



Doc. 11509

24 January 2008

For realistic, credible intercultural dialogue

Written declaration No. 407

The undersigned,

1. Considering that the development of intercultural and inter-religious dialogue within the framework of the Council of Europe may be meaningful and credible only if it reflects the democratic principles and values enshrined in the Statute of the Council of Europe and makes it possible to promote them effectively at international level;
2. Considering it regrettable that several recent Council of Europe initiatives reflect a hazardous approach alien to democratic culture and practices;
3. Note that such initiatives risk unnecessarily promoting those they focus on, while not serving the fundamental cause and vocation of the Council of Europe, indeed quite to the contrary;
4. Solemnly call on all the competent organs and authorities of the Council of Europe to scrupulously ensure that any official contact is avoided with personalities, governments or organisations whose views or actions run directly or indirectly counter to the texts and founding values of the Council of Europe;
5. Express the wish that wide-ranging inter-institutional debate may be swiftly launched within the Council of Europe with a view to realigning intercultural and inter-religious dialogue with the Organisation's inherent outlook as enshrined in the Statute and the European Convention on Human Rights.

*Signed*¹:

Signed (see overleaf)

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1. EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group



*Signed*²:

RIES Roland, France
BERCEANU Radu Mircea, Romania
BIBERAJ Aleksandër, Albania
BLUM Roland, France, EPP/CD
BRANGER Jean-Guy, France
ÇULI Diana, Albania
DREYFUS-SCHMIDT Michel, France
DURRIEU Josette, France, SOC
ERR Lydie, Luxembourg, SOC
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
GROSSKOST Arlette, France, EPP/CD
HUSS Jean, Luxembourg, SOC
ISLAMI Kastriot, Albania, SOC
MIGNON Jean-Claude, France, EPP/CD
MILO Paskal, Albania
PAPADOPOULOS Antigonis, Cyprus
PERNASKA Lajla, Albania, EPP/CD
POURGOURIDES Christos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
PREDA Cezar Florin, Romania, EPP/CD
REISS Frédéric, France, EPP/CD
REYNAUD Marie-Line, France, SOC
ROCHEBLOINE François, France, EPP/CD
ROUQUET René, France
SCHNEIDER André, France, EPP/CD

Total = 24

2. EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group