

Press Release

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Dick Marty: time for Europe to come clean once and for all over secret detentions

Strasbourg, 21.08.2009 – Dick Marty (Switzerland, ALDE), the rapporteur of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) on secret detentions, made the following statement today:

“With yesterday’s report that Lithuania hosted a secret CIA prison, as well as other recent revelations regarding the ‘black sites’ in Poland and Romania, the time has now come for Europe to account in full for its involvement in this shameful episode.

I have always believed that the ‘dynamic of truth’ would prevail in the face of state secrecy. But European credibility is damaged by these repeated leaks of only partial truths every few weeks or months. Let us draw a line under this, once and for all, and come clean.

My own sources seem to confirm yesterday’s news report that US ‘high-value detainees’ were held in Lithuania. The authorities should now carry out a full, independent and credible investigation. Furthermore, an unjustified use of the ‘state secrets’ doctrine should not act as a barrier to full disclosure of what occurred on the outskirts of Vilnius.

Denial and evasion are no longer credible: European countries must come clean.”

[Chronology of the Council of Europe’s investigations into secret detentions](#)

The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 318 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states.

President: Lluís Maria de Puig (Spain, SOC) – Secretary General of the Assembly: Mateo Sorinas.

Political groups: EPP/CD (Group of the European People’s Party); SOC (Socialist Group); EDG (European Democrat Group);

ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).