



**Doc. 14989**

04 October 2019

## Strengthening the parliamentary dialogue with Turkey concerning the situation of Turkish academics

### Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Alexandra LOUIS and other members of the Assembly

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This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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Over the past few years, the Parliamentary Assembly has adopted several resolutions reporting the worsening situation of opposition members in Turkey ([Resolution 2260 \(2019\)](#)) or those devoted to the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey ([Resolution 2156 \(2017\)](#)).

However, it would be useful to continue in this direction in order to strengthen the parliamentary dialogue with Turkey, based on the respect of universal values, and especially as regards the situation of Turkish academics.

A petition, initially signed by over 2000 academics, was launched in Turkey on 11 January 2016 urging for the resumption of peaceful negotiations and criticizing military operations carried out in South-East Turkey mostly inhabited by Kurds.

As a result of the petition, under Turkish law regarding the state of emergency, hundreds of teachers and academics have been under criminal and disciplinary investigation and have been arbitrarily dismissed or forced to resign from several public or private universities in Turkey, or have even been banned from public service for life.

Some of those academics have had their passports withdrawn.

Turkey is bound, under article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, to guarantee freedom of opinion and speech.

Therefore, the Assembly should decide to examine and assess Turkish practices with regard to teachers and academics, and to highlight the difficulties encountered regarding fundamental freedoms and human rights while taking into account European Union actions and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

LOUIS Alexandra, France, ALDE  
ÅSEBOL Ann-Britt, Sweden, EPP/CD  
BADIA José, Monaco, EPP/CD  
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC  
BEN CHIKHA Fourat, Belgium, SOC  
BENKŐ Erika, Romania, EPP/CD  
BOCCONE-PAGES Brigitte, Monaco, EPP/CD  
BOER Margreet, De, Netherlands, SOC  
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CAZEAU Bernard, France, ALDE  
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FILATOV Tarja, Finland, SOC  
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GATTOLIN André, France, ALDE  
GOÑI Ruth, Spain, ALDE  
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HOUBRON Dimitri, France, ALDE  
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JALLOW Momodou Malcolm, Sweden, UEL  
KAMOWSKI Catherine, France, ALDE  
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LEGUILLE BALLOY Martine, France, ALDE  
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RAUCH Isabelle, France, ALDE  
REISS Frédéric, France, EPP/CD  
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TOMIĆ Violeta, Slovenia, UEL  
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC  
TRISSE Nicole, France, ALDE  
VALLINI André, France, SOC  
WASERMAN Sylvain, France, ALDE  
WONNER Martine, France, ALDE

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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