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# Who we are



“We are Catalan democratic and progressive nationalists, we are the people of the **Convergència Democràtica de Catalunya** and we work for a just, united and liberal society. Catalonia and its people are our priority.”

“We have been building the **Convergència Democràtica de Catalunya** as a political party since 1976 and we have always had one priority: Catalonia.

The people who form part of this project which is called the **Convergència** regard Catalonia with love, but also with the objectivity of those who want to do a job well. We have worked day after day to make our nation grow, to convert it into a referent for many. Today we see a nation of social and material progress with civic spirit, which has been able to combine cultural personality, historic awareness, the spirit of coexistence and democratic values. But there is still a lot to do, a lot to perfect. Our hope grows with time and adversities and we will keep on moving forward; we will keep on perceiving Catalonia with love and objectivity.

If you love Catalonia and want to make it advance, you have a place in our project”.

Jordi **Pujol i Solel**

“The men and women of Catalonia have always worked to make Catalonia go the furthest possible at all times. We work for a strong Catalonia in its spirit, which is civic, dynamic, creative, open and sensitive to the welfare of all of its people, free at its core and whole in its self-governance. A Catalonia which demands its right as a nation to decide in a democratic, free and peaceful manner.

Being a part of the **Convergència** is how I dedicate myself to Catalan nationalism and being a Catalan nationalist is how I dedicate myself to my country: Catalonia.

With this commitment I wish to invite Catalan society and especially those people who share the concern and will to construct the Catalan nation, to rethink, modernise, bring it up to date and thus, re-establish Catalan nationalism as a source of energy and bridge of hope for a better Catalonia. And to construct together, with the drive of the **Convergència**, the Big House of Catalan Nationalism, to unite the maximum number of people in favour of a national project which brings back the hope and confidence of Catalans in the future of our nation.

This is my commitment and that of all of my companions from the **Convergència**.”

Artur **Mas i Gavarró**

# What we want

## **Our objectives are clear:**

- Strengthen the identity of Catalonia to achieve and develop full national sovereignty.
- Contribute to the expansion and creation of common political, cultural, social and linguistic spaces, within the territory of the Catalan Nations, while respecting the current idiosyncrasy of these people.
- Give recognition to the political, cultural, social and economic reality of Catalonia and increase relations with other populations in Europe and the world.
- Defend individual and collective liberties and contribute strengthening and consolidating democratic government forms.
- Social justice and unity among people and populations, which must ensure that all citizens have suitable conditions and an equal distribution of wealth.
- Structure a society with a sustainable economy which is productive and competitive, motivates the effort and creativity to generate wealth and work and allows for the consolidation and growth of the welfare state.
- Protect the family in its broadest sense as a basic nuclei of co-existence and solidarity and as an instrument for the transmission of values, civic spirit and the complete development of its members.
- Peace and social, economic and sustainable development in the world and the eradication of poverty.



- Integrate those people who are new to our national community, through mutual respect and without discriminating any personal or social condition or circumstance, rejecting any form of racism or xenophobia. The integration and contribution of people from other cultures has been and is a positive historical event which strengthens our nation democratically.
- Protect and improve the environment in order to make sustainable growth possible and to preserve this heritage for future generations, all working to face climate change.
- Recognise the fundamental character of the commitment of Catalan civil society to the construction of the nation and strengthening it, such as in the role of new forms of democratic participation, so as to favour a more open relationship and permanent dialogue and communication between citizens and institutions, involving them in decision making processes.
- Work to re-evaluate democracy by means of credibility, commitment and proximity in order to transmit the prestige of politics to the citizen.





# Where we come from

In 1974, after nearly twenty years of secretly fighting for the liberty of our nation and democracy, many people without any specific political assignment, led by Jordi Pujol, coincided on the need to begin a new step, in which political action had to be fundamental.

On November 17th 1974, more than a hundred people from different environments of nationalist activism, syndical and professional sectors, met secretly in Montserrat. It was the Foundational Assembly of the Convergència which passed a final statement with four basic points which defined a political program: democracy, social awareness, nationalism and Europeanism.

