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Clear definition of the criteria of political persecution

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Gediminas JAKAVONIS and other members of the Assembly

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

Despite the fact that all members of the Parliamentary Assembly publicly recognise the rule of law, respect for human rights and upholding of the principles of democracy, sometimes the perception of such values on the national level is radically different in different countries and even different from the principles advocated by the Parliamentary Assembly, while those values are interpreted very freely, depending on the political context.

Although the Assembly already adopted Resolution 1950 (2013) “Keeping political and criminal responsibility separate”, it did not take into account the fact that in some member States, particularly in post-Soviet countries, the perception of political persecution is increasingly being used, governments of member States, courts and law enforcement agencies interpret the principles of human rights, democracy and the rule of law very freely, legal immunity of politicians sometimes becomes an instrument of political games which is not quite transparent in nature, and litigation related to politicians often casts doubt concerning their impartiality and transparency.

The Assembly should therefore call:

- for the establishment of clear criteria for political persecution, which would allow any such persecution involving politicians to be transparent, fair, legitimate and objective;
- for the development of an appropriate monitoring mechanism to monitor and control the values promoted by the Assembly.

Signed (see overleaf)



Signed¹:

JAKAVONIS Gediminas, Lithuania, ALDE
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD
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GAUDI NAGY Tamás, Hungary, NR
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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