

**Doc. 10895**  
12 April 2006

## Prostitution – which stance to take?

Motion for a resolution  
presented by Mrs Cliveti and others

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

1. Opinions on prostitution are divided in Europe. Some consider prostitution to be “the oldest profession in the world” and thus favour decriminalisation and regulation. Some consider prostitution to be a crime, and thus favour outlawing it and punishing prostitutes, pimps and/or clients. All agree, however, that one form of prostitution is intolerable: forced prostitution.
2. Unfortunately, the differing attitudes to prostitution in Europe negatively impact on co-operation between Council of Europe member states even when it comes to combating forced prostitution and trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation.
3. There is also a tendency to discriminate against women in this field: it is usually the woman – the prostitute – and not the man – the client – who is faced with stricter penalties in those countries which criminalise prostitution.
4. The Assembly considers that differing attitudes to prostitution should not be allowed to impinge on Europe’s capabilities to fight forced prostitution and trafficking in women. It thus decides to study the issue and to try and find a common stance on prostitution.

*Signed (see overleaf)*

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

CLIVETI, Minodora, Romania, SOC  
AHLQVIST, Birgitta, Sweden, SOC  
AKHUNDOVA, Elmira, Azerbaijan, SOC  
ARZILLI, Giuseppe, San Marino, EPP/CD  
ATEŞ, Abdülkadir, Turkey, SOC  
BADRÉ, Denis, France, ALDE  
BARGHOLTZ, Helena, Sweden, ALDE  
BERCEANU, Radu-Mircea, Romania, EPP/CD  
BRANGER, Jean-Guy, France, EPP/CD  
ČURDOVÁ, Anna, Czech Republic, SOC  
FRUNDA, György, Romania, EPP/CD  
GAJDŮŠKOVÁ, Alena, Czech Republic, SOC  
GARDETTO, Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD  
GLĂVAN, Stefan, Romania, ALDE  
NAGHDALYAN, Hermine, Armenia, ALDE  
ÖZAL, İbrahim, Turkey, EPP/CD  
PLATVOET, Leo, Netherlands, UEL  
POTRATA, Majda, Slovenia, SOC  
STĂNOIU, Rodica Mihaela, Romania, SOC  
WESTERLUND PANKE, Majléne, Sweden, SOC

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<sup>1</sup> SOC: Socialist Group  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EDG: European Democratic Group  
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left  
NR: not registered in a group