The Fight for Independence: Catalan Political Institutions and Their Affect on Catalunya's Movement for Independence

Megan Lemke  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

William Munro, Faculty Advisor  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc](http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc)  
Part of the [International and Area Studies Commons](http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc)

[http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2017/oralpres2/2](http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2017/oralpres2/2)

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at The Ames Library at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.  
©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.
Oral Presentation  O2.3

THE FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE: CATALAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR AFFECT ON CATALUNYA’S MOVEMENT FOR INDEPENDENCE

Megan Lemke and William Munro*
International Studies Program, Illinois Wesleyan University

The movement for independence within Catalunya has been gaining notice in the last 16 years. Yet, the movement towards independence has not progressed as much as expected. From the transition to democracy after General Francisco Franco died and his 35-year dictatorship came to an end, Catalunya quickly became a multiparty government. With multiple political beliefs spreading across the region, the movement for independence is inhibited since each political party has its own plan for Catalunya’s political future. The division of political parties in combination with the Spanish government, who strongly opposes the idea of an independent Catalunya, has deterred Catalunya from making any progress towards independence in recent years, even after the multiple referenda that have been held around the region. Through comparison of party platforms this research analyzes how the political parties in Catalunya cannot agree on how to move forward to gain independence, even though a majority of the community would like to achieve independence. It also shows how the Spanish government has utilized their power to interfere with the movement’s progress.