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Promoting the human rights of prisoners in Council of Europe member States

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Luca VOLONTÈ and other members of the Assembly

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

The Parliamentary Assembly is concerned by the frequent reports in the media of many Council of Europe member States on the dramatic conditions of detainees in prisons.

The Assembly should acknowledge the urgent need to address this question by means of a comprehensive analysis and report possibly leading to recommendations to protect the rights of prisoners and foster an exchange of good practices between member States.

The latest reports of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture highlight an increase in prison overcrowding, the growing number of foreign young and very young prisoners, and a sharp increase in prisoners awaiting final sentencing and in suicide among prisoners.

The Assembly, in the light of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 5), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 7), the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (ETS No. 126), the European Convention on Human Rights (Article 3), and several resolutions adopted by the Assembly in recent years, which have not been fully implemented, should consider, as a matter of urgency, revisiting the idea of a European Prisons Charter (Doc. 10097(2004)).

The Assembly should address the issue of whether the minimum conditions are in place to ensure that the sentence becomes, in accordance with European standards, a means of personal salvation and whether prisons and alternative facilities promote the reintegration of prisoners into society.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

VOLONTÈ Luca, Italy, EPP/CD
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD
BERGAMINI Deborah, Italy, EPP/CD
BINLEY Brian, United Kingdom, EDG
BOSWELL Tim, United Kingdom, EDG
BRAUN Márton, Hungary, EPP/CD
COLOMBIER Georges, France, EPP/CD
CONDE Agustín, Spain, EPP/CD
DONALDSON Jeffrey, United Kingdom, EDG
ECCLES Diana, United Kingdom, EDG
FARINA Renato, Italy, EPP/CD
FRANKEN Hans, Netherlands, EPP/CD
FRUNDA György, Romania, EPP/CD
GALE Roger, United Kingdom, EDG
GHILETCHI Valeriu, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
HAUPERT Norbert, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
HEALD Oliver, United Kingdom, EDG
HERASYM'YUK Olha, Ukraine, EPP/CD
HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD
KALMÁR Ferenc, Hungary, EPP/CD
KYRIAKIDES Stella, Cyprus, EPP/CD
LEYDEN Terry, Ireland, ALDE
MAKHMUTOV Anvar, Russian Federation, EDG
MATUŠIĆ Frano, Croatia, EPP/CD
MOTA AMARAL João Bosco, Portugal, EPP/CD
MUÑOZ-ALONSO Alejandro, Spain, EPP/CD
NEGELE Gebhard, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD
NIKOLAEVA Elena, Russian Federation, EDG
PAPADIMITRIOU Elsa, Greece, EPP/CD
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
QUINTANILLA Carmen, Spain, EPP/CD
SANTINI Giacomo, Italy, EPP/CD
SHAMKOV Yury, Russian Federation, EDG
SOBOLEV Serhiy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
SOLONIN Yury, Russian Federation, EDG
TER-AVANESOV Alexander, Russian Federation, EDG
TSISKARISHVILI Petré, Georgia, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
WADEPHUL Johann, Germany, EPP/CD
ZHIDKIKH Vladimir, Russian Federation, EDG

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party