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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
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The Second World War and the denunciation of totalitarian crimes

Written declaration No. 429

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.

September 2009 marks the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War. The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and its Secret Protocol, signed on 23 August 1939, opened the way for a joint attack on Poland by Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, launched on 1 September and 17 September 1939 respectively.

Whereas both the international community and post-war Germany condemned the crimes of National Socialism immediately after the end of the Second World War, the crimes of the Stalinist regime still remain to be unanimously condemned both at international level and by the Russian Federation.

In this regard, the undersigned call upon the Parliamentary Assembly to:

– continue to assess and judge the crimes of communism from a legal, moral, political and historical point of view, on the understanding that an objective and comprehensive assessment of the communist totalitarian past, and in particular the Stalinist crimes, could lead to a deeper understanding and sound future integration of all European nations;

– assist Russia in carrying out a comprehensive public debate on the crimes of the Stalinist regime.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD
BENDER Ryszard, Poland, EDG
BĒRZINŠ Andris, Latvia, ALDE
CIRCENE Ingrida, Latvia, EPP/CD
DOBELIS Juris, Latvia, EDG
EÖRSI Mátyás, Hungary, ALDE
FRUNDA György, Romania, EPP/CD
GABASHVILI Giorgi, Georgia, EPP/CD
GREEN MACÍAS Rosario, Mexico
GROZDANOVA Dzhema, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
HERASYM'YUK Olha, Ukraine, EPP/CD
LINDBLAD Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD
LIPIŃSKI Dariusz, Poland, EPP/CD
LOTMAN Aleksei, Estonia, UEL
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OMELCHENKO Hryhoriy, Ukraine
POURBAIX-LUNDIN Marietta, de, Sweden, EPP/CD
POURGOURIDES Christos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
SAAR Indrek, Estonia, SOC
SASI Kimmo, Finland, EPP/CD
TAKTAKISHVILI Chiora, Georgia, ALDE
TODOROV Zhivko, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
TOSHEV Latchezar, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 25

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