



**Doc. 13112**

25 January 2013

## The right to the family as the traditional and fundamental unit of society

### Written declaration No. 535

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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.

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Considering that the family, based on marriage between one man and one woman is the natural and fundamental unit of society entitled to protection by society and the State.<sup>1</sup>

The undersigned, members of the Parliamentary Assembly:

- call for renewed efforts to promote the family as an essential and vital contributor to the common good of the societies;
- recognize that the family is a community of love, life and solidarity, which is uniquely suited by its nature to give birth, raise children and to protect and care for its most vulnerable members;
- endorse and support international human rights law which oblige States to promote and protect the rights of the natural family;
- reaffirm and promote the legal principles that have been acknowledged as forming the basis of international human rights and the family;
- ensure that national governments properly implement and enforce domestic law giving full effect to the rights of the family;
- reaffirm the inherent dignity of the human person and seek to secure a healthy future for the children, with special attention to those who have been irreparably damaged by the lack of respect for the rights of the family.

*Signed (see overleaf)*

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1. 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (UDHR), art. 16;



*Signed*<sup>2</sup>:

VOLONTÈ Luca, Italy, EPP/CD  
AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD  
ARIEV Volodymyr, Ukraine, NR  
BRAUN Márton, Hungary, EPP/CD  
DERVOZ Ismeta, Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD  
DJUROVIĆ Aleksandra, Serbia, NR  
DONABAUER Karl, Austria, EPP/CD  
DZURINDA Mikuláš, Slovak Republic, EPP/CD  
FOURNIER Bernard, France, EPP/CD  
FRANKEN Hans, Netherlands, EPP/CD  
FRITZ Erich Georg, Germany, EPP/CD  
FUSU Corina, Republic of Moldova, ALDE  
GHILETCHI Valeriu, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD  
HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD  
HOPPÁL Péter, Hungary, EPP/CD  
HÖRSTER Joachim, Germany, EPP/CD  
HOVHANNISYAN Arpine, Armenia, EPP/CD  
KALMÁR Ferenc, Hungary, EPP/CD  
KARAPETYAN Naira, Armenia, EPP/CD  
KOVÁCS Elvira, Serbia, EPP/CD  
KUBATA Václav, Czech Republic, EPP/CD  
LEGENDRE Jacques, France, EPP/CD  
NAGY József, Slovak Republic, EPP/CD  
NEGELE Gebhard, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD  
NEUGEBAUER Fritz, Austria, EPP/CD  
OROBETS Lesia, Ukraine, EPP/CD  
PALIHOVICI Liliana, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD  
SASI Kimmo, Finland, EPP/CD  
SCHÄDLER Leander, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD  
SCHNEIDER-SCHNEITER Elisabeth, Switzerland, EPP/CD  
SEYIDOV Samad, Azerbaijan, EDG  
STEFANELLI Lorella, San Marino, EPP/CD  
VEJKEY Imre, Hungary, EPP/CD  
VERCAMER Stefaan, Belgium, EPP/CD

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Total = 34

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2. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EDG: European Democrat Group  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group