Finally, in 1976 February 18th, these patriots were constituted as a political party, even though it was not yet legalised. The Convergència was registered on the Political Association Registry in February 1977. As of that moment more people joined the project, working for firm ideals which we have always defended.

In June 1977, during the first general elections, the CDC formed part of the candidacy for the Democratic Pact for Catalonia, which obtained 8 ministers. One month later, the Esquerra Democràtica per Catalunya party, included in the Democratic Pact, ended up joining the CDC. Its leader, Ramon Trias Fargas, was named president of the Convergència Democràtica de Catalunya.

From that moment even more people joined the project, working for firm ideals which we have always defended: the fusion of the CDC with Joaquim Molin's Unió de Centre de Catalunya in 1981 and with Joan Hortalà's Esquerra Catalana in 1993.



# How we participate across the nation

We are the first political party in Catalonia, for both affiliation and implantation in the nation and election results, and we have attained these goals among everything. Members of the Convergència are grouped across the nation and can participate actively in the political life and decisions made in the party by means of local, regional and Federation assemblies. We carry out all types of awareness activities and campaigns in our local groups and we choose the people who represent us in the national decision-making organisations, such as the Congress, highest representation of the party objectives and the National Council, the highest decision-making organisation among congresses.

Participation in the dynamics of the party is an enriching activity. Relations with companions brings debate, discussion and ideas and allows us to construct the nation we want together.

## **We are organised across the territory as such:**

- Federation of the Higher Pyrenees
- Federation of City of Barcelona
- Federation of Central Catalonia
- Federation of Girona
- Federation of Lleida
- Federation of Barcelona
- Federation of Tarragona
- Federation of Terres de l'Ebre
- Federation of Northern Catalonia
- And in Val d'Aran through the Convergència Democràtica Aranès and in la Franja, in accordance with the agreement signed on 2009, through the Convergència Democràtica de la Franja.
- There are foreign branches in all countries and autonomous communities where there are militants of Convergence.



## Present in the territory and your municipality

Having our roots in the territory of our nation has been fundamental for the foundation of the Convergència. We are the first municipal force in Catalonia and we are the only party which is present in nearly all municipalities of our nation.

Nearly five hundred mayor's offices and more that 3000 councillors are the solid base on which we build our project every day.

Together with the parliamentary and institutional offices, our territorial network is our tool, where Catalans can find referents from a party which aims to overcome the structure of distance between politicians and citizens.

From the Executive Secretary of Territory, Municipal Action, Membership and Training, we have also placed the website of the local world at the service of all of our elects to be able to form, report and assess in an agile and permanent manner.

Therefore, we are at your disposition from all corners of Catalonia.





# Join a sector of the Convergència

## ***There's room for you here!***

Sectors are the tool which the Convergència uses to establish its positioning in the different sectors and levels of society according to needs. They are a very useful tool for the continual education of our members and election positions and also, in specific, a space which aims for constant dialogue with sectors to promote politics which support the productive fabric at a cultural level, the promotion of infrastructures, the improvement of our education system, the increase of social policies, among many other issues. Today could be a great moment to become a part of the Convergència Sector Structure. Become a member and participate. We're waiting for you!

- Economics and Tax Regulation
- New Technologies and Information Society
- Housing and Territorial Policies
- Environment
- Universities and Research
- Education
- Agriculture, Farming, Rural Environment and Fishing
- Business, Industry and Innovation
- Commerce, Tourism, Consumption and Services
- Family and Social Policies
- Health
- Justice
- Culture
- Sport and Physical Activity
- Employment and Labour Relations
- Immigration
- Cooperation and Development
- Elderly People
- Equality and Civil Rights
- Security
- Public Administration



# We do trainings and studies

The members of the Convergència make use of a magnificent tool for doing activities and training with courses, conferences and seminars across Catalonia: the Training Institute.

**The Training Institute of the Convergència** includes a catalogue of training made to measure, available to all the members of the Convergència: management skill courses; new technologies; communications; election campaigns; political training...

