Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Restoring Taiwan's Observer status with The World Health Assembly for the effective promotion of global health

Written declaration No. 771

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:

We deeply regret the decision taken in 2016 by the World Health Assembly (WHA) – the World Health Organization's steering body – to revoke the Observer status of Taiwan with the WHA. Until then, Taiwan has been fulfilling this status to everyone's general satisfaction for nearly a decade.

The loss of Taiwan's contribution as an observer to the WHO/WHA's work in fighting against future pandemics such as Covid-19 – and against global public health threats in general – is all the more regrettable, seeing the WHO/WHA's inclusive approach to international health co-operation; Taiwan's outstanding reputation as an advanced, engaged, highly capable and responsible member of the global health community; and its position as a pivotal international transport and travel hub.

We therefore call on the member States of the Council of Europe to work to restore Taiwan's Observer status as early as possible, and ideally already on the occasion of the WHA's Annual Conference in Geneva, to be held from 21 to 30 May 2023.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

WIECHEL Markus, Sweden, EC/DA
ÅBERG Boriana, Sweden, EPP/CD
BERGERON Stéphane, Canada
BLENCATHRA David, United Kingdom, EC/DA
CHRISTIANSSON Alexander, Sweden, EC/DA
DOWNE Percy, Canada
FOULKES George, United Kingdom, SOC
FRANCIS Brian, Canada
GALLES Paul, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC/DA
GRIFFITHS Leslie, United Kingdom, SOC
HOFFMANN Christoph, Germany, ALDE
KHOMENKO Olena, Ukraine, EC/DA
KLEINWÄCHTER Norbert, Germany, EC/DA
KÖCK Eduard, Austria, EPP/CD
KRISTÍNARDÓTTIR GUNNARSDÓTTIR Arndís Anna, Iceland, SOC
LIDDELL-GRAINGER Ian, United Kingdom, EC/DA
MONCION Lucie, Canada
MUNCACIU Sorin-Titus, Romania, EC/DA
PARENREN Bob, van, Netherlands, EC/DA
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SEPASHVILI Eka, Georgia, EC/DA
SHARMA Virendra, United Kingdom, SOC
SORBARA Francesco, Canada
TIMGREN Beatrice, Sweden, EC/DA
TROY Robert, Ireland, ALDE
WELLS David, Canada
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 22

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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