

# el Periòdic News

POLITICS

## The Agreement with the EU only captures the interest of a thousand people

The town meetings started by the Government throughout the country have not convinced the public



Image of the town meeting on the Association Agreement with the EU.

EL PERIÒDIC  
ANDORRA LA VELLA

They claim to feel «very satisfied both quantitatively and qualitatively», but the reality is that the town meetings on the Association Agreement with the EU initiated by the Government throughout the country, with the Head of Government, Xavier Espot, and the Secretary of State for Relations with the European Union, Landry Riba, have not finished convincing Andorran citizens. A series of meetings that ended last Tuesday in Andorra la

Vella, with a total of only a thousand people interested in resolving any doubts that the Agreement might raise.

Even so, Espot was absolutely convinced that it is indeed a project that has interested the public: «We have solved more than 200 questions and there are 2,800 people who have followed the events, either electronically or in person» all the while indicating that there was «a level of detail in the questions and knowledge of the content that imposes optimism on us».

However, the head of gover-

ment was firm in stating that the aim of these meetings was not to convince the public, but to «explain things as they are». «We mainly wanted to resolve doubts so that people arrive at the binding consultation in the most informed way possible», he continued, emphasizing the fact of wanting to dispel possible misrepresentations that, according to the representative, the only intention is «to want to confuse public opinion».

What was indeed an objective to be pursued was the fact of repeating the attendance of March



**Xavier Espot**

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«We wanted to resolve doubts so that people arrive at the consultation in the most informed way possible»

12th, when the text of the Agreement was presented to the public for the first time, although in a disjointed way as it was several meetings spread over the territory. A goal that could not be met by the Executive, but which Espot justified under the argument of being a «less transversal format, in which we now take the lead and not the public». In addition, the head of government also wanted to underline, in line with this issue, that the intention is not to «fill football fields», but that we must go «stone by stone» until we achieve the set challenges.

And according to Espot, once the village meetings have been completed, it is time to see what other type of meetings should be held to continue in the line of 'propagating' the message of the Agreement throughout the Andorran territory. «We will not get tired of explaining what we believe in and the Agreement is key to the future prosperity of our country», he said. ●

## PARISHES

# Bet for a single procedure to deregister and register in a new parish

The new Census Law will enter parliamentary procedure after it has been agreed by the municipalities

## AGÈNCIES

ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The new Census Law that the municipalities have already agreed upon and that will be submitted to parliamentary procedure, foresees that only one procedure is necessary to be able to deregister from one parish and register from another. This was explained by the senior consuls of La Massana and Andorra la Vella, Eva Sansa and Sergi González, after the meeting of municipal officials held in La Massana, emphasizing that once this law comes into force, citizens will only have to go to the parish in which they want to be registered so that they are automatically deregistered. As Sansa claimed, in this way «the procedures that citizens have to do will be greatly expedited, which is a very positive aspect for the administration».

As mentioned, the main novelty of the new text will be that with a single procedure a citizen will be able to register and dere-



A moment from the meeting of consuls held last Tuesday in La Massana.

gister from the census of the respective parishes. The Consul Major from La Massana also stated that the text will recognize «retroactivity» and, in this sense, pointed out that citizens may be asked for the rental contract to prove this retroactivity. In addition, she stated that the sanctions had been «toughened», since it could not be that there were cases like they were now, in which certain citizens took years to process the change of census.

On the other hand, González stated that «citizens asked for»

these facilities, defending that it is «a first step» to make the administration less «burdensome» and «facilitate the procedures». In this sense, Sansa recalled that for «many mandates» attempts have been made to speed up as much as possible the procedures that citizens must do, but he pointed out that the interconnection between administrations are «big words», adding that it is necessary to go «bit by bit, since you can't change from one day to the next.»

**SINGLE TAX AGENCY** // During the me-



## EVA SANSA

CONSUL MAJOR OF MASSANA

«The procedures that citizens have to do will be greatly expedited, a very positive aspect for the administration»

eting of consuls, the Minister of Finance, Ramon Lladós, also appeared, who explained to them the intention to promote the single tax agency. It was agreed to «start working» by establishing a series of meetings between the technicians of the different municipalities, a job that, as Sansa pointed out, will have to be used to see «how far it can be reached» and to end up agreeing on this agency. Together with González, they pointed out that the route sheet must now be defined, but they highlighted the fact that towards the end of June the meeting between technicians and the Government must take place to also see the next steps to be taken, reports the ANA. ●

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