



**Doc. 15753**

27 April 2023

## Repression in Poland by the State prosecution must stop

### Written declaration No. 768

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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:

In [Resolution 2316 \(2020\)](#) and [Resolution 2359 \(2021\)](#), the Parliamentary Assembly expressed concern regarding the politicisation of the state prosecution service in Poland. In two written declarations ([Doc. 15458](#) and [Doc. 15574](#)), some Assembly members sounded the alarm about specific cases of repression. We are troubled to learn that the persecution of groups considered “inconvenient” by the authorities continues.

Women's rights and LGBT campaigners, like Justyna Wydrzyńska, Angelika Domańska or Bart Staszewski, are being targeted for their advocacy work promoting tolerance and human rights.

Journalists are being silenced, like Piotr Maślak, who criticised border guards for abusing rights of migrants, or Wojciech Czuchnowski of Gazeta Wyborcza, threatened by the state-owned PHH hotel holding for revealing its unlawful surveillance of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, opposition politicians and activist Bartosz Kramek.

The persecution of entrepreneurs like Piotr Osiecki and Przemysław Krych or, most recently, a business organisation president Maciej Witucki, continues. Actions against them, including raids by security services, arbitrary detention and criminal charges, not only harm individual entrepreneurs but also foster a hostile environment for entrepreneurship and investment.

We call on the Polish Government to end the harassment of individuals and organisations that exercise their right to free speech, peaceful assembly and entrepreneurship, and to provide compensation for damages suffered, most notably for any arbitrary detention.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



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

EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC  
FABRICIUS Camilla, Denmark, SOC  
FAXE Sascha, Denmark, SOC  
FILATOV Tarja, Finland, SOC  
GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL  
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC  
KEMPPI Hilikka, Finland, ALDE  
KERSTEN Franziska, Germany, SOC  
KILJUNEN Kimmo, Finland, SOC  
MARIE Didier, France, SOC  
MODERT Octavie, Luxembourg, EPP/CD  
MOUTQUIN Simon, Belgium, SOC  
PETIT Maud, France, ALDE  
PRINGLE Thomas, Ireland, UEL  
RYLE Alexander, Denmark, ALDE  
SHARMA Virendra, United Kingdom, SOC  
SHEPPARD Tommy, United Kingdom, NR  
ŚMISZEK Krzysztof, Poland, SOC  
STIENEN Petra, Netherlands, ALDE  
TÜRK-NACHBAUR Derya, Germany, SOC  
VALENTIN Kim, Denmark, ALDE

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Total = 21

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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  
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group