

The participation of extreme nationalists in the government of Bulgaria

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 2-3 of June 2017:

Noting that:

- GERB, a member party of the EPP, formed a coalition government with extreme nationalists after the parliamentary elections in Bulgaria of 26 March 2017;
- on 16 September 2014 the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in its report on Bulgaria defined Ataka, NFSB and VMRO (the United Patriots) as ultra-nationalist/fascist political parties; [1]
- some senior government officials have been accused of racism, xenophobia, hate speech, discrimination and making Nazi salutes;
- the participation of the United Patriots in the government undermines European values.

Calls on:

- Prime Minister Boyko Borissov to reassess his coalition relations and remove from the government of the country the United Patriots in order to ensure the successful conduct of the upcoming Bulgarian presidency of the EU Council;
- Bulgaria's authorities to demonstrate zero tolerance towards extremist and nationalist attitudes and to investigate all allegations of racism, xenophobia, hate speech and discrimination by members of the Government;
- the European People's Party to come up with a clear position on the participation of extreme nationalists in the Bulgarian government.

[1] www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/Bulgaria/BGR-CbC-V-2014-036-ENG.pdf, p15

Resolution:

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