

Madrid ramps up pressure on Catalonia

Spain's Guardia Civil police have detained a dozen senior Catalan officials and raided regional government ministries ahead of a planned referendum on independence, which Madrid insists is illegal



■ **2010:** Spain's constitutional court strikes down key terms of Catalonia's autonomy statute

■ **Sep 11, 2012:** 1.5m people take part in independence rally in Barcelona



■ **Sep 20:** Spanish Prime Minister **Mariano Rajoy** rejects Catalonia bid for greater fiscal independence

■ **Nov 9, 2014:** Catalan authorities stage symbolic poll on secession, despite strong opposition from Madrid. More than 80% vote in favour, but turnout is only 40%

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

■ **Sep 27, 2015:** Pro-sovereignty forces win majority of seats in Catalan parliament

■ **Mar 2017:** Former Catalan president **Artur Mas** banned from public office for two years over 2014 vote

■ **Jun 9:** New Catalan president **Carles Puigdemont** calls unilateral referendum on Oct 1



■ **Sep 20:** After police raids, Puigdemont accuses Madrid of "de facto" suspension of Catalan autonomy and imposing state of emergency