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21 June 2011

The banning of the Moscow Pride March in 2011

Written declaration No. 481

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.

In September 2010 the European Court of Human Rights held unanimously that the Russian Federation had violated the right to freedom of assembly when banning public events in support of LGBT rights in Moscow in 2006, 2007, and 2008.

In May 2011 the authorities again prohibited such an event, and arrested a number of people who tried to proceed with a peaceful demonstration. This indicates a lack of commitment of the Russian Federation to the principles of the Council of Europe. Not only does it damage respect for human rights in Russia, it undermines the standing of the Court and of the Council of Europe itself.

We the undersigned express our grave concern at the manifest failure of the Russian Federation to carry out its obligation to respect the European Convention on Human Rights and the damage this is causing to the standing of the Council of Europe. We call upon the rapporteurs on Russia in the Monitoring Committee to give due consideration to these concerns in their next report.

Signed (see overleaf)



Signed¹:

HAUGLI Håkon, Norway, SOC
ACKETOFT Tina, Sweden, ALDE
ANDERSEN Karin, Norway, UEL
ÁRNASON Mörður, Iceland, SOC
AXELSSON Lennart, Sweden, SOC
BREMER Tor, Norway, SOC
CAPARIN Karmela, Croatia, EPP/CD
CEDERBRATT Mikael, Sweden, EPP/CD
CHITI Vannino, Italy, SOC
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC
CORMAN Igor, Republic of Moldova, SOC
ERR Lydie, Luxembourg, SOC
FERIĆ-VAC Mirjana, Croatia, SOC
FLYNN Paul, United Kingdom, SOC
GRAHAM Sylvi, Norway, EPP/CD
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HÄGG Carina, Sweden, SOC
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
JOHANSSON Mats, Sweden, EPP/CD
JOHN-CALAME Francine, Switzerland, SOC
KAUFER Virág, Hungary, SOC
KIURU Krista, Finland, SOC
KOVÁCS Elvira, Serbia, EPP/CD
KUCHEIDA Jean-Pierre, France, SOC
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MYLLER Riitta, Finland, SOC
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
PFLUG Johannes, Germany, SOC
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
PRESCOTT John, United Kingdom, SOC
RIGONI Andrea, Italy, ALDE
SCHOU Ingjerd, Norway, EPP/CD
STRÄSSER Christoph, Germany, SOC
STUMP Doris, Switzerland, SOC
SYDOW Björn, von, Sweden, SOC
TOMLINSON John E., United Kingdom, SOC
TRETTEBERGSTUEN Anette, Norway, SOC
VĚSAITĚ Birutė, Lithuania, SOC
WOLDSETH Karin S., Norway, EDG

Total = 39

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