Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
https://pace.coe.int

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
75
1949 - 2024
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 15850 Second Edition
01 February 2024

Political situation in Kazakhstan: human rights and assistance to evade sanctions for Russia

Written declaration No. 784

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:

Despite international calls, Kazakhstani authorities failed to conduct an independent international investigation into the violent crackdown on nationwide protests. The role of the Russia-led military intervention following President Tokayev's request to President Putin and the order to shoot without warning in January 2022 remains unclear.

Human rights defenders reported about the lack of accountability for 329 criminal cases of torture and at least 47 political prisoners such as victims of torture Timur Danebayev, Akylzhan Kiysymbayev and Kazybek Kudaibergenov; political hostage Bekizhan Mendygaziyev, activists Kairat Klyshev, Aigerim Tleuzhan, Yerkin Kaziyev and Shaden Karibayev; journalist Duman Mukhametkarim.

Moreover, for exposing the scale of Kazakhstan's assistance to Russia in circumventing sanctions, Kazakhstan intensified its political persecution of human rights defenders from Open Dialogue Foundation, and opposition leaders Marat Zhylanbayev and Mukhtar Ablyazov. As reported, a key factor enabling Russia to evade sanctions and bolster its military-industrial complex is the circumvention of sanctions through third-party countries, specifically, through Kazakhstan. According to Ukrainian military reports and watchdogs, by exploiting these channels, Russia continues to produce and escalate its weapon production volumes.

We call on the Parliamentary Assembly to analyse and address the above-mentioned issues of human rights violations and Kazakhstan's assistance to evade sanctions for Russia.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
EROTOKRITOU Christiana, Cyprus, SOC
FAXE Sascha, Denmark, SOC
FLORIDIA Aurora, Italy, SOC
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
LOPATKA Reinhold, Austria, EPP/CD
LUCKS Max, Germany, SOC
MARIE Didier, France, SOC
MOUTQUIN Simon, Belgium, SOC
O'REILLY Joseph, Ireland, EPP/CD
ORLANDO Andrea, Italy, SOC
PAPANDREOU George, Greece, SOC
PRAMMER Agnes Sirkka, Austria, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
TORNARITIS Nicos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
VERDUCCI Francesco, Italy, SOC
WIECHEL Markus, Sweden, EC/DA
ZAMPA Sandra, Italy, SOC

Total = 22

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