Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Ukrainian captives in Russia: another call to free them

Written declaration No. 632

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 2016, Ukrainian citizens Mykola Karpyuk and Stanislav Klykh were sentenced to 22.5 and 20 years imprisonment respectively by the Supreme Court of the Chechen Republic. According to the verdict, both fought against the Russian troops in 1995 in the "Viking" battalion consisting of Ukrainian volunteers. Since 2015, Russia claims that former Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk also fought with them.

The trial was held in conditions which preclude any possibility to consider it a fair one. Karpyuk and Klykh deny their involvement and insist that they were brutally tortured in order to extort false confessions and false evidence against Yatsenyuk, who seems to be the main target of this political set-up.

We express deep concern about the situation of Mykola Karpuk and Stanislav Klykh. We believe that their detention in the Russian Federation is politically motivated. We urge the Russian authorities to review the verdict against Karpuk and Klykh, and to release them immediately. We also urge the Council of Europe and the leaders of European countries to consider the case of Karpjuk and Klykh as an integral part of the broader conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and to demand their release as a necessary condition for a settlement.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

BEREZA Boryslav, Ukraine, EPP/CD
ARIEV Volodymyr, Ukraine, EPP/CD
BERNACKI Włodzimierz, Poland, EC
DZHEMILIEV Mustafa, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GERASHCHENKO Iryna, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GOLUB Vladyslav, Ukraine, EPP/CD
GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC
HALICKI Andrzej, Poland, EPP/CD
HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD
IONOVA Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD
KIRAL Serhii, Ukraine, EC
L OVOCHKINA Yuliya, Ukraine, SOC
LIASHKO Oleh, Ukraine, NR
LOGVYNSKYI Georgii, Ukraine, EPP/CD
LOPUSHANSKYI Andrii, Ukraine, ALDE
MARQUES Duarte, Portugal, EPP/CD
MULARCZYK Arkadiusz, Poland, EC
MUNYAMA Killion, Poland, EPP/CD
POMASKA Agnieszka, Poland, EPP/CD
SOBOLEV Serhiy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
SOTNYK Olena, Ukraine, ALDE
UNHURIAN Pavlo, Ukraine, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
VLASENKO Sergiy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
VOVK Viktor, Ukraine, EC
YEMETS Leonid, Ukraine, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 27

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