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Gender mainstreaming in the central Asian region

Written declaration No. 806

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 draw attention to the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy (2024-2029), a main objective of which is to ensure women's empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges.

The return of the Taliban to Afghanistan has shown the fragility of progress in women's rights and exposed the vulnerabilities of women and girls.

In 2019, the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched an initiative to provide educational opportunities to Afghan women in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. By 2027, more than 100 Afghan women are expected to earn academic and professional degrees at universities in central Asia.

Recalling UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution (79/268) "UN Regional Centre for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Central Asia and Afghanistan" to be established in Almaty and taking into account SDG 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls", first presented by President Tokayev at the 74th session of the UNGA, we call on Council of Europe member States to support and co-operate with this upcoming UN Regional Hub as a key platform for co-ordinating international efforts in the region and helping central Asian countries in their efforts to assist Afghan women.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

CASTEL Laura, Spain, UEL
ARATÓ Gergely, Hungary, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BERNARD Alice, Belgium, UEL
ÇELENK Sevilay, Türkiye, UEL
EDER-GITSCHTHALER Andrea, Austria, EPP/CD
FRESKO-ROLFO Béatrice, Monaco, ALDE
GRÉAUME Michelle, France, UEL
HUNKO Andrej, Germany
LICHERI Ettore Antonio, Italy, UEL
LOUCAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
MAIORINO Alessandra, Italy, UEL
MARTINEZ SEIJO Luz, Spain, SOC
MEZENTSEVA-FEDORENKO Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD
MOSHENETS Olena, Ukraine, ALDE
NÉMETH Zsolt, Hungary, ECPA
PASQUIER-CIULLA Christine, Monaco, EPP/CD
PRAMMER Agnes Sirkka, Austria, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
STAMATIS Georgios, Greece, EPP/CD
VARDANYAN Vladimir, Armenia, EPP/CD
WIECHEL Markus, Sweden, ECPA

Total = 22

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