Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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A parliamentary sponsorship programme between the Parliamentary Assembly members and human rights defenders or the politically oppressed

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Ms Derya TÜRK-NACHBAUR 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 its very foundation, the Parliamentary Assembly has been dedicated to safeguarding and promoting human rights, bringing attention to the work of parliamentarians and human-right defenders worldwide and offering them support and protection, when needed.

It is important to protect individuals who have made a particular contribution to human rights and therefore face persecution, oppression or other severe forms of repression by State agencies. Through a specific sponsorship programme, the Assembly members can support these individuals, raise awareness of their work and provide them assistance when they are unlawfully detained or are subject to other forms of repression. Possible actions may include on-site visits, participations in Committee meetings, social media outreach, petitions, letters to embassies and governments, and trial observation.

A sponsorship program would also increase the visibility of both the Assembly and these politicians and human rights defenders and their work and send a message to oppressors that their actions will not go unnoticed or unpunished. Moreover, the program would demonstrate the international community's commitment to human rights and recognise the crucial work of those who risk their freedom and lives in defending these rights.

Therefore, we urge the Assembly to establish an official parliamentary sponsorship programme between its members and politicians from parliaments and human-rights defenders worldwide.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

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ÆVARSDÓTTIR Thórhildur Sunna, Iceland, SOC
ARSLAN Sibel, Switzerland, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
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PETRY Christian, Germany, SOC
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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group