Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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UK eligibility criteria for children entering under the Dubs Amendment need to meet human rights standards

Written declaration No. 627

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 light of the dismantling of the "Calais Jungle", the United Kingdom has pledged to allow 3 000 unaccompanied minors to enter the country under Article 67 of its Immigration Act 2016 (known as the "Dubs Amendment"). Although we welcome this effort and recognise that the task of aiding these minors is not one for France and the United Kingdom alone, we are concerned about the recently published Implementation Guidelines of Article 67. These guidelines exclude any unaccompanied minor who is above the age of 12, not of Sudanese or Syrian nationality and not referred to by the French authorities as being at risk of sexual exploitation. They also exclude Syrian or Sudanese children above the age of 15 and not at risk of sexual exploitation.

We call on the United Kingdom to respect a child's right to family life and to respect its right to have his or her case reviewed in a non-discriminatory way. We call on the United Kingdom to uphold the Convention on the Rights of the Children and to consider everyone under 18 as being a child.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

SUTTER Petra, De, Belgium, SOC
BESELIA Eka, Georgia, SOC
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
BONET Sílvia Eloïsa, Andorra, SOC
BRUYN Piet, De, Belgium, NR
CHRISTODOULOPOULOU Anastasia, Greece, UEL
CHUGOSHVILI Tamar, Georgia, SOC
CROZON Pascale, France, SOC
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
FRIDEZ Pierre-Alain, Switzerland, SOC
GENTVILAS Simonas, Lithuania, ALDE
GROTH Annette, Germany, UEL
HUOVINEN Susanna, Finland, SOC
KARLSSON Niklas, Sweden, SOC
KVATCHANTIRADZE Zviad, Georgia, SOC
LEITE RAMOS Luís, Portugal, EPP/CD
MAHOUX Philippe, Belgium, SOC
MASSEY Doreen, United Kingdom, SOC
MERGEN Martine, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
ROUQUET René, France, SOC
SANDBÆK Ulla, Denmark, UEL
STRIK Tineke, Netherlands, SOC
TSKITISHVILI Dimitri, Georgia, SOC

Total = 23

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