Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 2309 (2026)[1]

Fighting back against transnational repression

Parliamentary Assembly

1. Referring to its Resolution 2669 (2026) "Fighting back against transnational repression", the Parliamentary Assembly notes the grave threat posed by tactics employed by authoritarian regimes beyond their borders to repress political opponents and silence dissent. Regardless of the method used, such practices violate State sovereignty, democratic and national security, as well as the human rights of the individuals targeted. In order to combat this intensifying phenomenon adequately, the Council of Europe should lead international efforts to offer a co-ordinated response, based on the best practices of its member and observer States, while also taking the input of civil society into account. Accordingly, the Assembly recommends that the Committee of Ministers:

1.1. as a matter of priority, consider drawing up an international legal instrument, including possibly a convention, on preventing and punishing transnational repression, taking into account best practices from member and observer States. Such an instrument should include a definition of transnational repression and set out minimum legislative and other measures to equip member States with effective tools to curb this phenomenon and protect its victims;

1.2. instruct the European Committee on Crime Problems to examine the feasibility of criminalising transnational repression as a distinct offence;

1.3. consider the most appropriate forum within the Council of Europe to facilitate regular exchanges of information regarding cases of transnational repression as well as to enable member and observer States to share and promote best practices in fighting back against this phenomenon;

1.4. regularly organise a thematic discussion on transnational repression in Europe;

1.5. consider introducing dissuasive measures to sanction States Parties to the Council of Europe conventions on extradition, mutual legal assistance and similar instruments, where these instruments are misused for the purpose of carrying out transnational repression.

1. *Assembly debate* on 25 June 2026 (26th sitting) (see Doc. 16421, report of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, rapporteur: Mr Constantinos Efstathiou). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 25 June 2026 (26th sitting).