



Strasbourg, 18/09/2024

Complaint 1585/2024/AGU

Dear Mr Santamaria Lozano,  
Mr Fernando Santamaria Lozano fernando.santamaria.lozano@gmail.com

You recently made a complaint to the European Ombudsman. In your complaint you complained about the conduct of (i) the European Commission, (ii) the Authority for the European Political Parties and European Political Foundations, (iii) the Spanish national authorities and (iv) the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). In your complaint, you raised different issues: You argue that there is a need for an investigation into the Spanish electoral system and political parties; you are dissatisfied with the work of the Spanish Ombudsman and national authorities; and you are dissatisfied with the refusal of the EPPO to open an investigation in relation to a regional financial law.

I am sorry to have to tell you that the Ombudsman is unable to deal with your complaint. Regarding aspects (i) and (ii), this is because complainants must first have contacted the EU institution concerned about the problem before turning to the Ombudsman. This is to give the EU institution itself an opportunity to deal with the matter, without the need to involve the Ombudsman.

According to the information you have sent us you do not appear to have contacted these bodies yet to raise your concerns. Unfortunately, this means that the Ombudsman cannot

deal with these aspects of your complaint<sup>1</sup>.

If you wish to pursue the matter, I suggest that you contact the Commission and the Authority for the European Political Parties and European Political Foundations and set out the issue you raise in your complaint and the solution you are seeking. You can contact the European Commission at the following address:

[https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us/answering-your-questions\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us/answering-your-questions_en)

<sup>1</sup>Full information on the procedure and rights pertaining to complaints can be found at <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/document/70707>.

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You can contact the Authority for the European Political Parties and European Political Foundations at the following address:

<https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/home/the-authority>.

If you do not receive a satisfactory response from the Commission or the Authority for the European Political Parties and European Political Foundations within a reasonable timeframe, you may make a new complaint to the Ombudsman.

However, please bear in mind that the role of the Commission is limited to the supervision of potential breaches of EU law. As regards the Authority for the European Political Parties and European Political Foundations, its role is limited to registering, monitoring and imposing sanctions on European political parties and European political foundations.

The Ombudsman is unable to deal with aspects (iii) and (iv) of your complaint, as they do not fall within the Ombudsman's remit. The Ombudsman may only investigate complaints against the *European Union's* institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, listed [here](#). The European Ombudsman does not have an appeals or supervisory role in relation to the work of national ombudsmen. The aspect concerning the refusal of EPPO to open an investigation also falls outside the mandate of the Ombudsman because she is not in a position to look into the EPPO's investigations and or its decisions on whether to open investigations.

I appreciate this may not be your desired outcome, but I hope you find this information helpful. Thank you for having contacted the European Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely,



Tina Nilsson  
Head of the Case-handling Unit

