

2/4/01



Strasbourg, 2 April 2001

35-294/01

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Bertel Haarder on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the submission or co-sponsorship with the United States of a resolution, at the 57TH United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva, deploring the situation of human rights in the People's Republic of China (PRC)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the conclusions of the General Affairs Council of March 19th 2001 which expressed concern at the serious violations of human rights in the People's Republic of China,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China, on Tibet and on the Union's existing priorities and recommendations for the March 2001 session of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the EU-PRC summit meeting of 21 December 1999 and the Council conclusions of 22 January 2001 on the EU-PRC dialogue on human rights,
 - having regard to Article 18 on freedom of religion of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- A. concerned that having signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the People's Republic of China has still not finalised the ratification and implementation processes,
- B. concerned about the lack of respect for fundamental freedom in China, including the freedom of expression, religion, and association, about the ongoing violations of human rights of pro-democracy activists, proponents of free trade unions and followers of other movements such as the Falun Gong, as well as the frequent use of the death penalty,

303. 605

- C. concerned about the restrictions against unofficial religious groups and the deprivation of religious and cultural rights in Tibet and Xinjiang,
 - D. noting that the US has decided to table a draft resolution on human rights in China at the 57th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights,
 - E. noting that the EU members of the UN Commission on Human Rights will vote in favour but regretting that the EU will not co-sponsor such a resolution,
 - F. taking into account that the Chinese authorities welcomed the decision of the EU Foreign Ministers not to co-sponsor the US resolution,
 - G. regretting the fact that the EU Member States are not granting visas for private visits to the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Defence Minister of the Republic of China
1. urges the Council to submit or co-sponsor with the United States a resolution, at the 57th United Nations Human Rights Commission, deploring the state of human rights in the People's Republic of China,
 2. invites the Council and its Member States to grant visas to the President and the Government of the Republic of China to enable them to carry out private visits to the European Union,
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Government of the Republic of China and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

pp. Mr HARPER

