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Upholding the rights to protest: defending the Budapest Pride march

Written declaration No. 807

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:

The ban on Budapest Pride march represents a serious violation of the freedoms of assembly and expression. This decision is part of a broader and growing trend of State-sponsored discrimination against the LGBTI+ community in Hungary and undermines fundamental democratic values.

In recent years, Hungarian authorities have increasingly restricted LGBTI+ rights, enacting laws that limit freedom of expression, suppress gender identity, and stigmatise the community. The ban on Budapest Pride march is a continuation of this concerning pattern of human rights violations.

Freedom of assembly is a fundamental right enshrined in international and European human rights law. The European Court of Human Rights has consistently affirmed that States have a positive obligation to ensure public security while safeguarding the right to peaceful protest. The ban under the pretext of concerns about public order, is unjustified and sets a dangerous precedent for further restrictions on civic freedoms.

We call upon the Hungarian authorities to:

- reverse the decision to ban Budapest Pride march and ensure that it can take place without obstruction;
- guarantee the safety and rights of LGBTI+ individuals and their allies during public demonstrations;
- uphold Hungary's commitments to fundamental freedoms, as a member State of the Council of Europe.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

LUCKS Max, Germany, SOC
AMLOH Sofia, Sweden, SOC
ARATÓ Gergely, Hungary, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE
CEPURĪTIS Edmunds, Latvia, SOC
CHAILLOU Christophe, France, SOC
CRUCHTEN Yves, Luxembourg, SOC
ECCLES Cat, United Kingdom, SOC
ESTRELA Edite, Portugal, SOC
GERMAN Michael, United Kingdom, ALDE
HUNT Ruth, United Kingdom, SOC
JONSSON Mattias, Sweden, SOC
KLUIT Saskia, Netherlands, SOC
KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA Bisera, North Macedonia, SOC
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
LATORRE José, Spain, SOC
MARTINEZ SEIJO Luz, Spain, SOC
MURATORI Giulia, San Marino, SOC
NOWICKA Wanda, Poland, SOC
OSBORNE Kate, United Kingdom, SOC
PAPANDREOU George, Greece, SOC
PERTEGHELLA Manuela, United Kingdom, ALDE
PILLER CARRARD Valérie, Switzerland, SOC
POLAT Filiz, Germany, SOC
PRAMMER Agnes Sirkka, Austria, SOC
PULJAK Marijana, Croatia, ALDE
RAČAN Ivan, Croatia, SOC
ROJHAN Azadeh, Sweden, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
STAMATIS Georgios, Greece, EPP/CD
STEPHENSON Patricia, Ireland, NR
VELA Susanna, Andorra, SOC
VELDHOEN Gala, Netherlands, SOC

Total = 34

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group