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Support for political negotiations to enforce exchange and release of prisoners of war

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Ms Yelyzaveta YASKO 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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The situation involving prisoners of war (PoWs) necessitates urgent international intervention. Defined by the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, PoWs are members of the armed forces who have fallen into the hands of the enemy. These provisions ensure their humane treatment and protection under international humanitarian law.

Numerous reports indicate systemic violations of these laws, including the denial of access to PoWs by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and inhumane treatment of detainees. Many Ukrainian soldiers are currently held in the Russian Federation under conditions that violate international standards. Their whereabouts and treatment remain largely unknown, raising severe concerns about their well-being and rights.

All involved parties should engage in political negotiations that prioritise the exchange and release of PoWs. Diplomatic efforts should be intensified to ensure that all detainees are treated according to international humanitarian standards and are promptly released. Political pressure must be applied to hold accountable those who violate these laws and to ensure compliance with international agreements.

Collective international efforts must focus on identifying detention centers, ensuring access to all PoWs, and effectively monitoring their treatment conditions. The Parliamentary Assembly should stand in solidarity with all PoWs, their families, and loved ones, and call on the global community to work towards ensuring their rights and dignity are fully respected and upheld.

It should support political negotiations that enforce the exchange and release of war prisoners held in the Russian Federation and other States thereby promoting peace, justice, and adherence to international humanitarian law.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

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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