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The rights of the politically oppressed must be restored in the Republic of Moldova

Written declaration No. 679

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 are closely following the developments in the Republic of Moldova, with a particular focus on the fulfilment of its commitments towards the Council of Europe.

We stand ready to co-operate with the new Moldovan legitimate Government in the field of necessary reforms in order to free State institutions captured by Plahotniuc's regime.

In this context, we are concerned about the fate of politically persecuted persons: lawyers Ana Ursachi, Eduard Rudenco and Ion Cretu, judges Domnica Manole, Dorin Munteanu and Gheorghe Balan, politicians Gheorge Petic and Grigore Petrenco, civil activist Pavel Grigoriuc, key witnesses Sergiu Cebotari and Valentin Esanu, who have become victims of defamatory campaigns and criminal cases.

We condemn the actions of the former Moldovan authorities, which took part in the forcible transfer of seven Turkish teachers to Turkish prisons (judgment of the European Court of Human Rights *Ozdil and others v. the Republic of Moldova* of 11 June 2019) and call on the new Moldovan Government to provide their safe return to the Republic of Moldova.

We hereby urge the new Moldovan authorities to ensure that all political reprisals are stopped and all persecuted persons are set free and have their rights restored.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

POPSOI Mihail, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
BARDELL Hannah, United Kingdom, NR
BATRINCEA Vlad, Republic of Moldova, SOC
BRUIJN-WEZEMAN Reina, de, Netherlands, ALDE
BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR Rósa Björk, Iceland, UEL
BUCCARELLA Maurizio, Italy, NR
FOULKES George, United Kingdom, SOC
GATTOLIN André, France, ALDE
GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL
GORROTXATEGI Miren, Spain, UEL
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
KROSS Eerik-Niiles, Estonia, ALDE
MASIULIS Kęstutis, Lithuania, EPP/CD
NASTASE Andrei, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD
NICOLINI Marco, San Marino, UEL
OOMEN-RUIJTEN Ria, Netherlands, EPP/CD
OVERBEEK Henk, Netherlands, UEL
ÖZSOY Hişyar, Turkey, UEL
POCIEJ Aleksander, Poland, EPP/CD
PRINGLE Thomas, Ireland, UEL
RAMPI Roberto, Italy, SOC
RIZZOTTI Maria, Italy, EPP/CD
SANDBÆK Ulla, Denmark, UEL
SARAMO Jussi, Finland, UEL
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
SHEPPARD Tommy, United Kingdom, NR
TAMM Raivo, Estonia, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

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