

Manifesto supporting the Universal Basic Income Pilot Plan in Catalonia

We, the undersigned, express our support for the Universal Basic Income Pilot Plan in Catalonia, as well as for the establishment of this redistributive measure. A Pilot plan like this is the best way to design the way to implement this measure and to foresee some of its main impacts. We believe that an unconditional and universal monetary allocation must be a right to be urgently conquered.

The investiture agreement for the Catalan Presidency signed between the CUP (Candidatura d'Unitat Popular) and ERC (Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya) in March 2021 included rolling up a Universal Basic Income Pilot plan. As a result of this agreement, an Office was created which has worked both on the design of this Plan and on its national and international dissemination. During the last few weeks, the PSC (the Catalan Socialist Party) has publicly demonstrated against this Pilot with quite weak arguments and has also tried to cancel the budget to fund the Pilot plan, which in fact, was left out of the negotiation of the country's budget.

Beyond the Pilot, we strongly believe that Universal Basic Income is an essential measure to build a country that recognizes the right to exist based on freedom. Freedom which, if it is treated seriously and not as an empty slogan, can only be exercised if the material conditions that make it possible are available. Without them, anyone who have no assets or capital is forced to accept any conditions for "earning a living". And necessity is not freedom. Freedom must be a collective and universal right. The alternative is an enduring crisis and a country full of precarious lives. Universal Basic Income is, in short, a guarantee that "life worth living" is a right for everyone:

- Because it overcomes the rumor-mongering, the racist, and xenophobic prejudices generated by conditional benefits due to having to prove residence.
- Because, as it is individual, it does not bind any particular type of family, nor does it reward any sex-affective form over others.
- Because it avoids the hell of poverty or mental or physical health checks on which many benefits are conditioned. He who begs cannot be free.
- Because it allows space for the generating community forms of association.
- Because it allows reproductive work to be valued.

If we want a free future, we must think of a present that overcomes a crisis that has lasted too long; we must think in a society where the postal address and the family unit do not determine life expectancy.

Catalonia must advance in rights, not retreat in the face of those who fear their people's freedom and of big capital. There is much to be gained.

Save the Catalan Universal Basic Income Pilot plan! For the right to an existence that allows a life worth living. For the right to an Universal Basic Income.

Sign the manifesto: <https://forms.gle/wBcBRwvrW3AXakJB7>

