

Doc. 14993
08 October 2019

Call for the immediate lifting of a travel ban placed on Resit Ekinci from Recklinghausen, Germany

Written declaration No. 697

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:

Resit Ekinci, a Turkish national living in Recklinghausen (Germany), was arrested by the Turkish authorities in Diyarbakır in July 2019 while on holiday with his family. He is accused of liking, commenting upon and sharing posts critical of Erdogan on Facebook. While not in detention anymore, Resit Ekinci now has to report to the Turkish authorities weekly and cannot leave the country. His wife and two children are back in Germany and he has lost his job there.

We urge the Turkish authorities to immediately lift the travel ban placed on Resit Ekinci, whose persecution appears to be politically motivated. By ratifying the European Convention on Human Rights, Turkey took on an obligation to ensure to everyone within its jurisdiction respect of rights and freedoms, including the right to freedom of thought under Article 9.

Signed (see overleaf)



Signed¹:

SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
ÆVARSDÓTTIR Thorhildur Sunna, Iceland, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BEN CHIKHA Fourat, Belgium, SOC
BENKŐ Erika, Romania, EPP/CD
BUSTINDUY María Luisa, Spain, SOC
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
FILATOV Tarja, Finland, SOC
GOÑI Ruth, Spain, ALDE
GURMAI Zita, Hungary, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ Antonio, Spain, SOC
HAJDUKOVIĆ Domagoj, Croatia, SOC
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC
KOPŘIVA František, Czech Republic, ALDE
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
PAPANDREOU George, Greece, SOC
SAAR Indrek, Estonia, SOC
SARAMO Jussi, Finland, UEL
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SUMELZO Susana, Spain, SOC
TOMIĆ Violeta, Slovenia, UEL
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC
WHITFIELD Martin, United Kingdom, SOC

Total = 24

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left