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23 June 2011

Registration of political parties in Russia

Motion for a resolution
presented by Mrs Brasseur and others

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

The Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation has refused to register the People's Freedom Party (PARNAS) which had been established in December 2010 bringing together the following political movements: 'Solidarity' (Mr Boris Nemtsov), Russian National Democratic Union (Mr Mikhail Kasyanov), Republican Party of Russia (Mr Vladimir Ryzhkov), and 'Democratic Choice' party (Mr Vladimir Milov).

While joining the Council of Europe in 1996, the Russian Federation committed itself to the core values and principles of this Organisation. The decision of the Russian authorities not to register PARNAS undermines the principle of political pluralism and freedom of association, i.e. indispensable elements of genuine democracy.

Therefore the Parliamentary Assembly should consider this latest decision limiting the freedom of association and political expression in one of the biggest Council of Europe member states. The Assembly should take urgent measures to examine whether the legislation and practice in Russia on registration of political parties comply with European standards.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed ¹:

BRASSEUR Anne, Luxembourg, ALDE
BARDINA PAU Josep Anton, Andorra, ALDE
BODEN Fernand, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
von CRAMON-TAUBADEL Viola, Germany, SOC
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
GUȚU Ana, Moldova, ALDE
HAUPERT Norbert, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
HOLOVATY Serhiy, Ukraine, ALDE
KAIKKONEN Antti, Finland, ALDE
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
KUCHEIDA Jean-Pierre, France, SOC
LAVTIŽAR-BEBLER Darja, Slovenia, SOC
LOUTFI Younal, Bulgaria, ALDE
LUNDGREN Kerstin, Sweden, ALDE
MARLAND-MILITELLO Muriel, France, EPP/CD
MARQUET Bernard, Monaco, ALDE
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MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MEMECAN Nursuna, Turkey, ALDE
MORIAU Patrick, Belgium, SOC
MÜRI Felix, Switzerland, ALDE
NAGHDALYAN Hermine, Armenia, ALDE
von SYDOW Björn, Sweden, SOC
TEKELİOĞLU Mehmet, Turkey, EPP/CD
TOSHEV Latchezar, Bulgaria, 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