

GRIFOLS AFFAIR

## The land intended for the Grifols laboratory is currently up in the air

One of the possibilities that the Executive is handling is to return it to the former tenant for agricultural use

EL PERIÒDIC / P.M.



Xavier Espot and Maria del Mar Coma at the moment of entering the mass celebrated in the church of Sant Corneli.

**XAVIER ESPOT**  
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«At the moment we are evaluating whether to return the land to the former tenant to dedicate it to agricultural use. At the outset we have not made any decision»

PARIS MAMEGHANI  
ORDINO

On a public holiday for the parish of Ordino as it was on Monday for the patrons of Sant Corneli and Sant Cebrià, the head of government, Xavier Espot, wanted to attend to EL PERIÒDIC to give more details about

where the Ordino lands of Prat de la Farga are, where the construction of the Grifols P3 laboratory was to be carried out.

So, according to the representative, the Executive «is still evaluating whether to return the land to the former tenant for agricultural use», noting that «no decision has yet been made

### A project that originates in 2021: the controversial echo that buried citizen rejection

► The proposal to build an immunological research center in Ordino dates back three years, at which time the Municipality of Ordino approved Grifols' initiative, despite the vote against by minority councilor Enric Dolsa. A laboratory that planned to address three lines of research: disorders of own immunity, immunological treatments for cancer and the treatment of infections in which antivirals were not effective. In fact, the councilor and president of Andorra Endavant, Carine Montaner, was one of the most critical voices from the beginning, claiming that «there are laboratories that present a high level of risk for the population, and it is an issue that worries me». A process that was also marked by citizen opposition because many joined the Dolsa platform to express their rejection and doubts about the project.

in this regard». Espot gave these statements when leaving the traditional mass held in Ordino, in which he was also accompanied by other authorities in the country such as the general trustee, Carles Ensenyat; the general deputy syndic, Sandra Codina; the senior consul of the Ordino parish, Maria del Mar Coma, and

the democratic councilor general, Berna Coma.

Everything happened after the celebration of a solemn act in which the priest Joan Fenosa blessed the attendees and welcomed the authorities, all the while emphasizing the tradition that we have as a country and the importance of not forgetting the roots of the Andorrans while not giving up, at the same time, the modernity of our times. In addition, the priest advocated for preserving faith and respect and also for the desire to restore part of the house of Areny-Plan-dolit.

Regarding the controversy over the non-appearance in front of the Legislative Committee of the Economy to give explanations about Grifols, the president emphasized during the interview on the RTVA program 'Avui serà un bon dia' that if he did so it would be a «precedent» which would almost oblige him and not the guardian ministers of the different subjects to always appear. In addition, he reiterated that he «doesn't have any kind of problem answering all the questions that are needed», while stating that if he appeared before the commission it would also be a «contempt» towards the ministers Marsol and Helena Mas. Espot was particularly critical of the PS in this matter and accused them of «incoherence» and «lack of sense of state». ●



## HOUSING

# The government stands firm in defending the measures on the housing crisis

Espot points out that the aim is to respond to the current needs of citizens

EL PERIÒDIC  
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Head of Government, Xavier Espot, addressed the problem of housing, defending that the measures that the Executive has adopted to face the housing crisis and emphasizing that the decisions have been taken with the aim of giving response to current needs. «The problems are twofold: to put more rental housing at an affordable price and that this does not go to the detriment of the sustainable growth of the country», explained Espot. In this regard, he detailed the Government's three

lines of action to increase the supply of rental flats. «Part of the tourist flats must return to the residential rental market, we must rehabilitate the existing real estate stock, and the third lever is to bring the empty flats to the fore».

