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Recent actions against the Polish minority in Belarus

Written declaration No. 433

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.

Recently the Belarus authorities have intensified repression against the members of the Polish minority in this country. An example of this is the action by the police against members of the Polish minority organisation who wanted to take part in the meeting of the Association of Poles in Belarus that was to take place in Iwieniec. Those who travelled by car were stopped for no apparent reason, their documents were checked and some of them were detained at the police station. The action was aimed at taking over the Polish House in Iwieniec that had hitherto been the seat of the Association of Poles.

The treatment of the Polish minority in Belarus can be taken as an indicator of the observation of the principles of democracy and human rights by the Belarus authorities. The recent events have evidenced that, despite a declared willingness, fundamental human rights are not respected in this country.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe asks the Committee of Ministers to take relevant measures to explain the circumstances of the events related to the attempt to take over the Polish House in Iwieniec and to draw the appropriate conclusions with regard to the Belarus authorities.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

LIPIŃSKI Dariusz, Poland, EPP/CD
AGIUS Francis, Malta, EPP/CD
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD
ARIAS CAÑETE Miguel, Spain, EPP/CD
BENDER Ryszard, Poland, EDG
CONDE Agustín, Spain, EPP/CD
CWIERZ Andrzej, Poland, EDG
EÖRSI Mátyás, Hungary, ALDE
FALZON Joseph, Malta, EPP/CD
GATTI Marco, San Marino, EPP/CD
GAUTIER Gisèle, France, EPP/CD
GRIGNON Francis, France, EPP/CD
HUSKOWSKI Stanisław, Poland, EPP/CD
KALEMBA Stanisław, Poland, EPP/CD
KAŻMIERCZAK Jan, Poland, EPP/CD
LINDBLAD Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD
MOSCOSO DEL PRADO Juan, Spain, SOC
MUÑOZ-ALONSO Alejandro, Spain, EPP/CD
NESSA Pasquale, Italy, EPP/CD
NIRENSTEIN Fiamma, Italy, EPP/CD
NYKIEL Mirosława, Poland, EPP/CD
OLSSON Kent, Sweden
PUCHE Gabino, Spain, EPP/CD
PUIG i OLIVE Lluís Maria, de, Spain, SOC
QUINTANILLA Carmen, Spain, EPP/CD
REISS Frédéric, France, EPP/CD
ROTNICKA Jadwiga, Poland, EPP/CD
SARO Giuseppe, Italy, EPP/CD
STULIGROSZ Michał, Poland, EPP/CD
TOFANI Oreste, Italy, EPP/CD
TOSHEV Latchezar, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
WACH Piotr, Poland, EPP/CD
WOJTCZAK Michał, Poland, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 34

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