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

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Guatemala: cease undermining the peaceful transition of power and political persecution of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal

Written declaration No. 785

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 support recommendations of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, regarding the Guatemalan authorities' actions to undermine the outcome of the electoral process in Guatemala and urge that this issue be reflected in the Parliamentary Assembly's upcoming report on "Strengthening relations between the Council of Europe and Latin America".

We find it unacceptable that the Guatemalan Public Ministry has launched attacks against the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, including attempts to strip judges and electoral officials of their immunity, as well as raiding their offices and election storage facilities.

Such actions violate international human rights law, the Guatemalan Constitution and national legislation. We strongly condemn the political attacks targeting software developer Rafael Cordon and magistrate Irma Elizabeth Palencia, who employed Bitcoin Blockchain technology to ensure the secure preservation of election documents, preventing any unauthorised alterations, and any potential misuse of Artificial Intelligence and disinformation. These attacks must cease immediately.

Following statements by the European Union and the United States in support of the preliminary report of the Organization of American States Electoral Observation Mission, we acknowledge the benefits of employing a public verification module to authenticate official tally sheet images with Bitcoin blockchain technology that increases the certainty of the results published.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

JONSSON Mattias, Sweden, SOC
ARSLAN Sibel, Switzerland, SOC
BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE
CASTEL Laura, Spain, UEL
DIBRANI Adnan, Sweden, SOC
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
ENGELHARDT Heike, Germany, SOC
FERNANDES Emmanuel, France, UEL
FERNÁNDEZ María, Spain, SOC
GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Antonio, Spain, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ PRIETO Sergio, Spain, SOC
LUCKS Max, Germany, SOC
MARTINEZ SEIJO Luz, Spain, SOC
ÖZTÜRK Berdan, Türkiye, UEL
PAPANDREOU George, Greece, SOC
STARÎŞ Constantin, Republic of Moldova, UEL
SUMELZO Susana, Spain, SOC
TÜRK-NACHBAUR Derya, Germany, SOC

Total = 20

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left