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Protecting the human rights and improving the lives of sex workers and victims of sexual exploitation

Amendment¹ No. 9

In the draft resolution, replace paragraph 9 with the following paragraph:

"The Assembly refers to the judgement of 25 July 2024 in the case of M.A. and Others v. France, in which the European Court of Human Rights, while ruling that the French abolitionist model based on the criminalisation of the purchase of sexual acts does not violate the European Convention on Human Rights, adds that none of the public policies put in place in the States are free of controversy to date. It also considers that national authorities have a duty to keep their approach to prostitution under constant review, especially when they are based on the prohibition of the purchase of sexual acts, so as to be able to amend and adapt them in the light of developments in European societies, international standards and the consequences of their implementation in a given situation. The Court notes, however, that there is no unanimity on the fact that criminalising the purchase of sexual acts is a direct cause of increased violence against prostitutes, and that the decriminalisation of prostitutes combined with the criminalisation of the purchase of sexual acts contributes to reversing the balance of power with the client for prostitutes, by positioning them as victims and enabling them to denounce the client in the event of violence, since it is now the client who is implicated."

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