However, Espot emphasized that these measures are essential to solve the housing crisis: «We could not afford to give up one, two or three of these measures». In addition, he defended the measure of surfacing empty flats, stating that «the objective is not to make the session mandatory immediately», but that this is considered as «the last re-

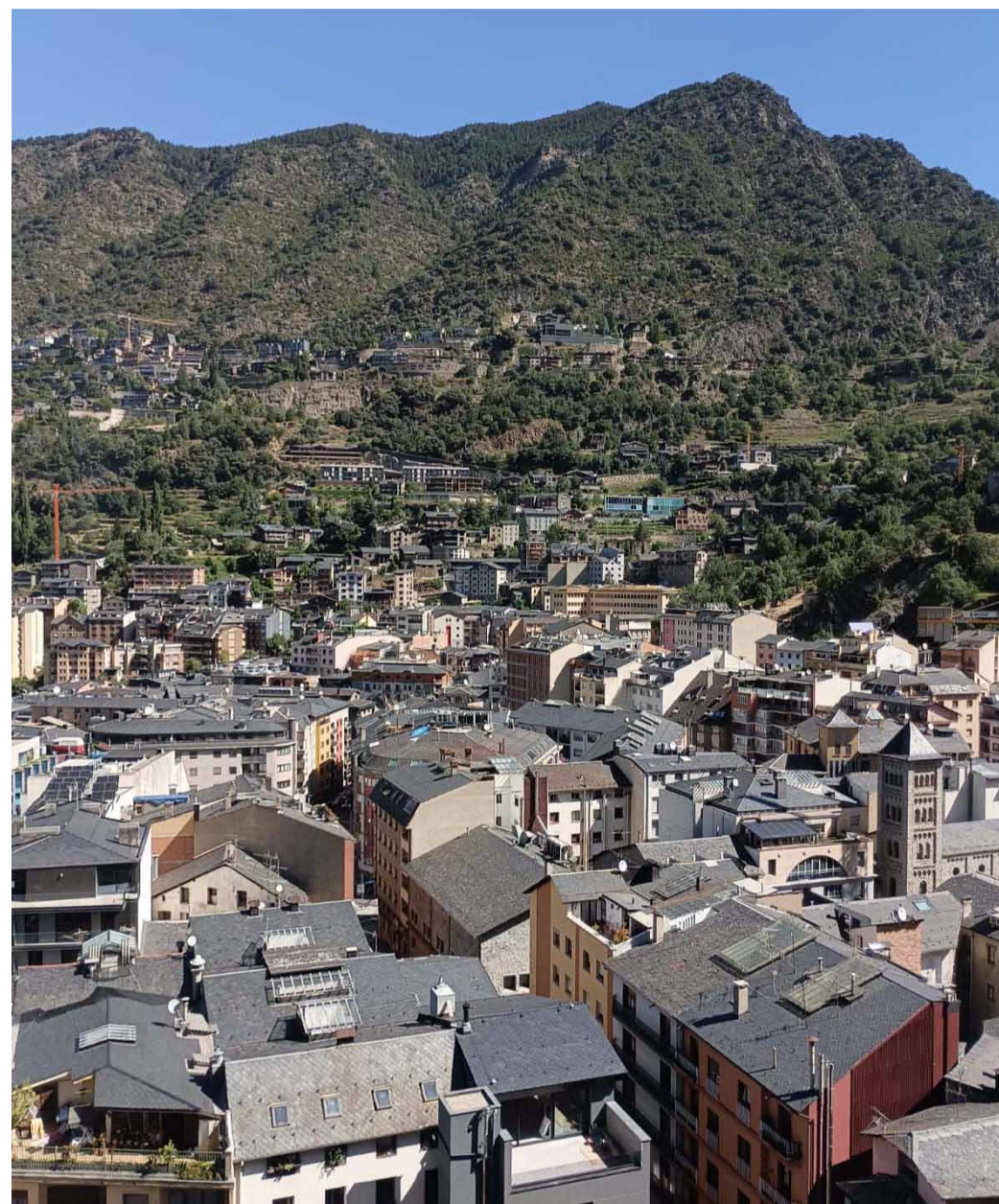


Image of the parish of Escaldes-Engordany.

sort» if the owners do not put on their flats for rent.

The head of government pointed out that the criticisms received regarding the measures taken to deal with the housing crisis are inconsistent, recalling that previously «many told us that the country's system was out of control and that we had

to act in the face of the problem». Nevertheless, he recognized that it is necessary to find a balance: «We cannot continue like this, because it is a disincentive for private owners.» Finally, Espot reiterated the Government's commitment to guarantee a sustainable rental market. ●

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