



## **INDIPENDENZA VENETA**

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**European Parliament**  
**Committee on Petitions**  
**The Secretariat**  
Rue Wiertz  
B-1047 Brussels

**Subject: PETITION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO SUPPORT THE  
CONSULTORY REFERENDUM ON INDEPENDENCE OF VENETO AND TO  
GUARANTEE THE EFFECTIVE EXECUTION OF SUBSEQUENT DECISIONS**

The political movement **INDIPENDENZA VENETA** promoted a collection of signatures among Venetian voters to promote the present Petition addressed to the European Parliament. The subscribers of the present petition, European Union citizens and registered voters in the municipalities of the Veneto Region,

REFERRING TO THE RULES OF LAW

of the Italian Republic, the European Union and the international legal system that states:

- a) Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person (art. 5 of the European Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms);
- b) "*The Italian legal system conforms to the generally recognized rules of international law*" (Article 10 of the Italian Constitution);
- c) "All peoples have the right of self-determination... The States Parties to the present Covenant,... shall promote the realization of the right of self-determination..." (Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 19 December 1966);
- d) Venetians have the status of "People" (Art. 2 of Italian Law 340/1971)
- e) "*it is entirely possible for a particular act — such as a unilateral declaration of independence — not to be in violation of international law*" and that "*In no case... does the practice of States as a whole suggest that the act of promulgating the declaration was regarded as contrary to international law.*" (International Court of Justice, 22 July 2010)

RECALLING

- f) that, according to Art. 227 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, "*Any citizen of the Union, and any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Member State, shall have the right to address, individually or in association*

*with other citizens or persons, a petition to the European Parliament on a matter which comes within the Union's fields of activity and which affects him, her or it directly."*

- g)** That the Treaty of Lisbon strengthens the principle of participative democracy through the protection provided by Art. 11 TEU that "*The institutions shall, by appropriate means, give citizens and representative associations the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action.*" (Comma 1), and that "*The institutions shall maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society.*" (Comma 2);

#### HIGHLIGHTED

- h)** that the political movement **INDIPENDENZA VENETA** has requested to the Regional Council of Veneto (institution that represents today the Venetian People) to hold a referendum to know the will of the Venetian People as to its independence and to make decisions that will be consequential to the outcome of the referendum, even up to the Declaration of Independence of the Veneto;

- i)** that the Regional Council of Veneto, met in special session 28 November, 2012, approving the following **Resolution**:

*"The Venetian People", exercising its natural and legitimate right of self-government, historical and current, recalling all historical, political and juridical reasons cited above, in advance*

#### ***recognizing***

*the current Italian constitutional legality that sees it as a fundamental autonomous part in the current State unity;*

#### ***recalling***

*the juridical principles generally recognized by the norms of international law as fundamental to civil society and peace among Peoples, as well as the consolidated law of international organizations, that recognizing the right of peoples to self-determination it protects the right to free expression of their will,*

#### ***confirming***

*its own right to have a democratic and direct referendum consultation to freely express the right of self-determination within the framework provided by the current legality, even international and at the same time*

#### ***commits the President of the Regional Council of Veneto and the President of the Veneto Region***

*to take action, with every resource available to the Regional Council, to start urgently with the European Union and the United Nations institutions relations that will ensure the holding of the referendum in order to determine the intention of Venetian People (Popolo Veneto) in terms of*

*their self-determination, using for this purpose also the advisory opinion of a committee of jurists without any burden on the Region;*

***commits the President of the Regional Council of Veneto  
and the President of the Veneto Region***

*in protecting in every competent venue, domestic and international, the right to self-determination of the Venetian People.;*

- j)** that **Catalonia**, whose territory is currently within a state member of the European Union as Spain, has called a referendum by 2014 to verify the will of its own People on the independence from Spain (even if Art. 2 of the Spanish Constitution declares: “*The Constitution is based on the indissoluble unity of the Spanish nation, the common and indivisible country of all Spaniards*”);
- k)** that an analogous referendum initiative has been called in Scotland for 2014 in order to verify the will of its own People regarding the independence from the United Kingdom;

**DECLARED**

- l)** that with the current petition the subscribers intend claiming, based on international law, the right of Venetian People to self-determination, inviting the European Parliament to take a stance on the effective protection of this right given the referendum initiative that the Veneto Region has announced with the Resolution mentioned above;
- m)** that the Treaty on European Union establishes with Art. 3, Comma 5, that “*In its relations with the wider world, the Union shall uphold and promote its values and interests and contribute to the protection of its citizens. It shall contribute to peace, security, the sustainable development of the Earth, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, free and fair trade, eradication of poverty and the protection of human rights, in particular the rights of the child, as well as to the strict observance and the development of international law, including respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter.*”;
- n)** that the Venetian People, through their institutional representatives, have declared with the above mentioned Resolution to want to act within the full legality deriving from International Law, described above;

**ASK**

that the competent institutions of the European Union, recalling the **right to self-determination of the Venetian People**,

**SUPPORT**

EVEN WITH INTERNATIONAL MONITORING THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF VENETO AND VENETIAN INSTITUTIONS DURING THE REFERENDUM THAT

WILL BE CALLED TO KNOW THE WILL OF VENETIAN CITIZENS REGARDING THEIR OWN INDEPENDENCE;

**GUARANTEE**

THE LEGITIMACY AND EFFECTIVE EXECUTION OF DECISIONS THAT VENETIAN INSTITUTIONS WILL ADOPT CONSEQUENTLY THE REFERENDUM RESULT ON INDEPENDENCE OF VENETO.

The text of the present Petition is accompanied by the subscribers' signatures and by the Resolution 44 (*Risoluzione 44*), approved by the Regional Council of Veneto with the Resolution 145 (*Delibera 145*) of 28 November 2012.

Venice, 25 December 2012.

**President of INDIPENDENZA VENETA**  
*Luca Azzano Cantarutti*

**Secretary of INDIPENDENZA VENETA**  
*Lodovico Pizzati*