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15 May 2026

Reported cases of political prisoners in Europe

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Azadeh ROJHAN and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The Council of Europe was founded to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law across the continent. The unlawful detention of individuals for political reasons is incompatible with these fundamental principles and undermines public trust in democratic institutions and judicial systems.

Reports from international organisations, civil society groups, independent media and human rights defenders continue to raise concerns about individuals detained in several European countries for the peaceful exercise of their fundamental rights, including freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly. Allegations of politically motivated prosecutions, misuse of criminal law and lack of judicial independence threaten the credibility of democratic institutions and the protection of human rights in Europe.

The Parliamentary Assembly should further examine reported cases of political prisoners in Europe and assess the extent to which such cases may contradict the applicable human rights standards and fall within the Assembly's definition of political prisoner. The aim of such work should be to strengthen safeguards against politically motivated detention and to fight for the release of all political prisoners.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

ROJHAN Azadeh, Sweden, SOC
ÅBERG Boriána, Sweden, EPP/CD
AMLOH Sofia, Sweden, SOC
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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