**Beat: Politics** 

# Spain this week celebrates its most important debate policy

## **Begins Tuesday in Parliament**

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**USPA NEWS -** The House of Representatives, the lower house of the Spanish Parliament, held this week, between Tuesday and Thursday, the twenty-fifth general policy debate, called in Spain Debate on the State of the Nation.

This is the most important of this 2015 in which the Spaniards will go to the polls four times. The debate open an election year unprecedented in recent Spanish history. In March, the Andalusian -in the south of Spain- to elect their regional Parliament. In May, all Spaniards go to the polls in local and regional elections. In September will be the Catalans who elect their regional representatives in an election that since the Government of Catalonia, determined to seek independence, is presented as a plebiscite; and in November, if the provisions are met, legislative elections were held.

Four appointments to the polls in which Spain is staking its future and in which, for the first time, a populist party(Podemos) of Bolivarian inspiration and ideas, allegedly sustained financially by the Government of Venezuela, threatens the hegemony of the two major parties: the conservative Popular Party (PP sis acronym in Spanish) and Socialist Party (PSOE).

Quote this week in the House of Representatives can not be, therefore, more committed to the Spanish prime minister, Mariano Rajoy, who oppose their achievements to criticism and threats against the unity of Spain. The figures give the reason: his government has fought the greatest economic crisis in decades and although it has failed to win the battle against unemployment, the number of Spaniards out of work is less than four years ago. Furthermore, the Spanish economy grows, the risk premium is at levels of several years and Spain is again an attractive country for foreign investors.

But the opposition does not think so and where the numbers give reason to the government, socialist and nationalist focus on threats to the unity of Spain with Catalonia chasing independence and Basque Country looking forward to the development of that process. Also present corruption as a real failure of the Executive, as the conservative Popular Party is affected by several lawsuits seeking to clarify whether its financing is legal and many of its former leaders are on trial or have been convicted of corruption. But this problem is not just conservatives because in Andalucía, the Socialist Party has been directly involved in the biggest corruption scandal in the history of Spain.

In this region of southern Spain, members of the regional government have been accused of embezzling funds for social coverage and training for the unemployed, in a scandal that also involves trade union officials and businessmen close to the Socialist Party. Corruption fueling the populist Podemos, which for months appears in surveys as the first or second party in voting intentions. Therefore, the debate this week in Parliament acquired unprecedented importance.

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