
BELGIAN COURT REJECTS EXTRADITION OF CATALAN SEPARATIST

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10.08.2020

EurActiv (7 August 2020)

A Belgian court on Friday (7 August) rejected the extradition of a former Catalan regional minister to face charges in Spain related to the banned 2017 independence referendum, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors could yet appeal the decision not to surrender Lluís Puig, but it will give hope to other exiled Catalan separatist leaders such as former regional president Carles Puigdemont.

The Brussels public prosecutor said the court refused to execute the European arrest warrant on the grounds that the Spanish authority which issued the warrant was not competent to do so.

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