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Oppression of the Democratic Society Party (DTP) - Turkey

Written declaration No. 425

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.

The undersigned

1. Are deeply concerned by the latest large-scale raids carried out by Turkish police against the Democratic Society Party-DTP, which forms the fourth largest group -with 21 members- in the Turkish Grand National Assembly. During these operations more than 300 members and executives were arrested, and 153 of them including 3 vice presidents of DTP were put in prison.
2. The mass arrests and intensive oppression which are now underway after the local elections in Turkey are unacceptable in a country which is a founding member of the Council of Europe
3. The results of the last local elections in South Eastern Turkey show that the Kurdish people want a peaceful political solution to the Kurdish issue.
4. In order to have stability, democracy and human rights, and to prevent violence in the country, there should be respect for the struggle for the democracy and the activities of political parties.
5. We call on the Turkish authorities for the immediate release of all those who were arrested and to stop the oppression of the DTP.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

FRAHM Pernille, Denmark, UEL
AUSTIN John, United Kingdom
ELZINGA Tuur, Netherlands, UEL
ETHERINGTON Bill, United Kingdom
FASSINO Piero, Italy, SOC
HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD
JACOBSEN Bjørn, Norway
KONEČNÝ Albrecht, Austria, SOC
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
KÜHNEL Franz Eduard, Austria, EPP/CD
LEMPENS Paul, Netherlands
LILLIEHÖÖK Anna, Sweden
LINDBLAD Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD
LOTMAN Aleksei, Estonia, UEL
MAISSEN Theo, Switzerland
MEALE Alan, United Kingdom, SOC
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
STUMP Doris, Switzerland, SOC
SZABÓ Zoltán, Hungary
VIS Rudi, United Kingdom

Total = 20

1. EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left