



National holiday of Andorra ► Solemn Eucharist in the basilica



Suñé calls for a «social pact» to fight the current crises

The PS is willing to collaborate, even though the majority already states that the agreement «will not be unanimous»

The union admits a «disrepute of politics» and calls the low citizen participation a «problem»

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA
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«**C**all it social pact, call it whatever you want», but «we have to find ways to get out of the current situation», marked especially by price inflation and the energy and climate crises. This is how forceful the General Syndic was yesterday, Roser Suñé, who in her speech on the occasion of Meritxell Day called on all the parliamentary groups to «sum up their capacities», since «it is obvious» that the actions taken so far in sensitive matters as housing «they have not yet produced the fruit we expected». A speech shared by the social democratic leader, Pere López, who, despi-

te assuring that «we like the concept of a new social pact» and being «a collaborative opposition that wants to sit down with the Government to reach agreements», «we are aware that this is not Xavier Espot's way of working». In this sense, he considered it «inconceivable» that next Monday's political orientation debate would be held «without the head of government having convened a previous meeting with political groups, trade unions and other social agents». «I guess the head of government has the magic formula.», López quipped.

From Terceravia, its president, Josep Pintat, demanded «to touch the ground» and found the origin of all this in taxation. «We must establish a resilience that can deal with an authentic fiscal and economic poli-

cy that leads us towards a better good. From here, we will be able to talk about many more things», asserted Pintat, while accusing the Executive of not having «good economic control of the country».

As for the majority, the president of the Independent Parliamentary Group, Ferran Costa, recognized that «we must work» on the social pact and asked to open sights «beyond our borders». «Increasingly, we, politicians realize that transnational issues are taking on more importance; we must have this awareness and try to reach consensus», pointed out the ex-liberal. However, he asked to put a nuance in the union's opinion that believes that «the actions undertaken so far have not borne fruit»: «Any measure that is ta-

ken is a step forward and is the sum of many steps which can determine small or large changes. It cannot be that from one day to the next unsustainable approaches are made for society and the economic fabric».

For his part, the president of the Democratic Parliamentary Group, Carles Enseñat, guaranteed the social pact, although perhaps «it will not be unanimous». As he advanced, the majority groups already have solutions to put on the table regarding the increase in rental prices, the creation of social housing and the CPI. In addition, he acknowledged that «we are very concerned about the protection of the natural environment and the excessive construction not aimed at solving the current problem».

Returning to the syndic's speech, Suñé also admitted that there is a «discredit to politics» and called for «a more in-depth analysis of citizen participation models, a pending subject». Likewise, and with a view to the next elections, he warned that «if electoral participation continues to weaken, we will have to accept that we have a problem» and placed all hopes in the future transparency law, which «must 'help to change perceptions about public management', without simplifications or extreme acceleration of the networks».

Neither the president of Committed citizens, Carles Naudi, nor the non-affiliated General Counsel Carine Montaner took part in the statements to the press. ≡



ROSER SUÑÉ
GENERAL SYNDIC

«We have to find the ways that allow us to get out of the current situation [...] It is clear that so far they have not borne fruit»

PERE LÓPEZ
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

«We like the concept of a new social pact, but we are aware that this is not Espot's way of working»

JOSEP PINTAT
TERCERAVIA

«We must establish a resilience that can deal with an authentic fiscal and economic policy that leads us to a better good»

FERRAN COSTA
INDEP. PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

«It is the sum of many steps that can determine small or large changes, but it cannot happen overnight»

CARLES ENSEÑAT
DEMOCRATS

«We are very concerned about the protection of the natural environment and the excessive construction that does not solve the current problem»

Vives criticizes the «slanders» of cover-ups of pederasty

Els 50 anys de l'incendi del santuari acaparen el discurs de l'homilia

EL PERIÒDIC
CANILLO

The episcopal co-prince, Joan-Enric Vives, during the traditional speech of Meritxell's Day, described, between the lines, as «slander and defamation» the accusations of having covered up cases of pederasty by the high institutions of the church. In this regard, Vives gave a speech that ranged from the persistent effects of the coronavirus pandemic at a health and economic level, through the incidence of climate change, to the humanitarian consequences of the war in Ukraine.

