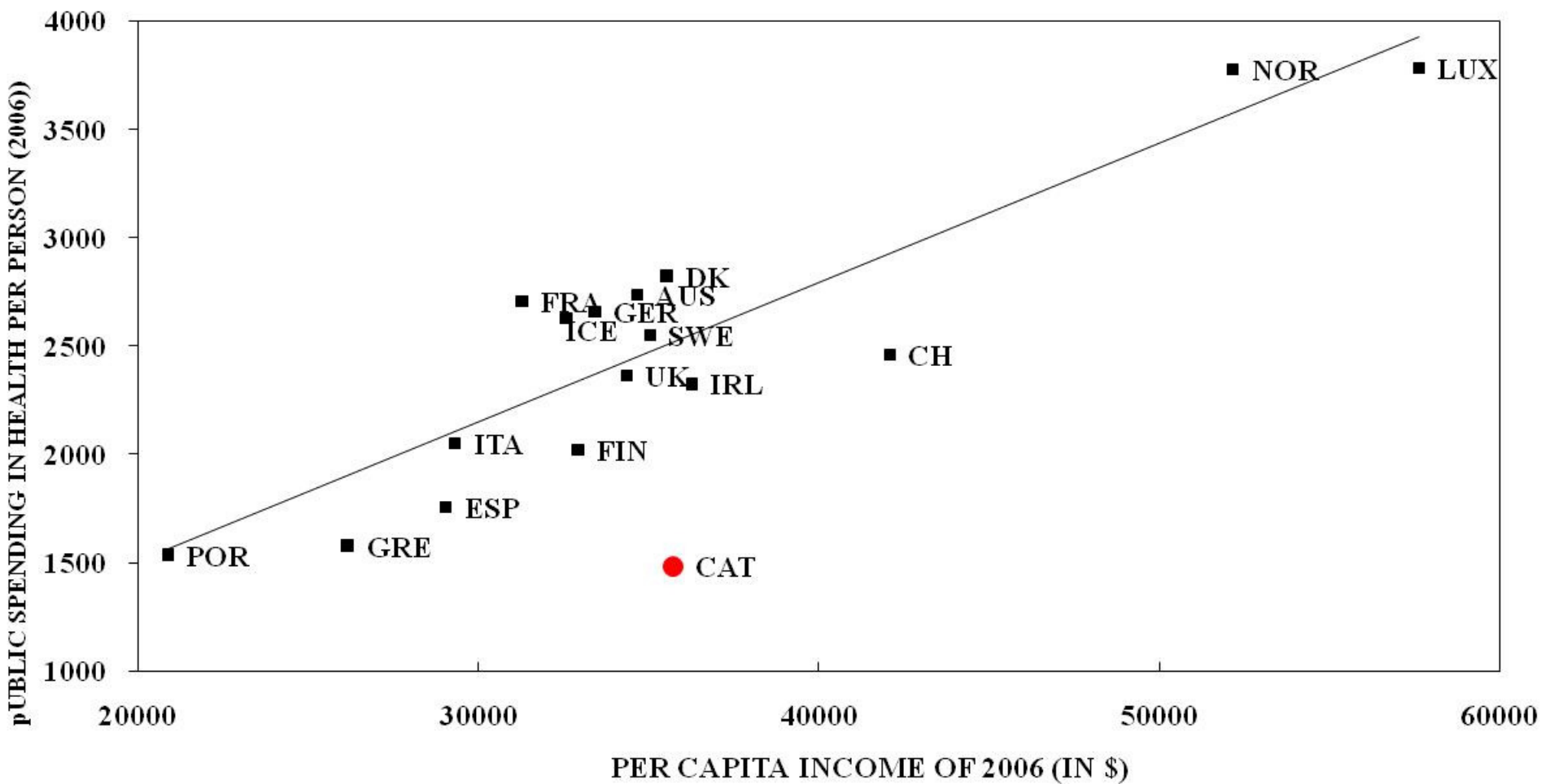
(3) WHO TAKES CARE OF CATALANS' HEALTH?

