



Recommendation 2201 (2021)¹

Human rights violations in Belarus require an international investigation

Parliamentary Assembly

1. Referring to its [Resolution 2372 \(2021\)](#) “Human rights violations in Belarus require an international investigation”, the Parliamentary Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers to:

- 1.1. invite Belarus to accede to the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (ETS No. 126);
- 1.2. examine the scope of application of universal jurisdiction with a view to its use by Council of Europe member States to combat impunity for perpetrators of serious human rights violations;
- 1.3. make the expertise of the Council of Europe available to the co-ordination platform launched within the European Parliament, particularly in the sphere of combating torture and protecting the freedom of expression, association and the media;
- 1.4. demand, in its dealings with Belarus, the immediate release of all political prisoners and an end to the campaign of repression against protesters and their families and make any technical co-operation and any movement towards the possible accession of Belarus to the Council of Europe subject to these requirements;
- 1.5. explore ways for the Council of Europe to serve as a mediation platform for the dialogue between the authorities and the opposition.

1. *Assembly debate* on 21 April 2021 (12th sitting) (see [Doc. 15256](#), report of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, rapporteur: Ms Alexandra Louis). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 21 April 2021 (12th sitting).

