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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marco Cappato, Marios Matsakis, Toomas Savi, Thierry Cornillet

on behalf of the ALDE Group

on the situation of the residents of Camp Ashraf

European Parliament resolution on the situation of the residents of Camp Ashraf

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Hague and the Fourth Geneva Conventions,
 - having regard to Rule 115(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, following several statements by both Iranian and Iraqi officials that the PMOI should be expelled from Iraq and Camp Ashraf should be closed, the Iraqi security forces have surrounded the Camp to prevent people from entering or exiting,
- B. whereas, in a letter dated 15 October 2008 to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights urged the Government of Iraq to protect Ashraf residents from forcible deportation, expulsion or repatriation in violation of the non-refoulment principle and to refrain from any action that would endanger their life or security,
1. Considers that those living in Camp Ashraf and other Iranian nationals who currently reside in Iraq having left Iran for political reason could be at risk of serious human rights violations if they were to be returned involuntarily to Iran;
 2. Emphasises that, before any final decision to remove an individual to its country of origin, there should be an independent, individual assessment of the potential risk of serious human rights violations; insists that no person should be returned, either directly or via a third country, to a situation where they would be at risk of torture or other serious human rights abuses;
 3. Insists that the humanitarian needs of the camp's residents, including access to food and medical care, be met by those protecting the camp;
 4. Urges the Iraqi Government to work together with UNHCR, and others as appropriate, to find a satisfactory long term solution to the situation of residents of Camp Ashraf;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the government and Parliament of Iraq, the UN Secretary-General and the UNHCR.