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

Doc. 12047
30 September 2009

Combating selective abortion

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr Luca VOLONTÈ and other members of the Assembly

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

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Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms the right to life of every human being;

Article 6(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1966 which came into force on 23 March 1976 provides that every human being has the inherent right to life. This right must be protected by law and no one may arbitrarily be deprived of their life;

Under Article 6 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the States Parties recognise that every child has the inherent right to life and must ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child;

The European Convention on Human Rights provides, in Article 2, that "Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law";

The World Health Organisation, addressing this point, has identified the improvement of the quality of life of mothers and children as one of its paramount objectives;

The worldwide spread of the practice of selective abortion, mainly to the detriment of female children, is causing a huge imbalance between the genders in certain geographic areas;

An increasingly large number of countries are actively promoting abortion in their legislation as a means of population control, as well as policies imposing penalties of various kinds on women who refuse abortion.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

VOLONTÈ Luca, Italy, EPP/CD
DEITTERT Hubert, Germany
FARINA Gianni, Italy, SOC
GATTI Marco, San Marino, EPP/CD
GOUTRY Luc, Belgium
LINTNER Eduard, Germany
RUSSO Giacinto, Italy, ALDE
SCHÄDLER Leander, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD
TÜRKÖNE Özlem, Turkey, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group