

REACTIONS TO THE POPULAR DEMAND

The political debate intensifies after the protest for decent housing

The mobilization highlights the lack of consensus between parliamentary groups on the issue



A group of protesters during the April 5th protest for decent housing.

ELENA HERNÁNDEZ MOLINA
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Once the demonstration on Saturday, April 5th, to demand urgent measures in the field of housing, ended, the different actors involved have begun to express their assessments. The protest, called by the Coordinator for Decent Housing, has gathered according to the organization nearly 1,500 people -1700 according to a report issued this Sunday evening by the platform- who roamed the streets of Andorra la Vella and Escaldes-Engordany with shouts, banners and slogans denouncing the ex-

treme situation that the country is experiencing regarding the right to housing.

The Coordinator for Decent Housing has made a very positive assessment of the call, highlighting the «enormous involvement» of the participants and pointing out that many citizens who were unable to attend, mainly for work reasons, showed their support in the previous days. The organization has also announced that an open assembly will be held on April 13th to define the movement's next actions. Among the first political representatives to assess the mobilization is Cerni Escalé, the



Cerni Escalé

PRESIDENT OF CONCÒRDIA

“We value very positively the fact that people decide to express themselves publicly”

president of the parliamentary group Concòrdia, who has highlighted the presence of many young people and has remarked



Carine Montaner

PRESIDENT OF ANDORRA ENDAVANT

“We propose affordable solutions such as modular houses, with rents of between 300 and 400 euros per month”

that «our role this Saturday was to listen to the participants». He has also denounced that «it is incomprehensible that the Government is still allowing the increase in real estate prices in the country, which is detrimental to families and businesses».

On behalf of Andorra Endavant, Carine Montaner has emphasized the general malaise experienced in the country and has recalled that her party has been proposing “real and affordable solutions” for some time. She has also defended that “living in your own home should not be a luxury” and has proposed that the Government make public plots of land at affordable prices available to Andorran workers. Regarding Democrats for Andorra, Jordi Jordana has stated that “we respect the right to demonstrate” and has affirmed that the Government’s roadmap to address the housing crisis is based on the public housing stock and other measures that have the support of the parliamentary group. ●

Marsol opens the door to adjusting housing policies

The minister defends the modifications to favor access for young people, pensioners and vulnerable groups

AGÈNCIES

ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Minister of the Presidency, Economy, Labor and Housing, Conxita Marsol, has shown herself open this Sunday during some statements about this Saturday's demonstration for decent housing, to continue adjusting measures and regulations to guarantee that public apartments reach the people who really need them. In fact, the Housing Minister recalled that the Government had already taken a step in this direction last August, when the regulations for the access register to the public affordable housing stock were modified to make the allocation of flats to those under 35 who could not prove a rental contract

more flexible. «A few days ago we also modified it to facilitate access for pensioners and people with widow's pensions, because we know that pensions are low. The income amount was also reduced and, if necessary, we will continue to adapt it, because what we want is for these flats to serve people who really need them,» Marsol pointed out.

However, Marsol - who has assured that some demands of the Housing Coordinator's manifesto are already underway - has wanted to highlight that during the last two years the Government has invested 73 million euros in public housing, exceeding the initial forecasts of only 12 million annually. In addition, she has also stressed that the executive continues to work with the



The minister, Conxita Marsol, during the "calçotada" of Andorra la Vella.

aim of creating 200 homes for people at risk of exclusion by the end of the year. «Even the law on sustainable growth and the right to housing that talks about allowing foreign developments as long as 50% is allocated to affordable rent,» she added, while assuring that «we will continue



CONXITA MARSOL

MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY, ECONOMY, LABOR AND HOUSING
"A few days ago we gave access facilities to pensioners and people with widow's pension, because we know that pensions are low"

this work of talking to everyone to find a balanced solution.»

Regarding the concern that many people have to move to live in the city to access cheaper housing, Marsol highlighted that «for this reason, work is being done on the creation of public housing, such as the apartments in Sant Joan de Casellas. The arrival of 500 more apartments is also expected before 2027,» recalled the head of the Housing portfolio, while announcing that, with regard to old Pellicer hotel in Canillo, although the offer is attractive with prices adjusted to 30% of family income), there are still only two or three registered. ●

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad