



Doc. 12518

3 February 2011

The state of media freedom in Europe

Motion for a recommendation
presented by Mr Mats Johansson and others

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

The Parliamentary Assembly is alarmed by the fact that media freedom is increasingly challenged in Europe through serious attacks against individual journalists and writers, restrictive legislation as well as difficult working conditions for journalists.

The Assembly deplores in particular the targeted action against the media in Belarus witnessed after the presidential election of 19 December 2010, the violent attacks against Oleg Kashin and Anatoly Adamchuk in Russia in November 2010, as well as the more than 50 journalists imprisoned in Turkey today.

Freedom of expression and information is a necessary condition for the functioning of democracy. Democracy and the rule of law are necessary conditions for membership of the Council of Europe. It is therefore a key challenge for the Council of Europe to ensure that media freedom is respected in all member states.

The Assembly calls on national parliaments to review threats to media freedom in their country and recommends that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe assist member states in this respect.

Signed (see overleaf)

*Signed*¹:

JOHANSSON Mats, Sweden, EPP/CD
BRASSEUR Anne, Luxembourg, ALDE
CEDERBRATT Mikael, Sweden, EPP/CD
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
GUȚU Ana, Moldova, ALDE
HOLOVATY Serhiy, Ukraine, ALDE
HURSKAINEN Sinikka, Finland, SOC
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
JOHN-CALAME Francine, Switzerland, SOC
KONEČNÝ Albrecht, Austria, SOC
KOVÁCS Elvira, Serbia, EPP/CD
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
MARLAND-MILITELLO Muriel, France, EPP/CD
MARTY Dick, Switzerland, ALDE
MIGNON Jean-Claude, France, EPP/CD
MUÑOZ ALONSO Alejandro, Spain, EPP/CD
STUMP Doris, Switzerland, SOC
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TOSHEV Latchezar, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
WOHLWEND Renate, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

¹ EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
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