



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Plenary sitting

15.7.2014

B8-0057/2014

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 123(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation in Ukraine
(2014/2717(RSP))

Johannes Cornelis van Baalen, Guy Verhofstadt, Petras Auštrevičius, Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck, Marielle de Sarnez, Marietje Schaake, Louis Michel, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Fernando Maura Barandiarán, Jean-Marie Cavada, Antanas Guoga, Charles Goerens, Nathalie Griesbeck, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy
on behalf of the ALDE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Ukraine
(2014/2717(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the European Neighbourhood Policy, on the Eastern Partnership (EaP) and on Ukraine, with particular reference to those of 27 February 2014 on the situation in Ukraine¹, of 13 March 2014 on the invasion of Ukraine by Russia² and of 17 April 2014 on Russian pressure on Eastern Partnership countries and in particular destabilisation of eastern Ukraine³,
 - having regard to the outcome of the presidential elections held in Ukraine on 25 May 2014 and the preliminary conclusions by the OSCE Observation Mission, which stated that the elections were well organised, with a high turnout and ‘the clear resolve of the authorities to hold what was a genuine election largely in line with international commitments and with a respect for fundamental freedoms in the vast majority of the country’, despite the tensions in the eastern part of Ukraine,
 - having regard to the initiatives and actions taken by President Poroshenko to restore peace and order throughout Ukraine, based in particular on his 14-point peace plan,
 - having regard to the signing of the final parts of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement on 27 May 2014,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the Foreign Affairs Council meeting of 23 June 2014 and the European Council conclusions on Ukraine of 27 June 2014,
 - having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Russian occupation and illegal annexation of Crimea and the continuing unrest and violence, supported by Russia, constitute a major challenge to the unity of Ukraine, a human tragedy for the victims and persons involved and a major security crisis for the entire European continent;
- B. whereas the Russian occupation and annexation of Crimea violates international law and Russia’s international obligations stemming from the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, the Statute of the Council of Europe and the 1994 Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances, as well as bilateral obligations deriving from the 1997 Bilateral Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership;
- C. whereas the European Union, along with the overwhelming majority of the international community, has not and will not recognise Russia’s unlawful annexation of Crimea, accomplished by military means;

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2014)0170.

² Texts adopted, P7_TA(2014)0248.

³ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2014)0457.

- D. whereas the separatist unrest and violence in the eastern parts of Ukraine, notably in the Lugansk, Donetsk and Kharkiv regions, are partly based on internal divisions within Ukraine, which are however instigated from the outside by a deliberate strategy on the part of Russia to undermine the authority of the Ukrainian Government, to abet and support the separatists, both directly and indirectly, not least through harsh rhetoric, hostile statements and fabricated news coverage;
- E. whereas recent resumption of direct talks between the Ukrainian Government and the Russian leadership offers hope that a diplomatic solution can be found to end the ongoing violence and prevent an escalation of the conflict, which would have dire consequences not only for Ukraine, but for the European Union and the Russian Federation as well;
- F. whereas the ceasefire unilaterally declared by the Ukrainian Government did not meet with support from the separatists;
1. Reiterates its firm condemnation of Russia's invasion and annexation of Crimea, which are in clear breach of the UN Charter, the OSCE Helsinki Final Act, the Statute of the Council of Europe, the 1994 Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances, the 1997 Bilateral Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership and the 1997 Agreement on the Status and Conditions of the Black Sea Fleet Stationed on the Territory of Ukraine; considers that the acts undertaken by Russia are threatening the security and stability of the European continent as a whole;
 2. Welcomes the 14-point peace plan presented by President Poroshenko and his vision for a more decentralised form of governance for Ukraine as a basis for overcoming the internal division in the country and put an end to the separatist violence in the eastern part of Ukraine;
 3. Notes that the Ukrainian military and security forces have recently made progress in restoring law and order in a number of key cities in eastern Ukraine; deeply regrets the loss of life involved, but stresses that the Ukrainian authorities have full legal rights and responsibilities to act; calls on all parties to do their utmost to protect the civilian population;
 4. Expresses strong support for a resumption of fully-fledged negotiations between all parties, which should be based on the presidential peace plan and lead to a ceasefire agreement that is fully respected by all sides; welcomes the active involvement of the French and German Foreign Ministers in recent diplomatic efforts to reach a solution, while regretting the perceived absence of the EU High Representative;
 5. Equally welcomes the Russian President's declaration of support in principle for the peace plan and the decision by the Federation Council to revoke the authorisation to use Russian forces to intervene militarily in Ukraine; hopes that this decision will be followed by further measures from the Russian side to de-escalate the conflict, notably and as a matter of priority by stopping the flow of illegal fighters, arms and equipment over the border into Ukraine, and by actively using its influence over the illegally armed groups in the eastern Ukraine to stop the violence and lay down their arms; expects tangible progress to be made without any further delay on the four steps identified in the

