Salt

Salt removes ERC banners after Electoral Board orders mayor to take one down

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The Town Council itself confirmed that the intersection where the mayor's party's campaign material was displayed was outside the designated election spaces and that it had no record of any request from ERC to use it. The removal followed a complaint from local residents and came before the 24-hour deadline expired

The ERC banners that Girona Notícies had found in Salt were no longer on the streets on Wednesday afternoon, as this outlet was able to verify. Among those removed was the one that prompted the intervention of the Girona Zone Electoral Board, bearing the slogan "Defend yourself" and the Esquerra Republicana logo. It was tied between two public streetlights at the intersection of Carrer de les Guilleries and Carrer del Doctor Ferran.

As Girona Notícies reported this morning, the Board addressed the order to both Salt Town Council and the mayor, Cristina Alarcón Piedra (ERC). It gave them 24 hours from notification to remove the banner from that intersection and warned that failure to comply could lead to penalty proceedings. The decision referred specifically to this banner. Girona Notícies

The most damaging detail for Alarcón's administration comes from the council's own response. The Town Council had informed the Board which spaces in Salt were reserved for election advertising. The intersection was not on the list, had not been allocated to ERC, and there was no

record of the party having requested permission to hang anything there. Even so, the logo of the party holding the mayor's office was displayed between two municipal streetlights for days.

One of the complainants told this outlet that at around 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday he personally checked that the banner was no longer there. According to his account, it had been hanging for nearly a week. The resident criticised the municipal government for allowing ERC to campaign for days at a location that had not been assigned to it and for leaving it to residents to take the initiative to put things right.

The removal within the deadline satisfies the electoral order. However, a political question remains for ERC and Cristina Alarcón's administration: how did the mayor's party's campaign material come to be displayed between two streetlights at a location that the Town Council itself knew it had not reserved for any candidate list?

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