



**Doc. 15633**

12 October 2022

## Europe should stand in solidarity with the Russian and Belarusian anti-war movement

### Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN 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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Since the beginning of the Russian Federation's large-scale aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022, thousands have left Russia. Many fear persecution for opposing the invasion of Ukraine; others do not want to take part in a war of aggression they disapprove of for political and moral reasons. The announced partial mobilisation in the Russian Federation has triggered a further exodus, mainly of men trying to avoid conscription, as well as anti-war protests in dozens of cities across Russia.

The Belarusian authorities take part in this war of aggression by providing passage to Russian troops and logistical support. It seems that the troops are being deployed. Despite the heavy restrictions on manifesting their views, Belarusian civil society opposes the war of aggression.

Europe is committed to sanctioning the Russian and Belarusian regimes for the war of aggression against Ukraine. It should be equally committed to supporting those who oppose it and help them to express their voice.

Last June, in a joint appeal to members of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly, a broad civil society alliance from 20 countries, including the Russian Movement for Conscientious Objectors which has openly condemned the Russian military aggression, called on European governments to grant protection and asylum to Russian and Belarusian conscientious objectors and deserters, amongst others.

The Assembly should stand in solidarity with Russian and Belarussian anti-war movement and protests, including war deserters and the political opposition inside these countries and abroad. It should support them to counter disinformation and to contribute to the democratisation of Russia and Belarus. These people may be our best hope for peace which is still nowhere in sight.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



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

KILJUNEN Kimmo, Finland, SOC  
ÆVARSDÓTTIR Thórhildur Sunna, Iceland, SOC  
ARSLAN Sibel, Switzerland, SOC  
BAUMANE Krista, Latvia, ALDE  
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CHIKOVANI Irakli, Georgia, SOC  
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EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC  
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FOULKES George, United Kingdom, SOC  
GJYLAMETI Blerina, Albania, SOC  
GRANDE Marta, Italy, NR  
GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Antonio, Spain, SOC  
HOWELL John, United Kingdom, EC/DA  
JÓNSSON Bjarni, Iceland, UEL  
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KATROUGALOS George, Greece, UEL  
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POCIEJ Aleksander, Poland, EPP/CD  
SAAR Indrek, Estonia, SOC  
SCHÄFER Axel, Germany, SOC  
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC  
SCHOU Ingjerd, Norway, EPP/CD  
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC  
SHEPPARD Tommy, United Kingdom, NR  
TORNARITIS Nicos, Cyprus, EPP/CD  
VIROLAINEN Anne-Mari, Finland, EPP/CD  
VONTA Tamara, Slovenia, ALDE  
YASKO Yelyzaveta, Ukraine, EPP/CD

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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