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## The 20th anniversary of collapse of totalitarian regimes in Europe

### Written declaration No. 426

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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.

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1. This year brings the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Autumn of Nations that has brought the subversion of the totalitarian regime to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and has restored democracy and freedom of speech.
2. The democratic transformations of 1989 stemmed from a number of earlier social uprisings enhancement of dissident movements, such as Solidarity (Solidarność), and the attempts of implementation of first reforms in communistic countries, including the perestroika and glasnost in the Soviet Union.
3. A definite milestone on the path to democracy was the success of the Solidarity-based opposition in the first, after the Second World War, partly free parliamentary elections in Poland on 4 June 1989. The scale of the Solidarity success in these elections led to the formation of the first after World War II in this part of Europe non-communistic government of Tadeusz Mazowiecki in August 1989.
4. This event has incited a series of historical transformations in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe: in Hungary, in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (the so-called Baltic Chain, on 23 August 1989), in German Democratic Republic (the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989), Czechoslovakia (the Velvet Revolution in November 1989), in Bulgaria, Romania and Albania.
5. The Autumn of Nations has finally destroyed the political order imposed on the countries of Central and Eastern Europe by the terms of the Yalta agreement.
6. The undersigned call on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the national parliaments to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the events which have resulted in the collapse of totalitarian regimes throughout Europe.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

LIPIŃSKI Dariusz, Poland, EPP/CD  
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD  
CORLĂȚEAN Titus, Romania, SOC  
DĄBKOWSKA-CICHOCKA Lena, Poland  
EVANS Nigel, United Kingdom  
FOSS Per-Kristian, Norway  
FRUNDA György, Romania, EPP/CD  
GRZYB Andrzej, Poland  
IWIŃSKI Tadeusz, Poland, SOC  
JAZŁOWIECKA Danuta, Poland  
KARPIŃSKI Włodzimierz, Poland, EPP/CD  
KAŻMIERCZAK Jan, Poland, EPP/CD  
KELEŞ Birgen, Turkey, SOC  
KONEČNÝ Albrecht, Austria, SOC  
LINDBLAD Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD  
MOTA AMARAL João Bosco, Portugal, EPP/CD  
NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava, Czech Republic  
NYKIEL Mirosława, Poland, EPP/CD  
OMELCHENKO Hryhoriy, Ukraine  
PUCHE Gabino, Spain, EPP/CD  
SCHMITT Ingo, Germany  
STULIGROSZ Michał, Poland, EPP/CD  
TEKELİOĞLU Mehmet, Turkey, EPP/CD  
VITALI Luigi, Italy, EPP/CD

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Total = 24

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