These training activities serve to study in depth our political, cultural and social reality, the international context which we live in, the diffusion of documentation, creating opinion and focusing more on specific issues from present moments.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of Project, Studies and Programmes provides support and evaluation for the activities of parliamentary groups from the Convergència at the Parliament of Catalonia, the Ministers' Congress and the Senate. It also gives support to the demands and requests of all the organs of the party and the Arguments and Issues of the Day are created on a daily basis, which serve to shed light on the positioning and opinion of the Convergència on higher topical and transcendent issues. In the last term, from this Secretariat the process of the creation of the electoral programmes and campaign contents are coordinated.



# How we are organised

The national leadership of the party is made up of the National Executive Committee (NEC) and is formed by the President of the Party, the Secretary General, the Deputy Secretary General, four Executive Secretaries (Project, Studies and Programs; Territory, Membership and Municipal Action; Communication and Strategy; Sectorial Scope); six from coordination (Studies and Program; Municipal Policy: Membership and Training; Logistics and Acts; Communications; Sectorial) and ten more from the sectorial scope.

The NEC also includes the respective presidents of the territorial Federations such as eight representatives from the municipal scope, from Galeuscat, International and the spokespeople from the party at Parliament, Congress, the Senate, European Parliament and presidents of the municipal groups of Barcelona, Girona, Lleida and Tarragona.

The presidencies of the National Council, the National Municipal Policy Commission, the National Assessor Council, the Arbitration Commission, Mediation and Discipline and Incompatibilities and the Defender of Membership and Elector Service also form part of the NEC.

Furthermore, invitations are granted to a representative from the CatDem Foundation; the presidency of the Municipal Entities; a representative from the County Councils; a representative from Aran and another from Northern Catalonia. The Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the JNC as well as the Manager and Chief of Finances from the party also have a reserved place in the national leadership.



## The foreign projection of the Convergència

Since 2004 the Convergència has relied on an International Relations Secretary.

The Convergència is a member of the European Liberal Democrat Party (ELDR Party), which is an excellent platform for relations with some of the most advanced political parties on the continent. The CDC also participates in the Liberal International by means of the Democrat and Liberty Foundation.

As well as the liberal sector, the International Secretary maintains relations with other parties from nations where for geographic, historic or cultural reasons, Catalonia has some special links. Thus, there are some privileged relations with parties from the area of Magreb or Latin America. Relations with nationalist parties similar to the Convergència is another noted line of performance.

The Secretary is also responsible for coordinating with Foreign Branches of the Convergència and establishing major links and contacts with Catalans living abroad.

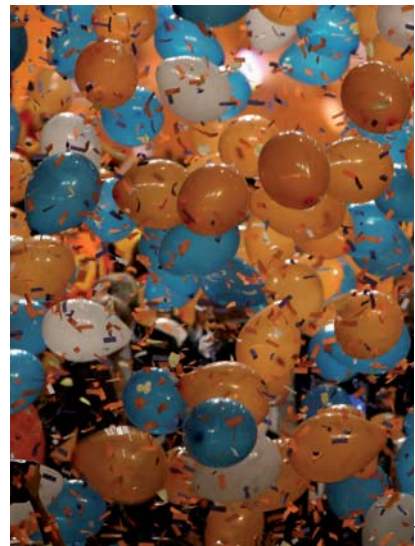


# And we keep on growing

Since 1977, when we registered on the Political Associations Registry and participated in the first general democratic elections, we have grown a lot. Thousands of men and women are committed to us through their membership, uniting our efforts in the construction of the Catalonia we want; a stronger nation and with some self-government levels which are higher.

But there are a lot more people who share our hopes and objectives and who have demonstrated their trust in the elections in celebration of the revival of democracy, consolidating us as the first political force in Catalonia at a municipal and national level, and, in some occasions, decisive in the governance of the Spanish State,

In this way, we give a new impulse to our shared project, to continue leading the process of national reconstruction and to keep on working for welfare for everyone who lives in our country.



