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27 November 2009

The environmental impact of sunken shipwrecks

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Sir Alan MEALE and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The Assembly is concerned that recent evidence has revealed that over 8,500 shipwrecks remain sunk in marine waters around the world, including more than 1,500 tanker vessels weighing in excess of 150 gross tons. Wrecks which, it has been established, are likely to contain as much as 20 million tons (140 million barrels) of oil and other hazardous materials. In addition, sporadic or continuous leakages from those wrecks, 75% of which date from the two World Wars, pose a continual risk across the globe.

The Assembly invites the Council of Europe member states and non member states concerned to work together to find technically viable solutions to the problem posed to the environment by the threat of sunken shipwrecks.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

MEALE Alan, United Kingdom, SOC
AČAS Remigijus, Lithuania, EDG
AÇIKGÖZ Ruhi, Turkey, EDG
AZPIAZU Pedro, Spain, ALDE
DALGAARD Per, Denmark, EDG
DEITTERT Hubert, Germany
FRÉCON Jean-Claude, France, SOC
JOHN-CALAME Francine, Switzerland, SOC
KOÇ Haluk, Turkey, SOC
KORKEAOJA Juha, Finland, ALDE
LIPIŃSKI Dariusz, Poland, EPP/CD
MARMAZOV Yevhen, Ukraine, UEL
MARMAZOV Yevhen, Ukraine, UEL
MENDES BOTA José, Portugal, EPP/CD
O'HARA Edward, United Kingdom
POPESCU Ivan, Ukraine, SOC
PRESCOTT John, United Kingdom, SOC
RODRÍGUEZ BARAHONA Teresa, Spain, SOC
ÜNAL Mustafa, Turkey, EPP/CD

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