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Human rights questions in referenda

Written declaration No. 597

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.

The National Assembly of Slovenia adopted the Amendment to the Marriage and Family Relations Act which rectified a discriminatory state of affairs. This amendment expands to same-sex couples the extent of all the basic social, economic and legal rights, which were so far unwarrantably provided to different-sex couples. By adopting the Amendment, equality before the law was implemented.

Rightist political parties and several conservative civic groups with a strong anti-gay and religious agenda declare themselves protectors of children and family and oppose the adopted changes. The homophobic civil groups, which oppose the right of same-sex couples to adoption, claim that same-sex families are not real families and that children need and have the right to have both a mother and a father.

These groups proposed a referendum on this topic, which was refused by the National Assembly because it is in conflict with the Constitution and it is against human rights. However, this decision is now being questioned by the Constitutional Court.

We, the undersigned, are convinced that a referendum on human rights is inadmissible, according to the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

HANŽEK Matjaž, Slovenia, UEL
ANAGOSTOPOULOU Athanasia, Greece, UEL
ELZINGA Tuur, Netherlands, UEL
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
GÜR Nazmi, Turkey, UEL
HETTO-GAASCH Françoise, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
JOHNSSON FORNARVE Lotta, Sweden, UEL
JÓNASSON Ögmundur, Iceland, UEL
KATRIVANOOU Vasiliki, Greece, UEL
KAVVADIA Ioanneta, Greece, UEL
KORENJAK KRAMAR Ksenija, Slovenia, ALDE
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
MAGAZINOVIĆ Saša, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
PARVIAINEN Olli-Poika, Finland, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SPADONI Maria Edera, Italy, NR
VITSAS Dimitris, Greece, UEL
WERNER Katrin, Germany, UEL
XUCLÀ Jordi, Spain, ALDE

Total = 22

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
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