European Parliament

Committee on Legal Affairs
The Chair

Ref. D(2023)XXX

Ms. Roberta METSOLA
President of the European Parliament
SPAAK 09B011
Rue Wiertz
1047 Brussels

Subject: ***Request for the defence of the parliamentary immunity of Mr Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó ((IMM 2020/2200)***

Dear President,

I am writing to you with regard to a request for the defence of his parliamentary immunity that Mr Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó addressed to you on 10 September 2020; the request was announced in plenary on 14 September 2020 and then referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs in accordance with Rule 9(1) of the Rules of Procedure.

In his request, Mr Puidgemont i Casamajó claimed that on 30 August 2020 the Spanish newspaper *El Mundo* reported that, in the framework of newly opened and pending proceedings at the Central Court of Investigation No 6 of the Spanish High Court, there had been a new criminal investigation brought against him and his collaborators. According to the newspaper's article, such investigation would include requests for phone taps. However, the article in question did not specify whether Mr Puidgemont i Casamajó had been among the persons allegedly affected by the alleged investigation and the alleged phone taps.

The Committee on Legal Affairs first held an exchange of views on 4 February 2021, deemed that more information on the case at hand was needed and, on 9 March 2021,addressed a request to the President of the *Audiencia Nacional* and to the Incumbent Judge of the Central Court of Investigation No 6 in Madrid (Spain), pursuant to Rule 9(5) of the Rules of Procedure, to clarify whether there were ongoing criminal investigation proceedings before the Central Court of Investigation No 6 of the Spanish High Court against Mr Puigdemont i Casamajó, opened either before or on the day of, or after the beginning of his mandate on 13 June 2019 and, if so, at which stage such proceedings were and, if any phone taps had been performed on Mr Puigdemont i Casamajó devices in the framework of such proceedings. On 9 March 2023, since no answer had been received, the Committee reiterated its request.

By letter dated 27 March 2023, the President of the *Audiencia Nacional* informed me that the Incumbent Judge of the Central Court of Investigation No 6 of Madrid notified him, by letter

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dated 9 March 2023, that there were no ongoing judicial proceedings in that Court in which Mr Puigdemont i Casamajó were under investigation.

Since it appears that Mr Puigdemont's request to defend his immunity is without foundation, on 19 September 2023 the Committee decided to discontinue the procedure, which no longer has any justification.

Therefore, the file will be closed and we kindly ask you to proceed with the relevant announcement in plenary.

Yours sincerely,

Adrián VÁZQUEZ LÁZARA