


[WORLD](#) | [EUROPE](#)

## Catalonia Protests Roll Into a Second Day

Separatist supporters take to streets to protest jail sentences meted out over 2017 independence referendum



Protesters clash with Catalan regional police during a protest in front of the Spanish government delegations in Barcelona on Tuesday. PHOTO: LLUIS GENE/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

By [Giovanni Legorano](#) and [Pietro Lombardi](#)

Oct. 15, 2019 6:22 pm ET

BARCELONA—Thousands of pro-independence protesters took to the streets of Catalonia, in a second day of tumult over the [jail sentences given](#) by Spain's highest court to nine Catalan separatists for their role in the region's illegal independence referendum in 2017.

Police on Tuesday clashed with protesters in Barcelona and other Catalan towns, after mostly peaceful gatherings and marches turned partly violent. Some separatist protesters threw cans, bottles and other objects at the police, who charged them with batons. Some demonstrators also set fire to garbage bins in parts of central Barcelona.

Catalonia's regional government blamed small groups of violent protesters, who, it said, infiltrated what were intended to be peaceful demonstrations organized by two separatist organizations, Òmnium Cultural and the Catalan National Assembly. The leaders of the two groups, Jordi Sánchez and Jordi Cuixart, were among those sentenced to jail on Monday, together with seven secessionist politicians.

"There surely is a group of organized people who tarnish and damage the image of the pro-independence movement," said Meritxell Budó, spokeswoman of the Generalitat, Catalonia's regional government, in comments broadcast on Spanish national television.

### MOST POPULAR VIDEOS

1. YouTube Grapples With Digital Political Ad Dilemma



2. China Weeps Foreign





Protesters set fire to barricades on Barcelona's streets on Tuesday. PHOTO: MATTHIAS OESTERLE/ZUMA PRESS





Protests have been taking place across the northeastern region since Monday morning, when Spain's highest court sentenced the nine leaders to jail terms of between nine and 13 years.

Hundreds of protesters marched toward Barcelona's airport on Monday and blocked roads and train tracks across the region, in an apparent echo of tactics used by protesters in Hong Kong. Their actions forced the airport to cancel more than 100 flights on Monday and roughly another 40 on Tuesday.






Separatist groups are organizing more protests and street marches for the following days, in particular in conjunction with a regionwide strike that some trade unions called for Friday.

"The situation has got to a point of no return. Our patience is over," said Aleix Martinez, a 24-year-old graduate in physics. "The only way they'll let us vote on our future is to hit the economy."

Write to Giovanni Legorano at [giovanni.legorano@wsj.com](mailto:giovanni.legorano@wsj.com) and Pietro Lombardi at [Pietro.Lombardi@dowjones.com](mailto:Pietro.Lombardi@dowjones.com)

- 2. [China Wooes Foreign Companies While Serving Its Own Agenda](#) 
- 3. [Opinion: Eric Holder's Redistricting Committee Takes Virginia](#) 
- 4. [American Women and Children Killed in Mexico Highway Attack](#) 
- 5. [Huawei CEO: 'We Can Survive Without the U.S.'](#) 

#### MOST POPULAR ARTICLES

- 1. [Saudis Back Travis Kalanick's New Startup](#) 
- 2. [Michael Bloomberg Preparing to Enter 2020 Democratic Race](#) 
- 3. [How Google Edged Out Rivals and Built the World's Dominant Ad Machine: A Visual Guide](#) 
- 4. [His World Collapsed the Night the Berlin Wall Fell. Then Came the Hard Part.](#) 
- 5. [China Says Tariffs Will Go, but U.S. Doubts Remain](#) 

WSJ opens select articles to reader conversation to promote thoughtful dialogue. See the 'Join the Conversation' area to the right for stories open to conversation. For more information, please reference our community guidelines. Email feedback and questions to [moderator@wsj.com](mailto:moderator@wsj.com).

#### WHAT TO READ NEXT...



#### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

As WeWork Grew, Wall Street Lent It Money and Credibility



Not So Fast, Mr. Trump! Relocating to a Low-Tax State Is Hard to Do



Blackouts, Fines, High Gas





HEARD ON THE STREET  
**Square's Cleanup Still Leaves Questions**



ASIA  
**The Single Biggest Shopping Day? Nov. 11, in China**

blackouts, fires, high gas prices: Who Wants to Live in California Today?



How Google Edged Out Rivals and Built the World's Dominant Ad Machine: A Visual Guide



Ukraine Company's Campaign to Burnish Its Image Stretched Beyond Hunter Biden



Should Your Cat Be Vegan?



Why It Might Pay to Delay Planning Holiday Travel



Pence Europe Adviser Says Political Aspect of Ukraine Call Surprised Her



In Divided Hong Kong, Apps Help to Avoid Eating With the Enemy



California Enjoys Respite From Fires, But More Danger Looms



POTOMAC WATCH  
**Opinion | Eric Holder Takes Virginia**



U.S.  
**California Governor Threatens State Takeover of PG&E**



Independent of The Wall Street Journal newsroom  
 INDUSTRIES  
**Chesapeake Energy's CEO**

MANSION GLOBAL ARTICLE  
**How Do Property Tax Rebates Work in the U.S.?**



Independent of The Wall Street Journal newsroom  
 INDUSTRIES  
**Chesapeake Energy's CEO, chairman buy stock on the dip below \$1**  
*MarketWatch*



MANSION GLOBAL ARTICLE  
**How Do Property Tax Rebates Work in the U.S.?**

BACK TO TOP ↗

Subscription Options

Contact Us

Guides

Commercial Real Estate

Why Subscribe?

My News

Place a Classified Ad

MORE FROM: REVIEW & OUTLOOK



Corporate Subscriptions

RSS Feeds

Sell Your Business

Meritocracy's Waterloo?

Professor Journal

Video Center

Sell Your Home

Student Journal

Watchlist

Recruitment & Career Ads

News Archive

WSJ High School Program

Podcasts

Register for Free

WSJ Academy Programs

Donate

