



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

12.1.2015

B8-0014/2015

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 Libya
(2014/3018(RSP))

Fernando Maura Barandiarán, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Ramon Tremosa i Balcells, Dita Charanzová, Javier Nart, Marietje Schaake, Ivan Jakovčić, Jozo Radoš, Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, Petr Ježek, Ivo Vajgl, Johannes Cornelis van Baalen, Gérard Deprez, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Pavel Telička, Martina Dlabajová, Fredrick Federley, Marielle de Sarnez, Louis Michel
on behalf of the ALDE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Libya
(2014/3018(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Libya,
 - having regard to United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions 1970 (2011), 1973 (2011) and 2174 (2014),
 - having regard to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, and to the obligation of parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances,
 - having regard to Libya's ratification on 25 April 1981 of the African Union Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa,
 - having regard to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and the Optional Protocol thereto,
 - having regard to the report by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) entitled 'Overview of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law during the ongoing violence in Libya', which was published on 4 September 2014 and updated on 23 December 2014,
 - having regard to the statements on Libya by the Vice-Presidents of the Commission / High Representatives of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR), Federica Mogherini and Catherine Ashton, of 26 August 2014, 16 December and 30 December 2014, and 10 January 2015,
 - having regards to its resolution of 18 September 2014 on the situation in Libya¹,
 - having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Libyans took to the streets in February 2011, asking for political rights, and were confronted by indiscriminate state repression, which triggered nine months of civil conflict and the ousting of the Gaddafi regime;
- B. whereas Libya held democratic and free parliamentary elections in June 2014;
- C. whereas, since the elections of June 2014, fighting among local armed groups has escalated, resulting in hundreds of civilian deaths, mass displacement and acute humanitarian conditions;

¹ Texts adopted, P8_TA(2014)0028.

- D. whereas the human rights situation is further deteriorating as factional violence ripples across the country, and civilians are continuously victims of indiscriminate shelling, abduction, torture and execution, as well as deliberate destruction of property;
- E. whereas on 14 October 2014 United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein stated that human rights defenders, political activists, bloggers and media professionals had been under increasing attack from armed groups in Libya since mid-May 2014, when fighting between rival factions had intensified in and around Benghazi and later erupted in Tripoli;
- F. whereas, since the fighting escalated in mid-October 2014, 450 people have reportedly been killed in Benghazi and more than 15 000 families, i.e. some 90 000 people, have been displaced from the city;
- G. whereas UNSMIL estimates that at least 400 000 Libyans have been internally displaced by the latest wave of fighting while a further 150 000 people, including many migrant workers, have left the country; whereas foreign aid workers and diplomats, including EU and UNSMIL staff, have been evacuated from Libya; whereas the mass influx of Libyan refugees into neighbouring Tunisia is putting a significant strain on that country's capabilities and its own stability; whereas there are estimated to be more than one million Libyans already staying in Tunisia;
- H. whereas hundreds of migrants and refugees, fleeing the violence in Libya, have reportedly died while attempting to cross the Mediterranean;
- I. whereas elements of al-Qaida and the Islamic Maghreb are reported to have established logistical hubs in the southern periphery of Libya; whereas, according to an official government statement, an Islamic State militia executed 14 soldiers of the Libyan army on 3 December 2014;
- J. whereas on 6 November 2014 the Libyan Supreme Court invalidated the parliamentary elections held on 25 June 2014 on the grounds that the committee established to organise it had breached the country's provisional constitution;
- K. whereas the House of Representatives in Tobruk and the al-Thinni government considered the ruling of the Libyan Supreme Court to be illegitimate as it had been proclaimed under pressure from Islamist militias in Tripoli, and whereas the House of Representatives and the al-Thinni government will continue functioning;
- L. whereas UN Special Envoy Bernardino León has actively sought to broker talks between the warring factions and the launch of a national dialogue towards a reconciliation process and the formation of a government of national unity; whereas the second round of UN-sponsored negotiations scheduled for 5 January 2015 were postponed, but new talks have been announced to take place in Geneva in mid-January; whereas the VP/HR has emphasised the importance of these talks, which could represent a last chance to establish a ceasefire and a political solution;
1. Calls on the conflicting parties to immediately cease all armed hostilities and to engage in an inclusive political dialogue;

2. Expresses its grave concern at the situation in Libya, which threatens to lead the country to chaos and all-out war and to further destabilise the wider region; reiterates its support for a political solution to the crisis as the only mean to avoid the fragmentation of Libya;
3. Expresses its deep concern about and full solidarity with the suffering Libyan civilian population and institutions;
4. Is deeply concerned at the growing presence of Al-Qaeda-linked terrorists groups, Islamic State militias and individuals operating in Libya, and reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and with international law, including applicable international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts;
5. Calls for a more active international engagement to end state and non-state sponsors from strengthening violent, terrorist and jihadist groups globally;
6. Fully supports the UN mediation efforts led by Bernardino León, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, which are intended to promote a negotiated settlement and has called on all parties to fully cooperate with the UN-led initiative; calls on the EU to support his efforts by immediately enacting its own targeted sanctions, including asset freezes and travel bans, for those leaders responsible for armed violence and for boycotting the UN sponsored negotiations;
7. Reiterates its support for the House of Representatives as the legitimate body emanating from the June 2014 elections; reiterates its calls on the elected House of Representatives and the official government to carry out their tasks on the basis of the rule of law and human rights, in a spirit of inclusiveness, in the interests of the country and in order to protect the rights of all Libyan citizens, including religious minorities;
8. Stresses the need to coordinate the action of all 28 Member States under the supervision of the High Representative;
9. Urges the EEAS, in cooperation with the UN personnel in the region, to coordinate humanitarian interventions along the Libyan-Tunisian border;
10. Strongly condemns the human rights abuses and violations resulting from the ongoing fighting by armed groups and their incitement to violence; notes that fighting in recent months has resulted in hundreds of civilian deaths, mass displacement and acute humanitarian conditions;
11. Recalls that attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations qualify as war crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
12. Recalls UNSC resolution 2174 (2014), adopted on 27 August 2014, broadening the existing international sanctions on Libya, to include the criminal responsibility of people who engage in or support acts that ‘threaten the peace, stability or security of

Libya, or obstruct or undermine the successful completion of its political transition’;

13. Calls upon all states, in particular states neighbouring Libya, to step up control of their borders, including at seaports and airports, and to maintain thorough inspections of all cargo to and from Libya;
14. Calls on the Council and the Commission to ensure that the illicit oil trade coming from the militia-controlled areas and the non-recognised Government of Libya, which generates substantial income to continue to destabilise the country, is immediately brought to an end;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Libyan Government and General National Congress, the UN Secretary-General, the Arab League and the African Union.