# Get involved

**Now is the moment to work with renewed hope, with passion for our nation. Join in on the Convergència project alongside many men and women with whom you share the same objective: to involve ourselves in the construction of the Catalonia we want**

**Visit your nearest branch of the party. We are present in all regions of Catalonia:**

**Federation of Higher Pyrenees**

Mare de Déu de Montserrat, 11, baixos  
25620 Tremp  
Telèfon 973 652 453

**Barcelona City**

Còrsega 331-333  
08037 Barcelona  
Telèfon 932 363 100

**Federation of Central Catalonia**

Còrsega 331-333  
08037 Barcelona  
Telèfon 932 363 100

**Federation of Girona**

Plaça Catalunya 22, 1r 1a  
17002 Girona  
Telèfon 972 214 260

**Federation of Lleida**

República del Paraguai 2  
25002 Lleida  
Telèfon 973 273 000

**Federation of Barcelona**

Còrsega 331-333  
08037 Barcelona  
Telèfon 932 363 100

**Federation of Tarragona**

Av. Catalunya, 56, baixos B  
43002 Tarragona  
Telèfon 977 249 838

**Federation of Terres de l'Ebre**

Argentina 21, 1r  
43500 Tortosa  
Telèfon 977 448 748

**Northern Catalonia**

9, rue Camille Desmoulins  
66000 Perpinyà  
Telèfon (0033) 0468 353 454





## The JNC, the young people's tool for action

The Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya is the first young political organisation in Catalonia and, although it is its own entity and sovereignty, it acts as a youth branch of the Convergència.

We are thousands of young people from across the nation who work with the JNC to attain the liberty and equality of Catalonia along with other sovereign populations in the world. However, for us national development is strictly tied to the progress and social development plan which has allowed for the construction of a nation which is more just for everyone.

We believe that young people have the right and obligation to participate in the national and social construction of our nation and for that reason we say that Catalonia is our priority, the Catalan Nations our setting, the people of Europe our opportunity, social policy our commitment and the JNC, your tool for action.



[www.jnc.cat](http://www.jnc.cat)

**Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya**

Puig-reig, 10, baixos. 08006 Barcelona Tel. 93 237 58 40  
jnc@jnc.cat



# We renew the debate



Old theories which try to explain the world from absolute certainties are no longer useful for dealing with the deployment of self-governance. In a globalised world, there is a need to clearly bid for the social and economic modernisation of the nation. This is a challenge which must be faced without social fractures and with the need to make it compatible with the preservation of Catalan identity to ensure that it continues as a frame of reference for Catalan citizens in the 21st century.

The CatDem Foundation assumes as its own the task of rethinking Catalan nationalism through the participation and creativity of professionals, intellectuals and technicians coming from several traditions of Catalan nationalism.

The CatDem is full member of the European Liberal Forum (ELF)



[www.catdem.org](http://www.catdem.org)

**Fundació Catalanista i Demòcrata**

Casp, 80, 08010 Barcelona Tel. 93 215 58 48

# The big House of Catalan Nationalism

The Big House of Catalan Nationalism is a movement with the majority vocation and ambition for change with two main priorities: to re-establish Catalan nationalism and to regenerate democracy. Patriotism, hope and dedication are the values and attitudes which inspire the project. The right of Catalan people to decide, the democratic motor which must make it possible.

There is a need for Catalan nationalism to lead a great space of confluence, in meetings and not only politics so that all those who feel Catalan and are willing to act Catalan, can make their contribution and thus demonstrate their love for Catalonia over any personal aspiration or leading role. This is also the bid of the project from the Big House of Catalan Nationalism..



# Convergencia.cat

For more information on the party visit our webpage:

[www.convergencia.cat](http://www.convergencia.cat)

Here you will find everything to do with the current situation of the party, important news, comments from our leaders, initiatives from our parliamentary groups, Agenda, etc. On this website, you can also give us your opinions, suggestions or doubts.



# La Federació

The CiU Federation was created on December 2nd 2001, when the Convergència Democràtica de Catalunya i Unió Democràtica de Catalunya signed an agreement which has given firmness and stability to the collective project which we have shared for more than 20 years.

The CiU is a team of people who want to act as your voice in our national institutions. We also want our collective affirmations to reach Madrid and the European Union. Our proposal looks out for the welfare of people and proposes achieving a just society which is united and free. A proposal which is convincing and which we invite you to participate in.







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