



Brussels, 9 November 2022

*Dear President, Mrs Roberta Metsola,*

I have recently learnt from the Spanish press of the latest Central Electoral Commission (JEC) response to your kind request concerning the situation of the Catalan Members elected to the European Parliament in 2019.

I am deeply astonished by the words and tone in which an official body of the Spanish electoral administration denigrated the work of the former President of the European Parliament David Sassoli. We are all aware that the former President Sassoli acted in full within the law by applying, immediately and to the letter, the ruling of the European Court of Justice of 19/12/ 2019 (C-502-19), respecting institutional roles and cautiously avoiding entering into the substance of the debate.

As Member of this House, I express my outrage at the attempt to sully the memory of our former colleague David Sassoli. Since you have pledged to defend and honour the memory of David Sassoli, I kindly ask you to continue to do so even against those, such as the Central Electoral Commission (JEC) of the Kingdom of Spain, who attempts to instrumentalise the deeds and legacy of a great European like David Sassoli.

Firmly rejecting such acts is a duty not only for the memory of David Sassoli but also for the integrity and prestige of the European Parliament.

Sincerely,

Massimiliano SMERIGLIO

Brando BENIFEI

Franco ROBERTI

Pietro BARTOLO

Elisabetta GUALMINI

Camilla LAURETI

Alessandra MORETTI