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The role of the Polish National Television in the upcoming elections

Written declaration No. 692

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 urge the Polish authorities to ensure that the country's public service media fulfil their legal obligation to provide unbiased coverage of the forthcoming general election in Poland.

Poland took on such an obligation when adopting Council of Europe texts on election media coverage enumerated in Parliamentary Assembly's [Resolution 2254 \(2019\)](#) on media freedom as a condition for democratic elections.

We are concerned that public service broadcast media should cover the election campaign fairly and impartially, so that all the participants can benefit from balanced media coverage.

Independent studies have shown that coverage of recent elections in Poland by public service news organisations such as Telewizja Polska (TVP) have been strongly biased in favour of Law and Justice (PiS), the ruling party.

Before the recent European Parliament election, the State Electoral Commission (PKW) asked the KRRiT, the electronic media regulator, to monitor bias in the public service media in the campaign. The KRRiT declined to do so.

TVP reporting before the forthcoming general election shows that the public service media continue to act brazenly as a propaganda channel for the ruling party. This failure by Poland to abide by its Council of Europe obligation is causing damage to the country's reputation as a democratic member of the Council of Europe.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

ÅBERG Boriana, Sweden, EPP/CD
ÆVARSDÓTTIR Thorhildur Sunna, Iceland, SOC
ÅSEBOL Ann-Britt, Sweden, EPP/CD
BARNETT Doris, Germany, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BEN CHIKHA Fourat, Belgium, SOC
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
BOER Margreet, De, Netherlands, SOC
BROUWERS Karin, Belgium, EPP/CD
BUSHATI Ervin, Albania, SOC
BUSHKA Klotilda, Albania, SOC
BUSTINDUY María Luisa, Spain, SOC
BUTKEVIČIUS Algirdas, Lithuania, SOC
CANDU Andrian, Republic of Moldova, SOC
ÇEVİKÖZ Ahmet Ünal, Turkey, SOC
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
COAKER Vernon, United Kingdom, SOC
DIBRANI Adnan, Sweden, SOC
EMRE Yunus, Turkey, SOC
ENGBLOM Annicka, Sweden, EPP/CD
FASSINO Piero, Italy, SOC
FILATOV Tarja, Finland, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ Antonio, Spain, SOC
HADRI Shpresa, North Macedonia, SOC
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC
HOPUS Inka, Finland, SOC
KARAMANLI Marietta, France, SOC
KARAPET Arin, Sweden, EPP/CD
KILJUNEN Kimmo, Finland, SOC
KITEV Betian, North Macedonia, SOC
KOOLE Ruud, Netherlands, SOC
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
LAMBERT Jérôme, France, SOC
LEPOMÄKI Elina, Finland, EPP/CD
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LÓPEZ Pere, Andorra, SOC
MALLIA Emanuel, Malta, SOC
MASSEY Doreen, United Kingdom, SOC
MÖLLER Ola, Sweden, SOC
MOUTQUIN Simon, Belgium, SOC
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
ORTLEB Josephine, Germany, SOC
PAPANDREOU George, Greece, SOC
SAAR Indrek, Estonia, SOC
SAYEK BÖKE Selin, Turkey, SOC
SCHÄFER Axel, Germany, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SCHMIDT Frithjof, Germany, SOC
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
SOCOTAR Gheorghe-Dinu, Romania, SOC
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC
VIROLAINEN Anne-Mari, Finland, EPP/CD
WHITFIELD Martin, United Kingdom, SOC

1. EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group

Total = 54