

Committee: JCC

Character: Popular Front, Basque Nationalist Party, José Antonio Aguirre

Agenda: The 1936 Spanish General Elections

Delegate: Mevlüt Eymen ÇELİK

Background: 1936 is the very important year in Spanish history. The country is deeply divided by the Popular Front, which advocates social reforms, on the one side, and the authoritarian nationalist right on the other. Social unrest, economic inequality, and ideological conflicts have brought Spain really close to civil war. It is amid such tension that Basques continue their long-standing fight for cultural identity and their right to self-determination.

Position: As José Antonio Aguirre, representative of the Basque Nationalist Party, I am not in full accord with the revolutionary ideas of the extreme left, any more than with the oppressive centralism of the extreme right. My ideal is a Basque region that is democratic, Christian, and autonomous. While I am in favor of holding together all of Spain, I also believe that regionalist rights of a linguistic, cultural, and economic nature must be constitutionally protected. What the Basques want is an equal union, not separation.

Proposed Actions: I would probably be focused, while being part of the committee, on getting the Basque Statute of Autonomy ratified. I promote open dialogue with the Republican side and the establishment of some local security measures that would keep peace in this region. I will also try to prevent violence across the country, protect democratic institutions, and make sure religious freedoms are protected. My ultimate goal is unification of Spain in liberty and justice, ending division.