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21 June 2023

Judicial harassment of Turkish sociologist Pinar Selek

Written declaration No. 781

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 express our deep concern about the judicial harassment of Turkish-born sociologist and feminist Pinar Selek over the past 25 years, accused of committing an attack in Istanbul in 1998. Pinar Selek's commitment to peace and the rights of minorities and precarious populations (Armenians, Kurds, street children, homeless, LGBT...) should be welcomed as an example to follow.

We are surprised that the Turkish Supreme Court quashed the fourth acquittal, eight years after it, in June 2022, and that the Istanbul Assize Court issued an international arrest warrant with immediate imprisonment, even before the new hearing scheduled for 31 March 2023 took place.

Noting that, at the hearing on 31 March at the Assize Court in Istanbul, a new hearing was scheduled for 29 September 2023 and that the International Arrest Warrant was renewed, we urge Türkiye to end the judicial proceedings against Pinar Selek, as well as the International Arrest Warrant.

We call on the member States to publicly express their support for Pinar Selek and to declare their refusal to respond favourably to the international arrest warrant issued against her.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

MATHIEU Frédéric, France, UEL
ARATÓ Gergely, Hungary, SOC
BERGERON Stéphane, Canada
BILOZIR Larysa, Ukraine, ALDE
BOUYX Bertrand, France, ALDE
CASTEL Laura, Spain, UEL
CLAPOT Mireille, France, ALDE
CORBYN Jeremy, United Kingdom, SOC
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
FERNANDES Emmanuel, France, UEL
FRIDEZ Pierre-Alain, Switzerland, SOC
GAVAN Paul, Ireland, UEL
GÓMEZ-REINO Antón, Spain, UEL
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
KRISPER Stephanie, Austria, ALDE
KRISTÍNARDÓTTIR GUNNARSDÓTTIR Arndís Anna, Iceland, SOC
LLOYD Tony, United Kingdom, SOC
LOUCAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
MARRA Ada, Switzerland, SOC
NICOLINI Marco, San Marino, UEL
PAHLKE Julian, Germany, SOC
PETIT Maud, France, ALDE
SKÚLADÓTTIR Jódís, Iceland, UEL
STAMBACH-TERRENOIR Anne, France, UEL
UNNELAND Andreas Sjalg, Norway, UEL
VONTA Tamara, Slovenia, ALDE

Total = 25

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left