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

Doc. 16448
24 June 2026

Erasure of Armenian cultural identity in the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan

Written declaration No. 839

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 recall the Parliamentary Assembly report on "Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace" (Doc. 16003), as well as the European Parliament resolution of 10 March 2022 on the destruction of cultural heritage in Nagorno-Karabakh clearly mentioning the risks to Armenian cultural heritage in the Karabakh region.

We are deeply concerned by the recent reports of the demolition of the Holy Mother of God Cathedral and the Church of St Jacob in the Karabakh region by the Azerbaijani authorities. Although these places of worship were built and consecrated in the 21st century, they hold cultural and spiritual significance for many people. Their destruction constitutes an attempt to erase a part of the region's cultural identity and memory, and undermines cultural dialogue and reconciliation.

We call on the Azerbaijani authorities to refrain from erasing the Armenian cultural identity in the Karabakh region.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE
ÅBERG Boriana, Sweden, EPP/CD
ALCOBÉ Meritxell, Andorra, ALDE
BERGONZI Régis, Monaco, ALDE
BOGDANOV Bogdan, Bulgaria, ALDE
BONNEAU François, France, ALDE
CAMAJ Nikolla, Montenegro, ALDE
CASEY Patrick, Ireland, ALDE
COTTIER Damien, Switzerland, ALDE
EDER-GITSCHTHALER Andrea, Austria, EPP/CD
FASSINO Piero, Italy, SOC
FRESKO-ROLFO Béatrice, Monaco, ALDE
GRYFFROY Andries, Belgium, ALDE
HOŁOWNIA Szymon, Poland, ALDE
JABŁOŃSKI Paweł, Poland, ECPA
KAMELCHUK Yuriy, Ukraine, EPP/CD
OBERHOFER Dominik, Austria, ALDE
PLAVÁKOVÁ Lucia, Slovak Republic, ALDE
PULJAK Marijana, Croatia, ALDE
SOKOL Petr, Czechia, NR
STAMATIS Georgios, Greece, EPP/CD
SYRENGELA Maria, Greece, EPP/CD
TIBLOM Victoria, Sweden, ECPA
VOGELS Rian, Netherlands, ALDE
WIECHEL Markus, Sweden, ECPA

Total = 25

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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
   NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group