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In a Europe hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council of Europe Development Bank has more than ever a role to play

Written declaration No. 711

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 coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit the populations of the Council of Europe member States hard, represents an existential challenge for many entities or organisations (companies, associations, health care systems, public authorities) that structure our contemporary societies. To tackle this scourge, solidarity is the best response.

On a daily basis, the people affected by the pandemic demonstrate that mutual aid is essential. Caregivers, civil servants, farmers, food industry workers, and manufacturers capable of reorienting their production lines according to needs, confined families, all show admirable self-sacrifice in order to save lives.

States and international organisations must also show solidarity, at least more than they do today. The Council of Europe cannot remain on the sidelines, especially since after the health crisis there will be another equally worrying crisis, an economic and social crisis. Thereupon, the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) has a role to play in accompanying member States in the post-crisis period. The CEB is the appropriate tool for the Organisation's contribution to resolving these major challenges.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

TRISSE Nicole, France, ALDE
BAZIN Arnaud, France, EPP/CD
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
BOUYX Bertrand, France, ALDE
BRABANDERE Bob, De, Belgium, EC/DA
ÇEVİKÖZ Ahmet Ünal, Turkey, SOC
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DALLOZ Marie-Christine, France, EPP/CD
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FOURNIER Bernard, France, EPP/CD
GONÇALVES Carlos Alberto, Portugal, EPP/CD
GOUTTEFARDE Fabien, France, ALDE
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SZEJNA Andrzej, Poland, SOC
WASERMAN Sylvain, France, ALDE
WONNER Martine, France, ALDE
ZABURANNA Lesia, Ukraine, ALDE

Total = 28

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
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