



Doc. 11819

29 January 2009

Intolerance and hate speech in Azerbaijan

Written declaration No. 420

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

Whereas the Council of Europe remains committed to working together for reconciliation and political solutions in the unresolved conflicts in Europe,

Whereas the international community continues to invest considerable efforts in achieving durable and negotiated peace and reconciliation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict,

Whereas the prevalence of expressions of hate speech targeting specific populations are a precipitating factor for the outbreak of violence and the commitment of crimes against humanity, including the crime of genocide,

Whereas the authorities of Azerbaijan consistently incite, encourage and tolerate widespread manifestations of intolerance and hate speech against Armenia, its people and persons of Armenian origin, including through the active contribution of the media,

Whereas numerous international credible monitoring bodies, including from within the Council of Europe, have expressed their serious concerns about such manifestations of intolerance and incitement to hatred in Azerbaijan;

We, the undersigned, urge the Government of Azerbaijan to end without delay their policies and acts of manifestations of intolerance and hate speech against Armenia, its people and persons of Armenian origin;

We call upon the monitoring mechanisms within the Assembly to pay particular attention to this issue and to include their findings in their subsequent reports.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

ZOHRABYAN Naira, Armenia
ADONTS Avet, Armenia
AGHAJANYAN Artsruni, Armenia
BLUM Roland, France, EPP/CD
CRISAFULLI Vladimiro, Italy, SOC
EVANS Nigel, United Kingdom
GALATI Giuseppe, Italy, EPP/CD
GLESENER Marcel, Luxembourg
HARUTYUNYAN Davit, Armenia, EDG
IVANOV Ivan Nikolaev, Bulgaria
JACOBSEN Bjørn, Norway
JACQUES Kateřina, Czech Republic
KUCHEIDA Jean-Pierre, France, SOC
LOEPFE Arthur, Switzerland
LOTMAN Aleksei, Estonia, UEL
MARKOVIĆ Milica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
MARQUET Bernard, Monaco, ALDE
MIGNON Jean-Claude, France, EPP/CD
NAGHDALYAN Hermine, Armenia, ALDE
OMELCHENKO Hryhoriy, Ukraine
PAPADOPOULOS Antigoni, Cyprus
PERNASKA Lajla, Albania, EPP/CD
ROCHEBLOINE François, France, EPP/CD
ROUQUET René, France
RUSSO Giacinto, Italy, ALDE
RUSTAMYAN Armen, Armenia, SOC

Total = 26

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left