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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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The human rights of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe

Written declaration No. 683

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.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

We strongly condemn the Iranian Government for continuing to hold Ms Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, dual British-Iranian national, in arbitrary detention, and call for her immediate release. We express dismay over Ms Zaghari-Ratcliffe's detention for over three years and stand with her and her husband, Richard Ratcliffe, in their hunger strike in protest at her arbitrary detention.

We call on the Committee of Ministers to urge the United Kingdom Government, the defender of Ms Zaghari-Ratcliffe's human rights, to keep identifying and intervening in cases where British nationals face human rights violations in Iran and we urge it to take the following actions:

– formally request a private consular meeting with Ms Zaghari-Ratcliffe, based on Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, and a medical examination by an independent doctor to ensure her welfare;

– state publicly that all British or dual national cases of imprisonment, threats/actual torture or ill-treatment abroad will not be tolerated and publicly condemned;

– take diplomatic action and other means of peaceful settlement to secure Ms Zaghari-Ratcliffe and her daughter Gabriella's safe return to the United Kingdom;

– propose to Iranian Government the immediate commencement of formal negotiations to resolve the dispute over Ms Zaghari-Ratcliffe and, if not possible, call a United Nations Security Council meeting on the dispute.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

CREASY Stella, United Kingdom, SOC
ÆVARSDÓTTIR Thorhildur Sunna, Iceland, SOC
BARDELL Hannah, United Kingdom, NR
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
COAKER Vernon, United Kingdom, SOC
DONALDSON Jeffrey, United Kingdom, EC
KILJUNEN Kimmo, Finland, SOC
LIDDELL-GRAINGER Ian, United Kingdom, EC
MASŁOWSKI Maciej, Poland, EC
McGINN Conor, United Kingdom, SOC
MENDES Ana Catarina, Portugal, SOC
O'REILLY Joseph, Ireland, EPP/CD
OMTZIGT Pieter, Netherlands, EPP/CD
RUSSELL Simon, United Kingdom, EC
SAYEK BÖKE Selin, Turkey, SOC
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
SHEPPARD Tommy, United Kingdom, NR
VICKERS Martin, United Kingdom, EC
WHITFIELD Martin, United Kingdom, SOC
WILSON Phil, United Kingdom, SOC

Total = 21

1. EC: European Conservatives Group
   EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
   SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
   NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group