PER CAPITA INCOME AND PUBLIC HEALTH SPENDING)

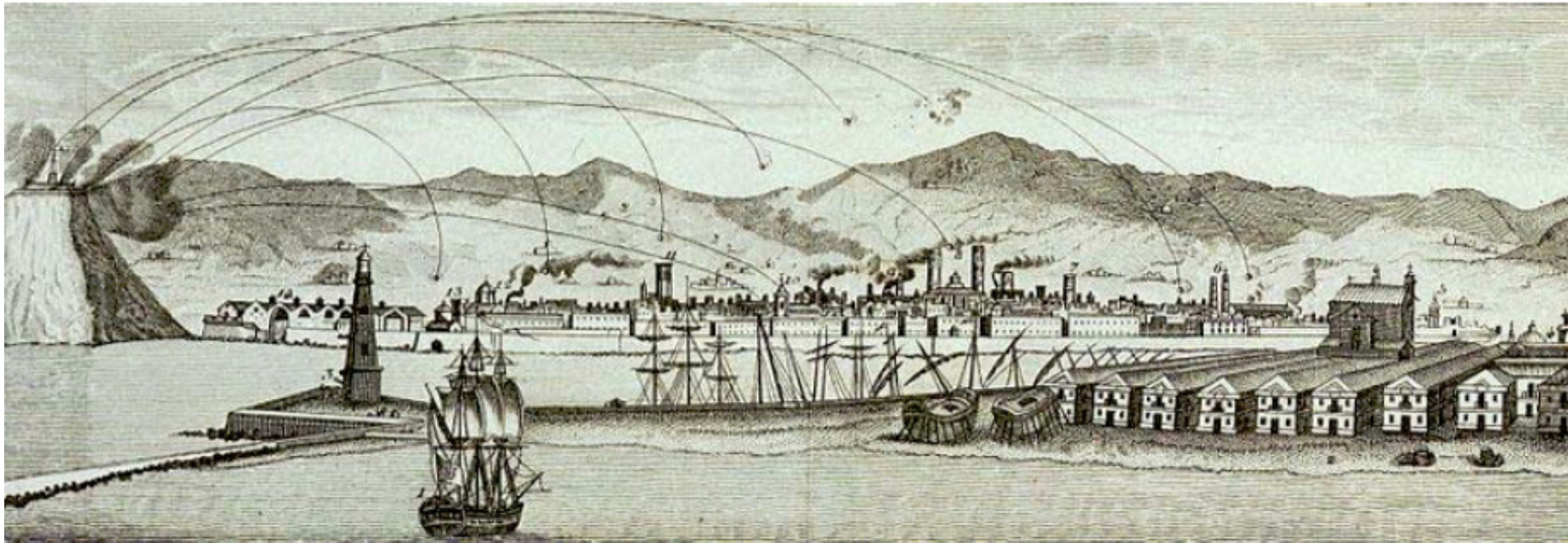


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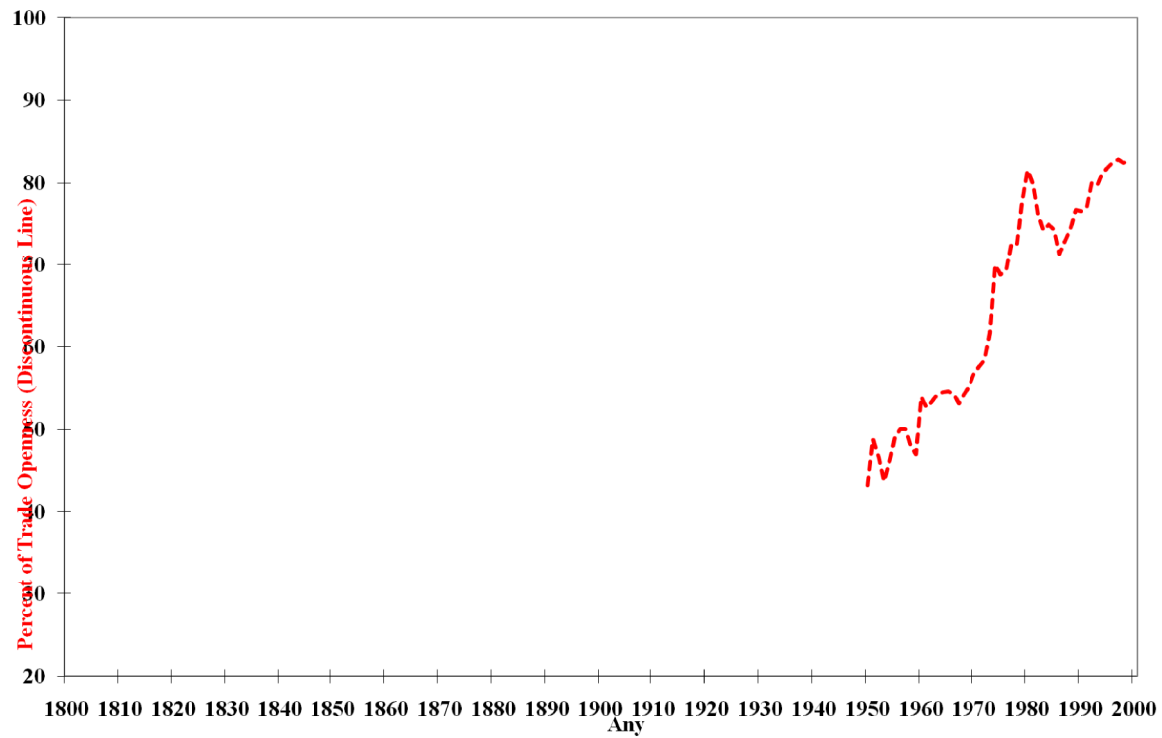


