Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Towards a democratic commitment to prevent far-right involvement in local and regional governments

Written declaration No. 815

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 reaffirm our commitment to human rights, democracy and the rule of law and express our deep concern over the rise of far-right political formations in various member States' governments.

These parties, which use hate speech as a political foundation, question democratic principles, attack minorities and the free press, and undermine the post–World War II European consensus of co-existence and cohesion. Their entry into governments – through coalitions or external support – poses a real threat to the values we share as Europeans and democrats.

We note with alarm that, at local and regional levels, explicit or tacit agreements have allowed these groups to enter governments or influence public policies affecting citizens' daily lives. This institutional normalisation represents a dangerous legitimisation of their ideology and a weakening of democracy.

Therefore, we call on democratic parties in member States not to establish government agreements – by action or omission – that involve participation or support from far-right forces.

Defending democracy demands resolve. Co-operation with those who reject its principles is not a legitimate option. Only a Europe faithful to its founding ideals can confront today's challenges without sacrificing its dignity.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

LAMUÀ Marc, Spain, SOC
AHEDO Nerea, Spain, ALDE
BAKER Richard, United Kingdom, SOC
CASTEL Laura, Spain, UEL
ECCLES Cat, United Kingdom, SOC
ENGELHARDT Heike, Germany
FERNÁNDEZ María, Spain, SOC
GETHINS Stephen, United Kingdom, ALDE
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino, SOC
GURMAI Zita, Hungary, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Antonio, Spain, SOC
IKIĆ BANIČEK Kristina, Croatia, SOC
KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA Bisera, North Macedonia, SOC
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
LUCKS Max, Germany, SOC
LYDEKA Arminas, Lithuania, ALDE
MANTZOS Dimitrios, Greece, SOC
MARTINEZ SEIJO Luz, Spain, SOC
NOWICKA Wanda, Poland, SOC
PEÑA Esther, Spain, SOC
RAČAN Ivan, Croatia, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SPERANZA Roberto, Italy, SOC
THIÉBAULT-MARTINEZ Céline, France, SOC
VELA Susanna, Andorra, SOC
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

Total = 26

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left