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01 July 2022

## **Follow-up to the expulsion of the Russian Federation from the Council of Europe: staff issues**

**Written declaration No. 743**

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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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We, the undersigned, declare the following:

On 16 March 2022, the Russian Federation was expelled from the Council of Europe. Despite this fact, following the Secretary General's notes to the Committee of Ministers on the staff matters, approximately 80 Russian staff members will/may continue their employment within the Organisation.

Continued employment of these staff members is contrary to the Organisation's well-established rule that only citizens of member States may be employed.

Their continued employment poses a risk to the climate of trust which must be maintained and strengthened between the Organisation and the governments of member States, especially those which are direct victims of the Russian aggression.

Most Russian staff members are engaged in advisory and/or managerial duties, as administrators. At least 20 are directly involved in and/or responsible for the decision-making process regarding the Organisation's policies, strategies, and activities. A decision to retain such staff creates a ground for potential conflict of interest in the functioning of the Organisation, given its mission, and undermines its credibility.

We urge the leadership of the Organisation to be consistent in their staff policy with the unanimous political position of the member States towards the Russian Federation and take urgent appropriate measures to terminate all such contracts.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

MEZENTSEVA Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD  
ÅBERG Borianna, Sweden, EPP/CD  
ABRAHAM Knut, Germany, EPP/CD  
BARDINA Maryna, Ukraine, ALDE  
BILOZIR Larysa, Ukraine, ALDE  
BUDRIKIS Uldis, Latvia, EPP/CD  
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC  
DAVIES Geraint, United Kingdom, SOC  
GONCHARENKO Oleksii, Ukraine, EC/DA  
HOFFMANN Christoph, Germany, ALDE  
JENSEN Michael Aastrup, Denmark, ALDE  
KALJULAIID Raimond, Estonia  
KAMELCHUK Yuriy, Ukraine, EPP/CD  
KHOMENKO Olena, Ukraine, EC/DA  
KRAVCHUK Yevheniia, Ukraine, ALDE  
KROSS Eerik-Niiles, Estonia, ALDE  
KUBIAK Marta, Poland, EC/DA  
LATOS Tomasz, Poland, EC/DA  
LEYTE Carmen, Spain, EPP/CD  
LĪBIŅA-EGNERE Inese, Latvia, EPP/CD  
MEREZHKO Oleksandr, Ukraine, EC/DA  
MOSHENETS Olena, Ukraine, ALDE  
MULARCZYK Arkadiusz, Poland, EC/DA  
NATALUKHA Dmytro, Ukraine, EC/DA  
NYKIEL Mirosława, Poland, EPP/CD  
OVCHYNNYKOVA Yuliia, Ukraine, ALDE  
SOBOLIEV Serhii, Ukraine, EPP/CD  
SUSHKO Pavlo, Ukraine, EC/DA  
SZEJNA Andrzej, Poland, SOC  
VALENTIN Kim, Denmark, ALDE  
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

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Total = 31

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group