



## **27 November 2017: Catalonia Nearby**

*An evening for speakers and discussions on the Catalan situation, in comparison to Fryslân*

Many Frisians feel solidarity for the Catalans. The emotions related to speaking a minority language are familiar. But, as opposed to the Catalan language in Catalonia, Frisian was never forbidden in the Netherlands. Still, Catalonia feels near for Frisians. This is why the European Bureau for Small Languages (EBLT), Mercator European Research Centre and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG), department of Minorities & Multilingualism | Frysk organise an evening for speakers and discussions on the Catalan situation. Experts from the region and from Fryslân will shine a light on the situation, and invite the audience to join in the discussion.

After a short introduction from the organisation, prof. dr. Goffe Jensma, head of the Frisian language and literature department, and director for the studies MA Multilingualism and BA Minorities & Multilingualism at RUG, will moderate the discussion. In his presentation, he will make a comparison between Fryslân and Catalonia, but also with other European minorities.

Dr. Eva J. Daussà, lecturer of linguistics at RUG, will briefly present the historic, cultural and political context. Dr. Tilman Lanz, lecturer of anthropology at RUG, will reflect on ethnic and civic nationalism, non-violence, and the implications of the Catalan conflict for Europe. Student MA Multilingualism Guillem Belmar experienced the events in Catalonia first-hand, and speaks movingly about the emotional side of the referendum and the events leading up to it. Daussà and Belmar are from the region, Lanz is an expert on Catalonia.

Frisian journalist Sybrand Grasdijk has lived in Barcelona as an exchange student and has made a documentary about the events leading up to the referendum. A shortened version of his film will be shown in the course of the evening.

The event will be held at Tryater, Oostersingel 70 in Leeuwarden, on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2017, from 19.30 to 22.00 hours. Register with the secretariat of EBLT through [eblt@fryske-akademy.nl](mailto:eblt@fryske-akademy.nl)

Where: Tryater, Oostersingel 70, Leeuwarden

When: 27/11/2017, 19.30-22.00 (opening at 19.00 hours, breaks with refreshments)

Free entrance, register through [eblt@fryske-akademy.nl](mailto:eblt@fryske-akademy.nl)