Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Lithuanian Law on the protection of minors restricts publication of information on homosexual and bisexual relations

Written declaration No. 428

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.

We, the undersigned members of the Assembly,

Note with concern the adoption by the Lithuanian Parliament of a law which:

– deems public information "agitating" for homosexual and bisexual relations detrimental to the "mental health, physical, intellectual or moral development of minors";

– prohibits the publication of such information except in places or at times when such information would be inaccessible to minors,

Are shocked that such information has been classified with the promotion of drugs or suicide, and the portrayal of killings, mutilation or torture;

Believe that this legislation will serve only to perpetuate discrimination and intolerance and deny young lesbian, gay and bisexual persons access to information which they need in order to live in accordance with their sexual orientation;

Emphasise that these provisions violate both the European Convention on Human Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Call upon:

– the President of Lithuania to refer the law back to the Parliament for revision in the light of Lithuania's international human rights obligations;

– the Parliament of Lithuania to eliminate all discriminatory references to homosexual and bisexual relationships in this law.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

HÄGG Carina, Sweden
BOSWELL Tim, United Kingdom, EDG
CIRCENE Ingrida, Latvia, EPP/CD
ČURDOVÁ Anna, Czech Republic
ELZINGA Tuur, Netherlands, UEL
FRAHM Pernille, Denmark, UEL
GALE Anita, United Kingdom
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
HANCOCK Mike, United Kingdom, ALDE
HUSS Jean, Luxembourg, SOC
IVANJI Željko, Serbia, EPP/CD
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
JENSEN Michael Aastrup, Denmark, ALDE
JOHN-CALAME Francine, Switzerland, SOC
JONKER Corien W.A., Netherlands, EPP/CD
KELEMEN Attila Béla-Ladislau, Romania, EPP/CD
LAMBERT Geert, Belgium
LEMPENS Paul, Netherlands
LEUTHEUSSER-SCHNARRENBERGER Sabine, Germany, ALDE
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MONFILS Philippe, Belgium
MÓSESDÓTTIR Lilja, Iceland, UEL
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
POSTANJYAN Zaruhi, Armenia
RACHOŃ Janusz, Poland, EPP/CD
ROSOVÁ Tatiana, Slovak Republic, EPP/CD
STOLFI Fiorenzo, San Marino, SOC
STUMP Doris, Switzerland, SOC
SYDOW Björn, von, Sweden, SOC
VRIES Klaas, de, Netherlands, SOC
WILLE Paul, Belgium

Total = 31

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