Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
http://assembly.coe.int

1949.2019

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 14935
28 June 2019

The Turkish authorities must take action to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly is effectively enjoyed by LGBTI persons as equal members of society

Written declaration No. 684

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:

The bans of Pride events in Izmir and Antalya issued respectively by Izmir Governorate on 14 June 2019 and the day after by Antalya governorate signal Turkish authorities' failure to fulfil their positive obligation to guarantee both public security and the freedom of assembly. In other cities, such events are also at imminent risk of being banned, including in Istanbul, where Pride is at risk for the fifth year in a row.

Izmir and Antalya Governorates banned Pride events, the most recent in a series of similar government actions in Turkey in recent years, advancing concerns about public safety, national security, public order, protection of general morality or rights and freedoms of others, as well as based on the need to prevent possible violence and terrorism. As the European Court of Human Rights has repeatedly stressed, although a demonstration may annoy or cause offence to persons opposed to the ideas or claims it seeks to promote, this cannot serve as an admissible ground for prohibiting a peaceful gathering.

We call upon the Turkish authorities to ensure that the right to freedom of peaceful assembly is effectively enjoyed by LGBTI persons as equal members of society.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
ÅSEBOL Ann-Britt, Sweden, EPP/CD
BOSCHI Maria Elena, Italy, SOC
BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR Rósa Björk, Iceland, UEL
BUCCARELLA Maurizio, Italy, NR
BURES Doris, Austria, SOC
CHRISTENSEN Jette, Norway, SOC
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC
COAKER Vernon, United Kingdom, SOC
CREASY Stella, United Kingdom, SOC
DÜNDAR Pero, Turkey, UEL
ESTRELA Edite, Portugal, SOC
FILATOV Tarja, Finland, SOC
FRESKO-ROLFO Béatrice, Monaco, ALDE
GJERMENI Eglantina, Albania, SOC
GOLUBEVA Marija, Latvia, ALDE
GORROTXATEGUI Miren, Spain, UEL
GURMAI Zita, Hungary, SOC
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
JALLOW Momodou Malcolm, Sweden, UEL
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
LÓPEZ Pere, Andorra, SOC
MUNYAMA Killion, Poland, EPP/CD
O'REILLY Joseph, Ireland, EPP/CD
OVERBEEK Henk, Netherlands, UEL
PRINGLE Thomas, Ireland, UEL
SARAMO Jussi, Finland, UEL
STIENEN Petra, Netherlands, ALDE
THIÉRY Damien, Belgium, ALDE
TOMIĆ Violeta, Slovenia, UEL
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC

Total = 31

---

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
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group