



Doc. 15104 Second Edition

15 February 2021

75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War

Written declaration No. 713

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:

75 years after the Second World War, we commemorate the enormous sacrifice of European nations in fighting Nazism and fascism. We pay the utmost respect to the victims of the Third Reich.

However, the sacrifice of the Allied Forces did not bring freedom to all. While the heroism of USSR nations freed Central and Eastern Europe from the tyranny of Nazism, the Red Army also imposed totalitarian communist regimes. The Iron Curtain deprived half of Europe of basic freedoms. To this day many cruel acts committed under Stalin's regime remain without just judgment. We call on the Russian Federation to urgently address this matter.

The Second World War proved that only democracy, the rule of law and human rights can bring lasting peace. Totalitarian regimes and ideologies have no place in Europe. Also the presence of such symbols in public cannot be condoned.

We condemn any attempts to distort the history of the Second World War by omitting or relativising the facts. Victims of the War cannot be held responsible for the outbreak.

We call for perseverance in cultivating the memory of all victims of the Second World War and of those who stood against the totalitarian tyrannies.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

RAU Zbigniew, Poland, EC/DA
ARENT Iwona, Poland, EC/DA
BERNACKI Włodzimierz, Poland, EC/DA
GIRZYŃSKI Zbigniew, Poland, EC/DA
GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC/DA
KALCHENKO Serhii, Ukraine, EC/DA
KOVALCHUK Oleksandr, Ukraine, ALDE
KRAVCHUK Yevheniia, Ukraine, ALDE
LATOS Tomasz, Poland, EC/DA
LĪBIŅA-EGNERE Inese, Latvia, EPP/CD
MASIULIS Kęstutis, Lithuania, EPP/CD
MEREZHKO Oleksandr, Ukraine, SOC
MILEWSKI Daniel, Poland, EC/DA
MULARCZYK Arkadiusz, Poland, EC/DA
OZOLA Linda, Latvia, EPP/CD
POLACZEK Jerzy, Poland, EC/DA
REITELMANN Urmas, Estonia, EC/DA
SONIK Bogusław, Poland, EPP/CD
SZEJNA Andrzej, Poland, SOC
TOMIĆ Violeta, Slovenia, UEL
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
YASKO Yelyzaveta, Ukraine, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 23

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