

## Spain officially takes over Catalan, fires leaders

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Spain's central government officially took control of Catalonia on Saturday, one day after announcing the dissolution of the regional Parliament.

In an [official state bulletin](#), Spain dismissed the leaders, handing control to Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria. Also, Spain's interior ministry took charge of Catalonia's police and fired senior police officials.

On Friday, Prime Minister [Mariano Rajoy](#) removed Catalan's leader, Carles Puigdemont, and called snap local elections for Dec. 21. Earlier Friday, the Catalan Parliament voted to declare independence.

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