THE OLD WORLD



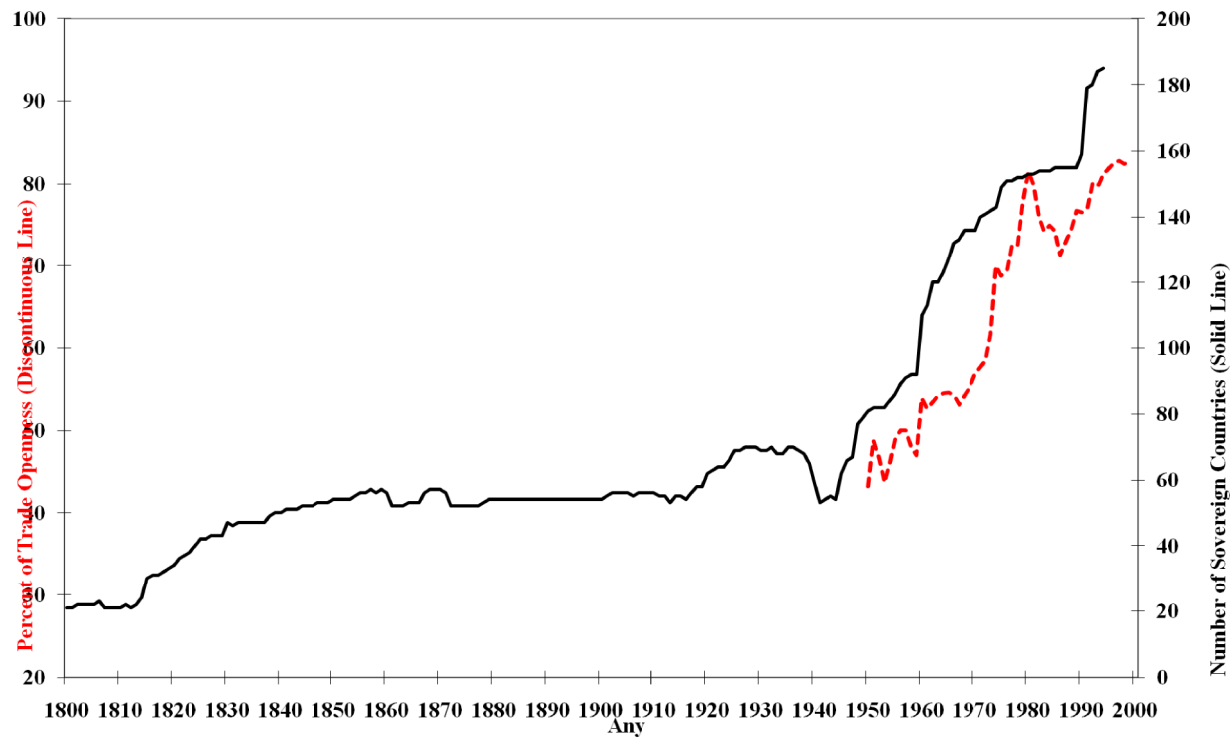
A NEW WORLD ... WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- The beauty of commerce:



