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Lifting of the immunity of 138 members of the Turkish Parliament

Written declaration No. 612

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.

In accordance with Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, we, members of national parliaments of Council of Europe member States, are seriously worried with the recent decision of the Parliament and the President of Turkey to lift the immunity of 138 (of 550) Members of Turkish Parliament, as this lifting of immunity unacceptably reduces the possibilities of these colleagues to do their parliamentary and political work and seriously threatens many of them on short notice with long lasting imprisonment.

Amongst the parliamentarians who have seen their immunity lifted are the leaders of CHP and HDP, whereas the latter party is confronted with the lifting of the immunity of almost all MPs, who just got their parliamentary mandate of the citizens of Turkey in November 2015.

We, too, see this massive lifting of immunity as “a blow to Turkish democracy” (EP President Schulz) and as “an attempt to silence the opposition” (EU Commissioner Hahn) and as a clear disrespect of the results of the recent parliamentary elections in June and November 2015 and call upon the Parliament and the President of Turkey to reconsider their decision to lift the immunity as soon as possible.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
ÅBERG Boriana, Sweden, EPP/CD
BILLSTRÖM Tobias, Sweden, EPP/CD
BONET Sílvia Eloísa, Andorra, SOC
BRUYN Piet, De, Belgium, NR
CENTEMERO Elena, Italy, EPP/CD
CHRISTODOULOPOULOU Anastasia, Greece, UEL
ELZINGA Tuur, Netherlands, UEL
GROTH Annette, Germany, UEL
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HANŽEK Matjaž, Slovenia, UEL
HÜBINGER Anette, Germany, EPP/CD
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
JOHNSSON FORNARVE Lotta, Sweden, UEL
JÓNASSON Ögmundur, Iceland, UEL
KASIMATI Nina, Greece, UEL
KAVVADIA Ioanneta, Greece, UEL
KERESTECİOĞLU DEMİR Filiz, Turkey, UEL
KRONBICHLER Florian, Italy, SOC
KÜRKÇÜ Ertuğrul, Turkey, UEL
KYRITSIS Georgios, Greece, UEL
LOUCAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
MAGAZINOVIĆ Saša, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
MATEU Meritxell, Andorra, ALDE
NICOLETTI Michele, Italy, SOC
NORDQVIST Rasmus, Denmark, UEL
OMTZIGT Pieter, Netherlands, EPP/CD
OOMEN-RUIJTEN Ria, Netherlands, EPP/CD
ÖZSOY Hişyar, Turkey, UEL
PALLARÉS Judith, Andorra, ALDE
PSYCHOGIOS Georgios, Greece, UEL
RODRIGUES António Filipe, Portugal, UEL
ROUQUET René, France, SOC
RUSTAMYAN Armen, Armenia, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SPADONI Maria Edera, Italy, NR
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC
VILLUMSEN Nikolaj, Denmark, UEL
WURM Gisela, Austria, SOC

Total = 39

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