

# MEDEL

## MAGISTRATS EUROPEENS POUR LA DEMOCRATIE ET LES LIBERTES

### DECLARATION BY MEDEL ON THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION

The Administrative board of MEDEL (Magistrats Européens pour la démocratie et les Libertés - European Magistrates for Democracy and Liberties), meeting in Krakow on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005, informed about the present situation of Justice in Portugal has adopted the following resolution:

1. The Statutes of Portuguese Judges and Public Prosecutors enshrine advanced principles of independence and autonomy which serve as model for other European Countries.
2. These Statutes provide for an essential balance between professional rights and duties.
3. To ensure such independence and autonomy numerous international declarations state the necessity to devise a system of statutory rights and reaffirm, within each State and society, the dignity of judicial functions.
4. MEDEL observes that today in Portugal there is a serious risk of jeopardy of such statutory equilibrium.
5. Therefore, MEDEL expresses its preoccupation in face of the evolution of the Portuguese situation and insists on the necessity of maintaining the coherence of the Statutes of Judges and Public Prosecutors and, specifically, to watch over the safeguard of their rights.

\* MEDEL gathers associations of magistrates (judges and public prosecutors) from : Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, and Spain.  
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