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Turkey's threats against the sovereign right of the Republic of Cyprus to explore its oil and natural gas resources within its Exclusive Economic Zone

Written declaration No. 499

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 Republic of Cyprus is being faced with strong and growing threats by Turkey, against exercising its sovereign right to prospect for oil and natural gas within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This right stems from and is in strict compliance with international law and in particular, the Convention on the Law of the Sea, which Turkey has not signed to date.

We, the undersigned:

- strongly condemn Turkey's bellicose threats against a member state of the Council of Europe and the European Union,
- welcome statements by, inter alia, the USA, the Russian Federation, European Union member states and the European Union Commissioner for Enlargement concerning the inalienable sovereign right of Cyprus to explore eventual oil and natural gas deposits within its EEZ and ask the Parliamentary Assembly to openly support this right as well,
- call on the Turkish Prime Minister to immediately cease all threats and actions creating a climate of tension in the region, as well as his blackmail for collapse of the on-going talks on the Cyprus problem, should the Republic of Cyprus proceed with its exploration.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

POURGOURIDES Christos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš, Serbia, EPP/CD
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
BARCIA DUEDRA Gerard, Andorra, SOC
BENTON Joe, United Kingdom, SOC
BÉTEILLE Laurent, France, EPP/CD
BONET PEROT Sílvia Eloïsa, Andorra, SOC
CHARALAMBOPOULOS Georges, Greece, SOC
CONNARTY Michael, United Kingdom, SOC
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
DOBBIN Jim, United Kingdom, SOC
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
FRANKEN Hans, Netherlands, EPP/CD
FRITZ Erich Georg, Germany, EPP/CD
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
GHILETCHI Valeriu, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
GIANNAKA Sophia, Greece, SOC
GIARETTA Paolo, Italy, ALDE
HOOD Jim, United Kingdom, SOC
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HÜBINGER Anette, Germany, EPP/CD
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KATRINIS Michail, Greece, SOC
KYRIAKIDOU Athina, Cyprus, SOC
LAVTIŽAR-BEBLER Darja, Slovenia, SOC
LEBEDA Pavel, Czech Republic, SOC
MANZONE-SAQUET Nicole, Monaco, EPP/CD
MARIN Christine, France, EPP/CD
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MEALE Alan, United Kingdom, SOC
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OMTZIGT Pieter, Netherlands, EPP/CD
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PAPADIMITRIOU Elsa, Greece, EPP/CD
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SOSA GOVEA Martha Leticia, Mexico
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STRÄSSER Christoph, Germany, SOC
STUMP Doris, Switzerland, SOC
TOMIĆ Boško, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC

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

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VRETTOS Konstantinos, Greece, SOC
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Total = 58