



PRESS RELEASE NO. 42/2020

**THE PLENARY OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT ACCEPTS THE
APPEAL FOR AMPARO FILED BY JUNQUERAS AND ROMEVA AGAINST
THE REFUSAL OF THE SUPREME COURT TO REQUEST THE CONGRESS
AND THE SENATE TO LIFT THEIR PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY TO
FACILITATE PROSECUTION**

The Plenary of the Constitutional Court has accepted the appeal for constitutional protection (*amparo*) filed by Oriol Junqueras and Raül Romeva against the rulings of 14 May and 3 October 2019 (respectively), which were issued by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court. Under these rulings, the Supreme Court refused to request the Congress and the Senate to lift their parliamentary immunity to facilitate prosecution, after they had been respectively elected as deputy and senator at the elections held in April 2019.

The Court considers that this appeal is of special constitutional relevance, as it poses an issue or affects a part of a fundamental right without doctrine from this Court. Also, the matter raised goes beyond this case, because it can have general political consequences.

The Court has kindly requested the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court to submit a certification or a certified copy of the aforementioned judicial actions.

Regarding the stay of the proceedings that was requested in the appeal for *amparo*, the Plenary does not consider that this case is exceptionally urgent to justify its adoption without hearing the parties on a groundless basis. Therefore, separate proceedings will be started to solve this issue. The Public Prosecution Service and the appellants for *amparo* are given three days to file the arguments they deem appropriate.

Madrid, 5 March 2020.