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Rising levels of homophobia in some member states

Written Declaration No 398

This written declaration commits only the members who have signed it

In May a gay pride parade in Moscow (Russia) was, for the second year running, banned and broken up by the police. As in the previous year, some participants were the victims of violence, with the police reportedly sometimes slow to intervene.

In April, for the third year in succession, the Mayor of Chisinau (Moldova) banned a peaceful demonstration by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons.

In March, the Polish Government put forward proposals which would oblige schools to “protect students from contents which threaten their proper psychological and moral development”, including those which “violate the principles of the protection of marriage and family, including the propagation of homosexuality”.

In May, Vilnius city council, in Lithuania, banned an EU-sponsored rally called “For diversity – against discrimination”, which aimed to promote tolerance towards minority groups, including gays and lesbians.

The undersigned, gravely concerned at rising levels of homophobia in some member states, call upon all member states to uphold the rights of LGBT people in accordance with their obligations as members of the Council of Europe, and ask the Committee of Ministers to intensify actions to secure the rights of LGBT people.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed:¹

AUSTIN John, United Kingdom, SOC
ABURTO BASELGA Fátima, Spain, SOC
ACKETOFT Tina, Sweden, ALDE
BARNETT Doris, Germany, SOC
BARTUMEU CASSANY Jaume, Andorra, SOC
BOSWELL Tim, United Kingdom, EDG
BURLISON Tom, United Kingdom, SOC
CHIARUZZI Mauro, San Marino, SOC
CLAPPISON James, United Kingdom, EDG
ČURDOVÁ Anna, Czech Republic, SOC
DUPRAZ John, Switzerland, ALDE
EVANS Nigel, United Kingdom, EDG
GAJDŮŠKOVÁ Alena, Czech Republic, SOC
GREENWAY John, United Kingdom, EDG
HANCOCK Michael, United Kingdom, ALDE
MALINS Humfrey, United Kingdom, EDG
MARQUET Bernard, Monaco, ALDE
McCAFFERTY Christine, United Kingdom, SOC
MELONI Assunta, San Marino, ALDE
MESSERSCHMIDT Morten, Denmark, EDG
MIKUTIENĖ Dangutė, Lithuania, ALDE
OJULAND Kristina, Estonia, ALDE
PFLUG Johannes, Germany, SOC
RUPPRECHT Marlene, Germany, SOC
RUSSELL JOHNSTON, Lord, United Kingdom, ALDE
SÁNDOR Klára, Hungary, ALDE
SARIKAS Fidias, Cyprus, SOC
SEVERINSEN Hanne, Denmark, ALDE
SIGFÚSSON Steingrímur, Iceland, UEL
TOMLINSON John, United Kingdom, SOC
VIS Rudi, United Kingdom, SOC
WODARG Wolfgang, Germany, SOC

Total = 32

¹ 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