



**Doc. 14259**

26 January 2017

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

**Written declaration No. 627**

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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.

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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*<sup>1</sup>:

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

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Total = 23

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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