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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 Edward McMillan-Scott, Eija-Riitta Korhola, Tunne Kelam, Bernd Posselt, Laima Liucija Andrikiienė, Charles Tannock

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on Iran: the case of Roxana Saberi, American-Iranian journalist detained in Tehran

European Parliament resolution on Iran: the case of Roxana Saberi, American-Iranian journalist detained in Tehran

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Iran,
 - having regard to the EU Presidency Statement of 10 April 2009 on developments in the case of Roxana Saberi and the Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU of 22 April 2009 concerning the sentencing of Miss Roxana Saberi,
 - having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which have been ratified by Iran,
 - having regard to Rule 115 of its Rules of Procedure;
- A. whereas on 18 April 2009 the Iranian Revolutionary Court has sentenced Miss Roxana Saberi, an American-Iranian journalist, to eight years in prison for espionage,
- B. whereas Roxana Saberi had no access to a lawyer for five weeks and has not received a fair and transparent trial,
- C. whereas the lawyer of Roxana Saberi has filed an appeal against her conviction as his client maintains her innocence on all charges,
- D. whereas Roxana Saberi has pledged to stay on hunger strike until she is released,
1. Is deeply concerned about the harsh sentence pronounced by the Iranian Revolutionary Court on 18 April 2009 against Roxana Saberi;
 2. Urges the Iranian authorities to release Roxana Saberi immediately and unconditionally on the basis that the trial was held in camera without legal due process according to international norms;
 3. Urges the Iranian authorities to comply with all international human rights instruments ratified by Iran, especially with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which both guarantee the right to fair trial;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Head of the Judiciary of Iran and the Parliament and Government of Iran.