

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## Pollensa council wants to increase access to La Fortaleza, star of hit series *The Night Manager*

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● Interior Ministry decides to send additional manpower and equipment. See Inside.



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## Spain tells Catalonia will cut off funds if used for poll

Madrid.—The Spanish government told Catalonia yesterday it would lose access to some public funds if found using state money to organise a referendum on independence that Madrid says is illegal.

The wealthy northeastern region plans to hold a popular vote on whether it should secede from Spain on 1 October, which the central government says cannot go ahead because it is unconstitutional.

Spain's regions pay taxes to the central government and are then given a quota to spend on health, education and public infrastructure, a system Catalonia - which has one of Spain's strongest regional economies - says is unfair.

Madrid also sends extra funds to the Catalan government under a programme - the Autonomous Liquidity Fund (FLA) - set up during the economic crisis, when Spain's regional governments were all but cut off from international debt markets.

Catalan authorities will be obliged to provide weekly accounts to show no public money is being used to promote the independence drive, or lose access to the FLA, central government spokesman Inigo Mendez de Vigo said yesterday.

"The Autonomous Liquidity Fund payments are conditional on compliance with the agreement," de Vigo told a news conference following a weekly cabinet meeting.

The government has sent some 67 billion euros (\$78 billion) to Catalonia since the FLA fund was created in 2012, and 3.6 billion euros this year.

"Not one euro of the Catalan money will go to an illegal referendum," de Vigo said.

Support in Catalonia for independence from Spain fell to 41.1 percent in June, a survey showed yesterday - its lowest level since the separatist campaign gained traction in 2012.

"Let's get the hell out of here" - quake off Greece and Turkey kills two: See Inside Today

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