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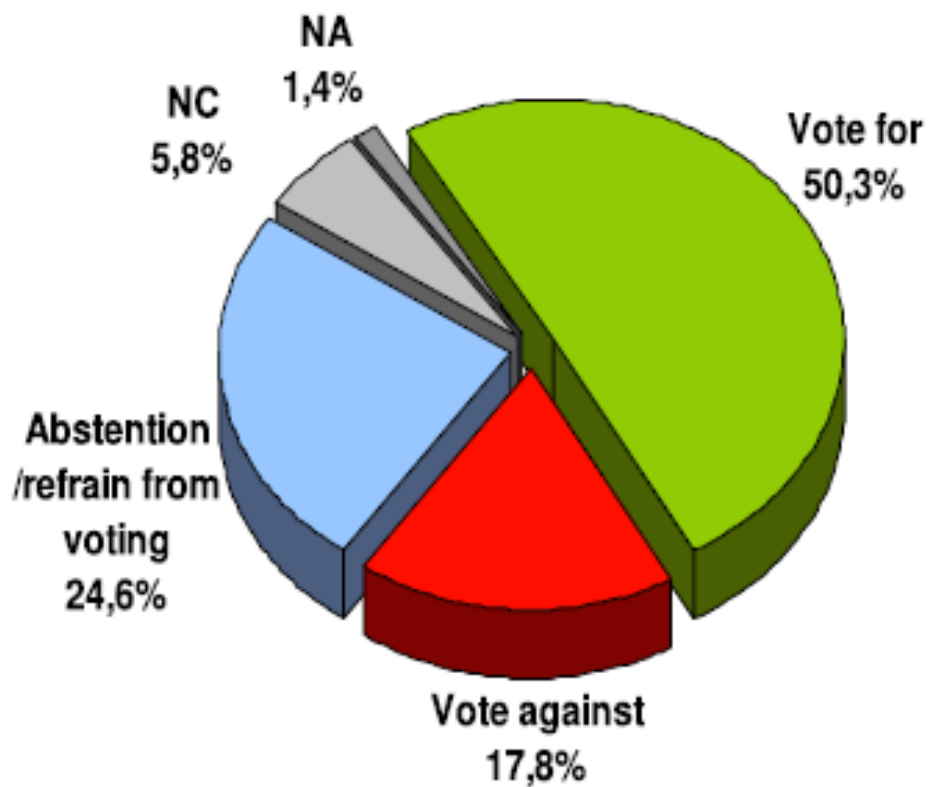
A NEW WORLD ... WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- **The beauty of commerce**
 - **Plus Europe as a Kantian project**
-

A RATIONAL CHANGE OF HEARTS

In a democratic Referendum to decide the independence of Catalonia, what would you do?

Base: Total interviews (2.614)



A NEW WORLD ... WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- **The beauty of commerce**

 - **Plus Europe as a Kantian project:**
 - **Still, as Prof. Dumberry stressed, Catalonia's membership in the EU will be the result of "very political decisions" – even if informed by certain philosophical and legal principles**
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POLITICAL STRATEGIES

- **Preliminary Points: (1) a democratic process; (2) in which our existing institutions; (3) work out a medium-run plan; (4) to make Catalonia a sovereign state.**
 - **Institutional declaration approved by the Catalan government to open the process toward secession.**
 - **Constitution of a committee to determine the legal and economic conditions to be fulfilled to establish an independent state.**
 - **Public presentation of the committee's report – to the Catalan population and abroad.**
 - **Referendum or, alternatively, new elections defined by the independence report.**
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□ **THANK YOU!**

