



PRESS RELEASE NO. 46/2020

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT CALLS A REMOTE
PLENARY SESSION**

By virtue of Section 3 of the Agreement adopted by the Plenary of the Constitutional Court, dated 16 March 2020, the President of the Constitutional Court, Juan José González Rivas, has called a remote plenary session that will take place on 6 May through a substantially written procedure, which is the means also used at the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Once the appropriate studies have been carried out and the relevant reports submitted by the Court's staff, the following agenda has been drawn up:

- Appeal for unconstitutionality filed by the State's Attorney against article 13 of the Decree-Law 2/202, of 9 March, on the improvement and streamlining of legislation to boost the productive activity in Andalusia.

- Appeal for unconstitutionality filed by over 50 deputies of Vox's parliamentary group in the Congress, against the Second final provision of the Royal Decree-Law 8/2020, of 17 March, on extraordinary urgent measures to tackle the social and economic impact of Covid-19.

- Appeal for constitutional protection (*amparo*) filed by Vox's deputies in the Congress against the Agreement of the Bureau of the Congress of 19 March 2020.

- Appeals for *amparo* filed by Jordi Turull, Jordi Sánchez, Josep Rull, Carles Mundo, Jordi Cuixart, Dolors Bassa, Carmen Forcadell and Joaquín Forn against the judgment and the ruling issued by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court in the special session 20907/17.

- Question of unconstitutionality lodged by the Civil Division of the Superior Court of Justice of the Basque Country against several paragraphs of article 12 of Law 7/2015, of 30 June, on Family Relationships in the Basque Country, due to a potential infringement of article 14.1.8 of the Spanish Constitution.

- Question of unconstitutionality filed by Section Four of the Contentious-Administrative Division of the Supreme Court against article 153.1 of the Organic Law on the General Electoral System, in conjunction with articles 53 and 50.4 of the same Law, and articles 29 and 34 of the Intellectual Property Law, due to a potential violation of articles 9.3 and 25.1 of the Spanish Constitution.

- Appeal for *amparo* filed by Jordi Turull against the Agreement adopted by the Bureau of the Congress of Deputies on 25 July 2019.

- Appeal for *amparo* filed by Jordi Sánchez against the rulings issued by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court in the special session 20907/17.

Since the beginning of this health crisis, the Constitutional Court has not only adopted the necessary measures to stay procedural and administrative deadlines in order to avoid the denial of a proper defence for citizens in accessing this constitutional body, but it has also continued examining the appeals filed. To this end, the Court has always followed the measures adopted by the Spanish Government and the health authorities, which were in line with the European policies, and particularly with the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Also, with an aim to observe the Court's domestic organisational rules, a reduction in the physical presence of the different categories of professionals that are part of this institution has been encouraged through remote work, in order to minimise any potential risks of infection. At this point, it should be highlighted that the Court has written and closed 1,523 reports on jurisdictional issues during this period and up to this day. The Court's judges are currently studying these reports.

During these weeks, the Constitutional Court has received many expressions of solidarity due to the scenario that Spain is going through amid the coronavirus pandemic. It should be pointed out the letters from the President and the Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of Germany, as well as from the President of the Constitutional Court of the Dominican Republic, among other gestures.

Madrid, 27 April 2020.