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12 February 2019

## **Greek islands: more needs to be done**

### **Written declaration No. 662**

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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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Welcoming the recent transferals of more asylum seekers from the Reception and Identification Centre at Moria and other Greek islands to mainland Greece, we do not believe that this is enough.

Due to lengthy procedures, most asylum applicants have to live for many months in tents, and even those in buildings do neither have sufficient room nor sufficient access to water and toilets. With the winter coming, people could again die of freezing temperatures and terrible hygienic circumstances in the camps.

The camp at Moria has approximately 9 000 inhabitants (300% above its capacity), because arrivals from Turkey considerably increased. People are exposed to life-threatening boat journeys and generally have to pay smugglers through forced labour and prostitution, while the perpetrators act with impunity due to inaction by law enforcement authorities.

Asylum seekers, refugees and migrants deserve our support, as well as the Greek people for their immense assistance provided to those arriving by boat and across the Turkish-Greek land border. The European Union is the biggest donor of refugee aid to the Greek government, but the European Anti-Fraud Office just opened investigations into alleged misappropriation of European Union funds.

We demand more action immediately in order to save human lives.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



Signed<sup>1</sup>:

SUTTER Petra, De, Belgium, SOC  
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC  
BILDARRATZ Jokin, Spain, ALDE  
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC  
BUSHATI Ervin, Albania, SOC  
BUSHKA Klotilda, Albania, SOC  
BUTKEVIČIUS Algirdas, Lithuania, SOC  
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC  
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC  
COAKER Vernon, United Kingdom, SOC  
FIALA Doris, Switzerland, ALDE  
GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL  
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC  
HAJDUKOVIĆ Domagoj, Croatia, SOC  
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC  
JANSSON Eva-Lena, Sweden, SOC  
MASSEY Doreen, United Kingdom, SOC  
MIKKO Marianne, Estonia, SOC  
MONTILLA José, Spain, SOC  
MUFLIH Haya, Jordan  
MUNYAMA Killion, Poland, EPP/CD  
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC  
PISCO Paulo, Portugal, SOC  
PRESCOTT John, United Kingdom, SOC  
RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS Soraya, Spain, SOC  
ROJHAN GUSTAFSSON Azadeh, Sweden, SOC  
SCHÄFER Axel, Germany, SOC  
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC  
SMITH Angela, United Kingdom, SOC  
STRIK Tineke, Netherlands, SOC  
TOUHIG Don, United Kingdom, SOC  
WHITFIELD Martin, United Kingdom, SOC  
WILSON Phil, United Kingdom, SOC

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Total = 33

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group  
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left