Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Historical controversy between Turks and Armenians

Written declaration No. 592

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.

Over nine centuries of co-existence between Turks and Armenians is overshadowed by the tragic events during the World War I.

The ongoing dispute over this tragedy in the final years of the Ottoman Empire continues to distress Turks and Armenians today.

Communal and national memories that include the monumental loss of life, suffering and deprivation continue to mark their relations. Competing narratives on the 1915 events keep two peoples apart.

Bearing in mind the above, we, the undersigned members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,

– commemorate the centenary of the Word War I and as an inseparable part of this tragedy we honour and pay compassion to the losses of peoples, fallen in the lands of the Empire in 1915;

– call on Turkey and Armenia to draw lessons from history towards a better future;

– invite both parties to address their history together and forge a new constructive relationship on the basis of dialogue, empathy and mutual respect;

– believe that an objective academic study of the relevant archives is necessary to reveal the truth;

– encourage both countries for the normalization of relations to ensure durable peace and stability in the Caucasus; and reiterate our support for the initiatives raised to these ends.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

DENEMEÇ Reha, Turkey, EC
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
BAĞIŞ Egemen, Turkey, EC
BAYKAL Deniz, Turkey, SOC
BİLGEHAN Gülsün, Turkey, SOC
CATALFO Nunzia, Italy, NR
CHOPE Christopher, United Kingdom, EC
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
DİŞLİ Şaban, Turkey, EPP/CD
DURRIEU Josette, France, SOC
EL OUAFI Nezha, Morocco
ERKAL KARA Tülin, Turkey, EC
FATALIYEVA Sevinj, Azerbaijan, EC
FAZZONE Claudio, Italy, EPP/CD
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
FRANKEN Hans, Netherlands, EPP/CD
GAFAROVA Sahiba, Azerbaijan, EC
GAMBARO Adele, Italy, ALDE
GHILETCHI Valeriu, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
GIRO Francesco Maria, Italy, EPP/CD
GODSKESEN Ingebjørg, Norway, EC
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
GÜLPINAR Mehmet Kasim, Turkey, EC
HAJIYEV Sabir, Azerbaijan, SOC
HAMID Hamid, Bulgaria, ALDE
HONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC
KOÇ Haluk, Turkey, SOC
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
LESKAJ Valentina, Albania, SOC
MARIANI Thierry, France, EPP/CD
MATEU PI Meritxell, Andorra, ALDE
MIGNON Jean-Claude, France, EPP/CD
MOTA AMARAL João Bosco, Portugal, EPP/CD
NAIMSKI Piotr, Poland, EC
NICOLETTI Michele, Italy, SOC
NIKOLOSKI Aleksandar, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", EPP/CD
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SELVİ Ömer, Turkey, EC
SEYIDOV Samad, Azerbaijan, EC
SPADONI Maria Edera, Italy, NR
STRENZ Karin, Germany, EPP/CD
SULEYMANOV Elkhan, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD
TÜRKEŞ Tuğrul, Turkey, EC
TÜRKEŞ Ahmet Kutalmiş, Turkey, ALDE
VOVK Viktor, Ukraine, EC
WACH Piotr, Poland, EPP/CD
WOLD Morten, Norway, EC
XUCLÀ Jordi, Spain, ALDE
YATIM Mohamed, Morocco

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
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group

Total = 48