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Non-renewal of the transmission license of the private audiovisual company *Radio Caracas Televisión*

Written Declaration No. 396

This written declaration commits only the members who have signed it

1. Considering the decision taken in a completely arbitrary fashion on the non-renewal of the transmission license of the private audiovisual company *Radio Caracas Televisión (RCTV)* implying the effective closure on 27 May 2007, said station having 3000 employees;
2. Considering that the closure of this audiovisual media will deprive the public of pluralist information and will further limit its independent role;
3. Considering that the actions of the Venezuelan Government regarding *Radio Caracas Televisión* represents a serious infringement of freedom of expression;

Consider that it is paramount urgency to:

1. Remind the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of its obligations to respect and to have respected, freedom of expression, freedom of opinion and freedom of the press, as it is obliged to do in accordance with the American Convention on Human Rights, of which it is a signatory nation, and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
2. Call for dialogue between the Government and the private media in Venezuela.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed:¹

Van den BRANDE Luc, Belgium, EPP/CD
ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš, Serbia, EPP/CD
DEES Dirk, Netherlands, ALDE
EÖRSI Mátyás, Hungary, ALDE
FOSS Per-Kristian, Norway, EPP/CD
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
GLĂVAN Ștefan, Romania, ALDE
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
HAJIYEVA Gultakin, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD
HERKEL Andres, Estonia, EPP/CD
LINDBLAD, Göran, Sweden, EPP/CD
PAPADIMITRIOU, Elsa, Greece, EPP/CD
PREDA, Cezar Florin, Romania, EPP/CD
SCHMIED, Walter, Switzerland, ALDE
SCHREINER, Bernard, France, EPP/CD
SHYBKO, Vitaliy, Ukraine, SOC
SZABÓ, Zoltán, Hungary, SOC
VAREIKIS, Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
WILLE, Paul, Belgium, ALDE
WURM, Gisela, Austria, SOC

MALAN Lucio, Italy, EPP/CD
RIVOLTA Dario, Italy, EPP/CD

Total = 22

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