



Doc. 14258

26 January 2017

On the admissibility of attending the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly events (Saint Petersburg, 27-28 March 2017) by members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Written declaration No. 626

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.

Russia is occupying Crimea, is continuing the occupation of Donbas and terrorist activities in Syria; has failed to comply with any of the numerous Parliamentary Assembly resolutions on stopping its aggression against Ukraine, has held illegal elections in the annexed Crimea, and has banned dozens of Assembly members from entering Russia. Moreover the FSB has detained Russian lawyer, Mr Nikolay Polozov, for interrogation following his return from the current part-session.

The Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy is attempting to renew co-operation with the aggressor country via an ad hoc sub-committee to visit Russia at the invitation of the Chairperson of the Federation Council, Ms Valentina Matvienko, who is on the European Union sanctions list.

We deem it inadmissible to disguise the participation of Assembly members in CIS events as attending an international conference organised jointly with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

We believe that dialogue is essential to Assembly activities. However, in the Russian case, priority should be given to the restoration of trust through complying with the Assembly resolutions, freeing hostages and ensuring a ceasefire on Ukraine's occupied territory.

Signed (see overleaf)



Signed¹:

ARIEV Volodymyr, Ukraine, EPP/CD
BEREZA Boryslav, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GERASHCHENKO Iryna, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GHILETCHI Valeriu, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
GOLUB Vladyslav, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC
HUZ Ihor, Ukraine, EPP/CD
IONOVA Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD
KANDELAKI Giorgi, Georgia, EPP/CD
KIRAL Serhii, Ukraine, EC
LOGVYNSKYI Georgii, Ukraine, EPP/CD
LOPUSHANSKYI Andrii, Ukraine, ALDE
LOZOVOY Andriy, Ukraine, NR
MAROSZ Ján, Slovak Republic, EC
OBREMSKI Jarosław, Poland, EC
SCULLY Paul, United Kingdom, EC
SOBOLEV Serhiy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
SOTNYK Olena, Ukraine, ALDE
USOV Kostiantyn, Ukraine, NR
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
VOVK Viktor, Ukraine, EC
YEMETS Leonid, Ukraine, EPP/CD

Total = 22

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group