

The Elders call for dialogue and restraint over Catalonia crisis

LONDON, 8 October 2017

The Elders today expressed their deep concern at the recent violent confrontation in Catalonia and urged both sides to pursue a peaceful resolution through dialogue.

The Elders applauded the progress that Spain has made since its democratic transition in 1975. This achievement should not be put at risk. The potential political, economic and social repercussions of a protracted crisis should not be underestimated.

They called on both sides to refrain from any more divisive and inflammatory language and actions.

[Kofi Annan](#), Chair of The Elders said:

“The constitutional crisis that is unfolding in Spain calls for consultation and not confrontation. I urge the Spanish government and the regional government of Catalonia to renew their commitment to a resolution through dialogue. They must find a peaceful path out of this crisis.”

ENDS

Media enquiries

William French, Head of Communications, The Elders

T: +44 7795 693903

media@theElders.org

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About The Elders

The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders are [Martti Ahtisaari](#), [Kofi Annan](#) (Chair), [Ban Ki-moon](#), [Lakhdar Brahimi](#), [Gro Harlem Brundtland](#) (Deputy Chair), [Hina Jilani](#), [Ricardo Lagos](#), [Graça Machel](#), [Mary Robinson](#) and [Ernesto Zedillo](#).

[Ela Bhatt](#), [Fernando Henrique Cardoso](#), [Jimmy Carter](#) and [Desmond Tutu](#) are Elders Emeritus.

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For biographies of the Elders, blogs, photos, videos and more information about their work please go to www.theElders.org.

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