

## AMENDED TEXT

N.M./ 99 Circular

MOTION

### **OBJECT: MOTION OF COUNCILOR CAPPATO AND OTHERS – SUSPENSION OF INITIATIVES UNDER THE TWINNING AGREEMENT BETWEEN MILAN AND ST. PETERSBURG**

On March 1, 2012, the following motion was presented:

#### **CITY COUNCIL OF MILAN**

#### **WHEREAS**

on February 29, 2011, the city of St. Petersburg approved, on the third and final reading, a bill that makes it illegal to write a book, publish an article, or speak in public about homosexuality;

in a previous public hearing, organized by supporters of the law, so-called “experts” called for obligatory health treatment or isolation of homosexuals, while so-called “sexologists” humiliated LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, and Intersex) persons by describing them as “subhuman,” all amid the thunderous applause of the Assembly;

#### **ATTESTED THAT**

the cities of Milan and Saint Petersburg signed a twinning agreement, ratified in Milan on October 2, 1967, by reason of a special relationship that developed between the two cities, manifested “in reciprocal study visits, the exchange of official delegations, and public events”;

#### **CONSIDERED THAT**

this law is clearly aimed at criminalizing any activity or information relating to LGBTI people and relationships between persons of the same sex, in blatant violation of freedoms of expression and association, as well as the commitments made by Russia when it ratified the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

the law has been condemned both by the European Parliament (<http://www.certidiritti.it/parlamentoeuropeo-approva-risoluzione-di-condanna-nei-confronti-della-russia-per-le-legge-omofobe>) and by the Minister of Foreign

Affairs of the Italian Republic (<http://www.certidiritti.it/ministro-degli-esteri-italianorisponde-a-certi-diritti-e-senatore-perduca-su-gravi-fatti-omofobi-della-regione-di-san-pietroburgoitalia-impegnata-contro-omofobia>);

## **COMMITTS THE ADMINISTRATION AND PARTICIPATING SOCIETIES**

to not take any twinning initiatives, until such time as there is an end to the violation of fundamental human rights deriving from the law of February 29, 2012.

City Councilors: f.to: Marco Cappato, Maria Carmela Rozza, Anita Sonogo, Anna Scavuzzo, Ines Quartieri