In the same way, the episcopal co-prince focused during a large part of the speech of the homily, the reminder of the 50 years of the fire that devastated the old sanctuary of Meritxell during the morning of September 8th to 9th, 1972. Following this direction, he emphasized the «strength and re-



►► Roser Suñé, Joan-Enric Vives, and Xavier Espot at the sanctuary of Meritxell.

silience» of the Andorran people and institutions to recover from «catastrophes» like this and stressed that «Meritxell has dressed up again in representation of the

whole country». Likewise, he moved the concept of fire to the situations of forest fires that have been repeated in the neighboring territory of Catalonia and France th-

roughout this summer. «Fires may devour forests or material goods, but they will never do so with the town and its soul», stated Vives.

As for the events, the traditi-

The PS asks that Bishop be «transparent»

►► The president of the Social Democratic Party (PS), Pere López, asked that the Bishop be «transparent and prepared» to clarify the facts related to the cover-ups of cases of sexual abuse of minors. In this sense, López indicated that the speech of the homily was a good moment to make known the co-prince's willingness to collaborate for the investigation and condemnation of the facts because «there are many families who have suffered and deserve that a purification be carried out appropriate to the casuistry».

onal mass began at 11:00 a.m. in a Meritxell sanctuary full. Apart from the representation of the Government and the Secretaries of State, several general councilors and social representatives attended as well as the citizen's counsel. In relation to the rest of the public, the event was attended by dozens of pilgrims and visitors who came to the national day to witness the co-prince's speech and enjoy, an hour and a half after the church event, a sardanes ballad accompanied by cake, chocolate and muscatel. ≡

«It is not the time to announce an electoral advance»

Enseñat remembers that there are 21 pending laws that are more important than the budget

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Although next week it will finally be known whether there is an electoral advance or not, yesterday the president of the Democratic Parliamentary Group, Carles Enseñat, gave a rather revealing clue: «It is not the time to announce an electoral advance. Currently, there are 21 draft laws and legislative proposals in the parliamentary process», Etxebar said, detailing that these are issues of the environment, justice and extraordinary credits for social housing, among others. And when the date of the elections is announced, these laws will «lapse», giving absolute priority to the budget. «But the solutions are not in the budget, but in the 21 laws», insisted Enseñat. In fact, he was in favor of exhausting the legislature as much as possible, even if this meant

having to wait another six months, during which the pending texts could be worked on, most of which are relatively complex. «One of the most important projects is the one that must prevent the collapse of the Batllia. Letting it pass in order to advance the elections by a month would make no sense», pointed out the democrat. Likewise, he affirmed that the reform of the corporation tax is «unnecessary» for the majority and that this, which must be approved between November and December, «comes before the budget». In a similar vein, the main person involved, the head of government, Xavier Espot, pointed out that the date will depend on the state of the legislative process. «It is difficult to know when they will be convened, because there are procedures that go faster than others, but they will be done at the right moment when we have completed the work we have been entrusted with», pointed out Espot. What is clear to him, although he did not announ-

ce it either, is whether he will present himself or not and, once the political orientation debate has passed, he will discuss it with the party's executive.

On the other hand, the president of the Social Democratic Parliamentary Group, Pere López, also sees an imminent electoral scenario as «impossible», since the Government itself has acknowledged that the budget is not yet finished. «We have asked [the Executive] that if they have to present it next week or in 15 days, let us know, even if it is out of political courtesy, but they have assured us that it is not something imminent», he said Lopez. And he added: «If there is no budget, there are no elections».

The Minister of Finance, and most responsible for the preparation of the numbers, Eric Jover, did not want to give too many details about it, although he explained that he will be committed to the sustainability of public finances and recalled that has made a contingency effort to improve the purchasing power of citizens. This, however, must not be «contradictory» to push forward new investments and demands, as well as «levers for the future» that «consolidate the welfare state without cutting resources». ≡



►► Members of the Government and the General Council during the traditional dance.

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