



Image: Photograph of "Catalan general strike of October 3, 2017 against police brutality. Protesters walking along Passeig de Gràcia, Barcelona city." Reprinted via CC BY-SA from Ernest CS.

Trying to Resolve Political Issues Through Law: The Spanish State and the Catalan Conflict

Dr. Bruno Aguilera Barchet, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos

Thursday, October 25, 2018 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm | Latin American & Iberian Institute

The LAII is located at 801 Yale Blvd NE, just down the hill and north of the Duck Pond.

Join the Latin American and Iberian Institute and UNM School of Law for a presentation with Dr. Bruno Aguilera Barchet, a Visiting Professor with the School of Law, as he discusses the recent political uprising in the Catalan region of Spain.

Catalan government declared unilaterally independence from Spain of the Catalan Republic on October 27 of 2017. This is not the first time that Catalans have rebelled against Central government. Since 1462 there have been 7 rebellions, including the 2017 one. What is new is that for the first time this secession attempt has not brought military intervention, but is rather trying to be solved through law. Could a political conflict be resolved by judges? It is hard to say, but in any case we are facing a new approach towards nationalism in Spain and in Europe, as the Catalan crisis is affecting the stability of the European Union as well. The Catalan conflict is in any case a good pretext to analyze if the nation -state is still a valid constitutional model in the 21st century.

Aguilera Barchet is a Visiting Professor with the UNM School of Law in Fall 2018. He is also professor of Comparative Legal History and the Director of the Institute of International Legal Studies at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Spain. He holds an undergraduate law degree and doctorate from the University Complutense of Madrid and has served as a Visiting Researcher with the Harvard Law School, Visiting Professor with the Università delgi Studi di Milano, and Visiting Professor at the Center for European Legal History at the University of Paris (Paris XII). He is a member of the Academic Council of the Center for European Studies, an official think tank of the European People's Part (www.thinkingeurope.eu), funded by the European Parliament.

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