



POLITICS

Bartomeu recommends avoiding haste when negotiating in Europe

The former head of government points out that it is essential to reach a good agreement without rushing

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ANDORRA LA VELLA
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Last night, the coalition PS SDP + organized a mass event with the presentation of the former head of government, Jaume Bartomeu. The central subject of the dialogue between Bartomeu and Albert Roig, moderator of the event, was the state of the current negotiations of the association agreement between the European Union and Andorra. The former head of government declared that he is in favor of negotiations with the European institution, and considers the achievement of an agreement that links the country with the continental body to be of great need. Even so, Bartomeu does not have an optimistic view of the current state of the negotiations and foresees a final treaty that not only does not bring great benefits for the principality, but ends the negotiations and closes this agreement at the end of the year 2023 as

Bartomeu aims to work transversally with all parties and economic and social sectors

planned, would mean very unfavorable conditions for Andorra.

Therefore, Bartomeu recommends avoiding precipitation and stopping the negotiations in order to establish a transversal dynamic work that involves all the political forces, but also adds the economic, professional and social agents. This is the only formula for success that can lead the country to reach this good association agreement, which is essential for the future of Andorra.

Jaume Bartomeu answered the first question, which referred to whether the need for this agreement is sufficiently appropriate, that the issue of making a treaty with the European Union is «indispensable, but I think that what the leaders of the country is a good partnership agreement. The progressive leader emphasized that this need comes from many aspects, highlighting, for example, one of the advantages that the agreement must bring is that our young people, students and entrepreneurs can without the obstacles derived from being from a third country, emphasizing, «that Brussels does not make tailor-made suits», but there is still room for manoeuvre. Bartomeu pointed out,



▶ Albert Roig and Jaume Bartomeu during last Thursday's event.



JAUME BARTOMEU
PRESIDENT OF PROGRESSISTES SDP

«An association agreement with the European Union is essential, but we must insist on a good agreement»

«In 9 months, a good association agreement cannot be reached. It is necessary to negotiate with time and knowledge of the cause»

in statements prior to the event, that Brussels is already demanding compliance with the four freedoms «with the Non-Paper that the Government has concealed between December 16th that it had and January 12th, which began to give it to the insurance sector, the banking sector and the financial sector».

The former head of government stated that «in 9 months, there cannot be a good agreement». The ex-progressive leader declared that «if it is done quickly, it will be done badly, since the negotiation calendar was forced, they pretend that this must be done, whether or not, in 9 months, it does not seem like us or sensible nor reasonable... and it must be negotiated in accordance with the Treaty of the European Union, Article 8, Declaration 3a, which is to take into account the important specificities and specific situations of the Andorran reality». Re-

garding the effect that Spain's future European presidency could have, Bartomeu declared that «it can help someone who wants to take a picture, but I don't think it's an insignificant issue».

Bartomeu specified that a good agreement with Brussels can only be reached if «we have good negotiators, he will accept our specifics, since that is what the Treaty of Lisbon says in Article 8». Then, when he was asked about the current negotiators by the press, he also mentioned that the current Andorran interlocutors with the European Union «need to improve», specifying that, «they need to negotiate with a little knowledge of the cause», declared Bartomeu.

The event filled the consortium room of the Andorra La Vella Congress Center, where more chairs were needed, due to the multitude of people who wanted to hear the speaker, Jaume Bartomeu. ≡

POLITICS

La Massana road will start to be tendered in the summer

The works on the agreed section will be carried out in the autumn

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«We are working intensively with the owners to finish closing agreements. Depending on what we get, at the end of the summer we could start tendering for some of the phases of this project.» This was also commented by the Minister of Territory and Housing, Víctor Filloy, in the statements to the press following the signing of agreements for the expansion works of the CG-4. Filloy detailed that «the fact that the transfer agreement has been made with three land owners makes possible to make a very interesting section». This road is a matter of concern to the residents of the Municipality of La Massana because 18,000 vehicles pass through the center of the parish every day.

The signing of the agreement for the widening works of the CG-4 is an act that makes it possible to create a more optimal road network with the necessary characteristics to have better fluidity. «The idea is to respond to the public demand that was made in 2019, a bypass connecting La Massana with Arinsal», explained Filloy. The agreements signed guarantee a continuous right-of-way of about 400 meters from the exit of La Massana center in the direction of Erts, out of the total of 1.25 kilometers that separate La Massana center to the Erts roundabout. The acting minister commented that «the expansion works of this section are expected to start in the autumn and could be carried out between six and



► Filloy and Molné moments after the signing of the agreement.



Víctor Filloy
MINISTER OF TERRITORY

«The expansion works of this section could be executed between six and eight months»

eight months». The next steps of this pact is to continue working with the other owners to see if they can be added and «among them to achieve a more dignified access to their plots». Filloy specified that practically 20% of the population lives in this area of the country and specifically on the CG-4 in this section around 11,500 vehicles circulate daily. The Minister of Territory and Housing recalled that «on La Massana-Erts-Arinsal axis and taking into account the signing of agreements, a section of 200 meters of the road has already been completed».

In this case between Arinsal and La Massana, on the left side, near the CG-5 river. Filloy at all times thanked the work that the consuls of La Massana are doing. ≡

Grifols has not gone through the Works and Urbanism Commission

Barbara Pamies, new councilor of Ordino replacing Armengol

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ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

This Thursday, Enric Dolsa, councilor of X'Ordino, felt slighted during the session of the Ordino municipal council because the municipality has decided to send the construction project of Grifols to the Government without having been previously presented to the works and urban planning committee of the parish. A step, according to Dolsa, necessary. «Despite the fact that it is a project of national interest, it must comply with Ordino's ordinances. If it doesn't comply, I will do what I have to do» warned the councilor of the minority. Dolsa emphasized to the press that «the building has been declared a singular building, therefore, it must be known if it complies with the regulations» going through the commission of works and urban planning. Dolsa specified that the construction project of the P3 laboratory in Grifols is, according to Dolsa, the most important project of the works commission in the last four years «as it affects the entire population», which causes more indignation within of the opposition not being able to understand this sending of the reports from the municipality to the government without going through the commission.

For his part, Consul Major Mortés justified that the campaign for the next elections is being tried to revolve around Grifols telling «lies, I dare say», according to the Consul Major, about the project. In addition, Mortés emphasized that «Grifols is a solid company, it is a very important multinational, recognized within the sector and, therefore, I think it meets all the guarantees».



► Pamies in the Municipality.

Barbara Pamies, number three of MovemOrdino in the last parish elections, was appointed as the new councilor of the municipality of Ordino. Pàmies enters the Municipality replacing Jean Michel Armengol, candidate of the PS in the parish candidacy of Ordino and who resigned from the council to be able to go to the 2A elections. The new councilor will have 9 months before the municipal elections next December of this year. Pamies begins her activity as a new member of the municipal council of Ordino with the desire to continue with the milestones already pursued by his predecessor, Armengol, such as the P3 laboratory in Grifols.

The MovemOrdino councilor declared with reference to the Grifols affair and the construction of the P3 laboratory, where Pàmies was forceful in affirming that «we will continue with the same attitude as it is now, that with the information that is, we are against it. We see that there can be a very high risk, zero risk does not exist and the benefit that this entails, ceding some land, but the best land in Ordino that is public and open, for a company that few jobs will contribute to the country of people who already reside there... therefore, we do not see the benefit in the face of the risk that is there». ≡

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