


**STATEMENT BY CHAIRS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES  
CONDEMNING THE SENTENCING OF VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA  
20 April 2023**

We, the Chairs of our respective national Parliaments' Foreign Affairs Committees, strongly condemn Russian court decision sentencing one of the leading opposition politician and Kremlin vocal critic Vladimir Kara-Murza to 25 years in prison on politically motivated charges.

It is clear demonstration of misuse of power by Russian authorities and attempt to silence the political opponents. The Russian judicial system continues to be instrumentalised against advocates for democracy, journalists and other courageous activists.

All persons responsible for Mr. Kara-Murza's prosecution, detention and sentencing must be held accountable by imposing targeted sanction under the respective global human rights sanctions regimes.

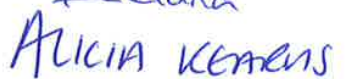
We consider Mr.Kara- Murza's conviction to be contrary to Russia's international obligations on human rights, including the right to a fair trial, and call for his immediate and unconditional release without further delay.


  
Richards Kels  
Latvia

  
Marco Mikkelsen  
Estonia

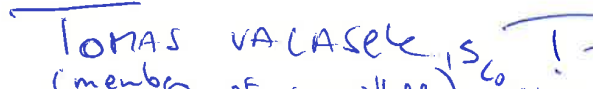
  
Zygimantas Plepiulis  
Lithuania

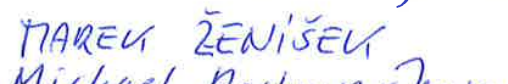
  
Bjarni Sonsson  
Iceland

  
ALICIA KEMENS  
UNITED KINGDOM

  
DADOSLAW FOGIEL  
POLAND

  
Aron Emilsson

  
TOMAS VALASEK (member of committee)  
Slovakia

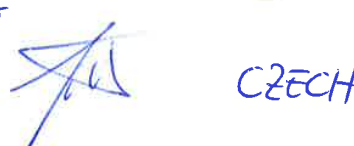
  
MAREK ŽENIŠEK  
Michael Astrup Jensen  
DENMARK

  
Pádraig Kirby  
Ireland

  
Filip

  
Anca Ciub



  
CZECH