

Declaration by Euskadi ta Askatasuna to Euskal Herria

ETA, the Basque revolutionary socialist organisation for national liberation, wishes to inform the Basque citizenry by means of this declaration of a decision that it has made.

Basque Country And Freedom [ETA] has decided to declare a permanent ceasefire starting at midnight, the 24th of March, 2006.

ETA's analysis

The object of this decision is to support the democratic process that is necessary in Euskal Herria in order to achieve through dialogue, negotiation and agreement the political change that our country needs.

It is necessary to construct a democratic framework for Euskal Herria to replace the present framework based on imposition, division and denial, recognising henceforth the rights of our People and ensuring the possibility of all political options.

At the end of that democratic process, the Basque citizens must be entitled to express their opinion and decide on their future in order to provide a democratic resolution to the conflict.

ETA believes that all the Basque agents in society have a part to play in developing that process and reaching an agreement on the future of Euskal Herria, while respecting the diversity and integrity of Euskal Herria.

The states of Spain and France must honour the outcome of Euskal Herria's democratic process, recognising the decision made by Basque citizens concerning their future without any kind of limitation or coercion.

ETA's appeal

We appeal to all organisations to react responsibly in a manner consistent with this step being taken by ETA.

This is a time for commitment. We must all commit ourselves and assume serious responsibilities in order to construct together the democratic solution that Euskal Herria needs. It is a time for courage in the adoption of far-reaching decisions; a time to pass from words to action.

We call on the leaders of Spain and France to respond positively to this new situation, to refrain from placing obstacles and hindrances in the way of the democratic process, to relinquish attitudes of denial and repression and demonstrate their willingness to resolve the conflict through a negotiated settlement.

Lastly, we call on all Basque citizens, and on all members of the *abertzale* Left in

particular, to get enthusiastically involved in this process and defend the rights of our People.

ETA's commitment

ETA announces its will and determination to continue with this process to achieve genuine democracy in Euskal Herria, moving beyond the long years of fighting to build a peace founded on justice, and proclaims its commitment to carry on working to further that aim until Euskal Herria's rights are achieved.

Right now and right here, a solution to the conflict is possible, and that is ETA's goal.

Euskal Herria, March, 2006

Basque Country And Freedom

E.T.A.