Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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04 February 2014

Investigation of the incidents in Farmakonisi and Lampedusa

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS and other members of the Assembly

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

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The recent humanitarian tragedy in the islet of Farmakonisi (Greece), as well as the recent one in Lampedusa (Italy), increases a long list of casualties in the Mediterranean. The death toll in Farmakonisi left 12 victims, among them 9 children, whereas in Lampedusa the victims were 175. The Mediterranean and other key maritime borders followed by immigrants and asylum seekers have become death traps revealing Europe's lack of a comprehensive, humanitarian, common immigration policy.

Contradictions concerning the circumstances of the accident from the side of the undocumented immigrants and the Greek Coast Guard have already alerted the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, Amnesty International and other national and international NGOs and caused an international outcry in the international press.

The Greek authorities have ordered a full-scale investigation. The Greek and the Italian authorities should be requested to ascertain the exact circumstances under which the incidents occurred, leading to the death of immigrants, and those responsible, if any, should immediately be prosecuted.

The Parliamentary Assembly should also conduct an independent investigation into these cases and make proposals for a consistent, comprehensive, common immigration policy for Europe, that underlines the contribution of legal immigration to the socio-economic development of our countries and at the same time tackles effectively illegal immigration and human trafficking so that dangerous movements are avoided.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

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ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš, Serbia, EDG
ANDREOLI Paride, San Marino, SOC
ARIB Khadija, Netherlands, SOC
BAĞIŞ Egemen, Turkey, EDG
BAKOYANNIS Theodora, Greece, EPP/CD
BAYKAL Deniz, Turkey, SOC
BLANCO Delia, Spain, SOC
BONET PEROT Sílvia Eloïsa, Andorra, SOC
BOUTIN-SWEET Marjolaine, Canada
BUGNON André, Switzerland, ALDE
DENEMEÇ Reha, Turkey, EDG
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
DOUROU Eirini, Greece, UEL
DRAGASAKIS Ioannis, Greece, UEL
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
FRANKEN Hans, Netherlands, EPP/CD
GIANNAKAKI Maria, Greece, SOC
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino, SOC
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JABLIANOV Valeri, Bulgaria, SOC
JÓNASSON Ögmundur, Iceland, UEL
KALASHNIKOV Leonid, Russian Federation, UEL
KHIDASHELI Tinatin, Georgia, ALDE
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KYRIAKIDES Stella, Cyprus, EPP/CD
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LAZZARI Luca, San Marino, UEL
LE BORGN' Pierre-Yves, France, SOC
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MARIAS Epameinondas, Greece, EDG
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MEHMETI DEVAJA Ermira, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", SOC
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NICOLAIDES Nicos, Cyprus, SOC
NICOLETTI Michele, Italy, SOC
PETRENCO Grigore, Republic of Moldova, UEL
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RECORDON Luc, Switzerland, SOC
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TRIANTAFYLLOS Konstantinos, Greece, SOC
VALEN Snorre Serigstad, Norway, UEL
VORUZ Eric, Switzerland, SOC
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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left