European Council conclusions of 27 June 2014;

6. Expects the Verhovna Rada swiftly to adopt the constitutional changes envisaged in the presidential peace plan, in particular as regards a strengthening of local governance and a new law on the use of languages; underlines the fact that the new law on the use of languages should meet the highest international and European standards;
7. Urges the Ukrainian Government to live up to its promise and explicitly prohibit discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation in the upcoming reform of the labour code;
8. Regrets the delay in deploying a CSDP police and law and order mission to Ukraine, proposed initially in April and further discussed at the Foreign Affairs Council on 23 June 2014; expects that the mission can be deployed without undue delay in the summer;
9. Demands the release of all unlawfully detained persons held by the separatists and underlines the fact that the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission must have unrestricted access to all parts of Ukraine in order to be able to contribute to a ceasefire and a political solution of the conflict;
10. Underlines that all sides must avoid statements and rhetoric which may further aggravate the conflict; underlines the fact that the problems facing Ukraine cannot be solved solely by military means;
11. Notes with satisfaction that on 27 June 2014 the European Council underlined its readiness to ‘reconvene at any time for further significant restrictive measures’, and underlines the fact that, for the time being, EU-Russia relations cannot be conducted as ‘business as usual’; expects the Council to extend the scope and breadth of the sanctions if and when necessary and to prolong the existing ones; notes with concern that the programme of the Italian Presidency only refers to Russia as a ‘strategic partner’, without reference to the current crisis in EU-Russia relations;
12. Fully supports the disbursement of EUR 750 million in EU assistance to Ukraine and the efforts to secure further financial assistance at the high-level donor coordination meeting in Brussels on 8 July 2014;
13. Reminds the Ukrainian Government and all political parties and personalities that domestic economic and political reforms are urgently needed; points out that domestic reforms should not be initiated solely on account of pressure from outside donors, but should be based on solid popular support for creating sustainable economic and social opportunities by modernising the country;
14. Welcomes the decision to prohibit the import of goods from Crimea and Sevastopol which do not have a Ukrainian certificate, and encourages other countries to introduce similar measures;
15. Calls on the Commission to continue its efforts to broker a deal between Gazprom and the Ukrainian Government concerning gas prices; stresses that the use of energy

resources as a foreign policy tool undermines the long-term credibility of Russia as a reliable trading partner for the EU and that further measures to lower the EU's dependency on Russian gas must be a priority;

16. Underlines the fact that Russian concerns regarding the EU association process of Ukraine and other Eastern partners must be properly clarified, so as to ease unreasonable fears of new geopolitical divisions on the European continent; points out that each country has every right to make its own political choices but that EU engagement with the Eastern partners is aimed at spreading prosperity and increasing political stability, from which the Russian Federation will also ultimately gain;
17. Calls on the Member States to proceed swiftly with the ratification process of the Ukrainian Association Agreement and underlines the importance of its full implementation;
18. Calls for the incoming Commission to make a top priority of the need for a comprehensive review of the Neighbourhood Policy, which should focus on delivering concrete and tangible results as regards trade, people-to-people movement and political stability;
19. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the Member States, the acting President, Government and Parliament of Ukraine, the Council of Europe and the President, Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation.