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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Disturbing violations of the rights of LGBT people in Russia in recent weeks

Written declaration No. 525

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.

Recent weeks have seen a series of disturbing violations of the rights of LGBT people in Russia including:

– the detention in St Petersburg of 17 activists under the new law prohibiting "propaganda of homosexuality";

– the conviction of the first person under this law;

– the adoption of a similar law in Novosibirsk;

– the rejection of legal challenges to the St Petersburg and Archangel laws prohibiting "propaganda of homosexuality";

– injuries to LGBT activists during a demonstration in St Petersburg;

– the banning of the Moscow pride march for the seventh successive year, and the arrest of activists;

– the suppression of a demonstration by thugs in Novosibirsk, unimpeded by police;

– the abandonment of LGBT film festivals in Kemerovo and Novosibirsk, in the face of threats of violence, obstruction by the authorities, and refusal of the police to provide protection.

We call upon the Russian authorities to respect, rather than violate, the rights of LGBT people, and on the Committee of Ministers to insist that Russia respect its obligations as a member State of the Council of Europe.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

VILLUMSEN Nikolaj, Denmark, UEL
ALONSO José Antonio, Spain, SOC
ANDERSEN Karin, Norway, UEL
BOLDI Rossana, Italy, EDG
CONNARTY Michael, United Kingdom, SOC
ČRNAK MEGLIČ Andreja, Slovenia, SOC
DAVIES Don, Canada
DAVIES Geraint, United Kingdom, SOC
DOBBIN Jim, United Kingdom, SOC
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HÄGG Carina, Sweden, SOC
HÄRSTEDT Kent, Sweden, SOC
HAUGLI Håkon, Norway, SOC
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
JÁUREGUI Ramón, Spain, SOC
JENSEN Michael Aastrup, Denmark, ALDE
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
KOSZORÚS László, Hungary, EPP/CD
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
LØHDE Sophie, Denmark, ALDE
LOUKAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
MATTILA Pirkko, Finland, NR
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MEALE Alan, United Kingdom, SOC
MULIĆ Melita, Croatia, SOC
NEUGEBAUER Fritz, Austria, EPP/CD
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
PAPADIMOULIS Dimitrios, Greece, UEL
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
RECORDON Luc, Switzerland, SOC
REILLY Kathryn, Ireland, UEL
SHERIDAN Jim, United Kingdom, SOC
SYDOW Björn, von, Sweden, SOC
TAKTAKISHVILI Chiora, Georgia, ALDE
TRETTEBERGSTUEN Anette, Norway, SOC
VĖSAITĖ Birutė, Lithuania, SOC
WURM Gisela, Austria, SOC

Total = 37

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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
   NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group