

Compromise or compromiso

27 de enero de 2017



Is this sentence correct?

- Ester cannot go to the opera in Santa Cruz because of a previous compromise.

The short answer is no. “Compromise” means “compromiso” **only** in the sense of (sentido de) mutual agreement (acuerdo mutuo o arreglo). Compromise **does not mean** obligation, engagement, guarantee or awkward position or situation (una situación embarazosa o delicada).

Here is the correct version of the sentence:

- Ester cannot go to the opera because of a previous engagement.

Here we have some correct examples of the use of “compromise”:

- Mr. Rivera and Mr. Rajoy tried to reach a compromise (...intentaron llegar a un acuerdo).
- Mr. Rajoy has refused to compromise on the issue of pay (Mr. Rajoy ha negado a hacer concesiones en el tema de los salarios).
- The management did not reach a compromise with the trade unions (la dirección no llegó a un compromiso con los sindicatos laborales).