Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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The crash of Polish Air Force Tu-154 transporting the Polish delegation on 10 April 2010 on the Russian Federation's territory

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr Robert WALTER and other members of the Assembly

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

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On 10 April 2010, a Tupolev Tu-154M with the Polish State delegation on board, led by President Lech Kaczynski and which was taking part in ceremonies marking the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Massacre, crashed, killing all 96 passengers. These included President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria and many high-ranking Polish officials, among them the chief of the Polish General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, Polish military commanders, the chief of the National Security Bureau and the President of the National Bank of Poland.

Although more than four years have passed, the plane wreckage is still being kept by the Russian Federation, as well as the black boxes with original flight data recordings and much more material evidence. It is obviously due to a decision of a political nature made by the Russian authorities.

The media has revealed many times that the wreckage, which is being stored unprotected, is falling apart rapidly. The Russian Federation, keeping the plane wreckage for such a long time without any justification, has infringed the rules of law and co-operation between the member States of the Council of Europe. The Russian attitude seems to be politically motivated against Poland and is intended to interfere in the Polish investigation.

Therefore, the Parliamentary Assembly appeals to the Russian Federation to immediately return the plane wreckage to Poland, as well as the original flight data recordings and other material evidence in the case, currently being kept be the Russian side.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group