Parliamentary Assembly
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The Parliamentary Assembly must support the Russian democratic opposition

Written declaration No. 802

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 acknowledge the large number of Russians who fled their country following the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Many now reside across Europe, openly opposing Vladimir Putin's regime and standing with Ukraine and its people.

The Assembly has resolved to engage with the Russian democratic opposition, thus recognising the importance of building relationships with those who embrace European values of freedom, democracy, and human rights. It is essential to support these forces now as we look toward a post-Putin Russia.

We emphasise the need for comprehensive assistance to democratic and anti-war Russians in Europe, many of whom are persecuted by Vladimir Putin's regime. Individuals like Ilya Yashin, Andrey Pivovarov and Vladimir Kara-Murza, a recipient of the Václav Havel Prize, alongside opposition leader Mikhail Khodorkovsky, continue to fight for a democratic future for Russia.

Supporting these individuals, who were all political prisoners in Russia, is not just a humanitarian necessity but a strategic imperative. Helping those who reject war and dictatorship is key to shaping a Russia built on democratic values. Their efforts, along with groups like the Anti-War Committee, are vital for the future of both Russia and Ukraine as we pursue peace and democracy.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

MORRIS David, United Kingdom, EC/DA
BALDWIN Harriett, United Kingdom, EC/DA
BLIKRA Jone, Norway, SOC
BRABANDERE Bob, De, Belgium, EC/DA
CHOPE Christopher, United Kingdom, EC/DA
DIAS PINTO Ricardo, Portugal, EC/DA
GARDINI Elisabetta, Italy, EC/DA
GRAF Martin, Austria, EC/DA
HART Sally-Ann, United Kingdom, EC/DA
KEEN Richard, United Kingdom, EC/DA
LATHAM Pauline, United Kingdom, EC/DA
LEIGH Edward, United Kingdom, EC/DA
MAULLU Stefano, Italy, EC/DA
MORTIMER Jill, United Kingdom, EC/DA
MURRAY Sheryll, United Kingdom, EC/DA
PERCY Andrew, United Kingdom, EC/DA
PIETRELLA Fabio, Italy, EC/DA
RUBBESTAD Michael, Sweden, EC/DA
RUSSELL Simon, United Kingdom, EC/DA
TIBLOM Victoria, Sweden, EC/DA
WHARTON James, United Kingdom, EC/DA
WHEELER Heather, United Kingdom, EC/DA
WIECHEL Markus, Sweden, EC/DA

Total = 23

1. EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group