



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

---

*Plenary sitting*

---

27.4.2015

B8-0388/2015

## 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 persecution of Christians in the world, in relation to the killing of students in Kenya by terror group al-Shabaab  
(2015/2661(RSP))

**Victor Boştinaru, Kashetu Kyenge, Elena Valenciano, Afzal Khan, Michela Giuffrida, Neena Gill, Josef Weidenholzer, Siôn Simon, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Demetris Papadakis, Alessia Maria Mosca, Andi Cristea, Nicola Caputo, Marlene Mizzi, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Momchil Nekov, Sorin Moisă, Tonino Picula, Julie Ward, Eric Andrieu, Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță, Viorica Dăncilă, Victor Negrescu, Nikos Androulakis, Miriam Dalli**  
on behalf of the S&D Group

**European Parliament resolution on the persecution of Christians in the world, in relation to the killing of students in Kenya by terror group al-Shabaab (2015/2661(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Kenya, notably its resolution of 15 January 2013 on the EU Strategy for the Horn of Africa<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini, of 3 April 2015,
- having regard to the statements made by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon,
- having regard to UN Security Council Resolutions 1373 (2001), 1566 (2004) and 1624 (2005), which incorporate the essential elements of the international legal framework for combating terrorism,
- having regard to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006,
- having regard to the UN Declaration of 1981 on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,
- having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of 1981,
- having regard to the International Covenant on Civil Rights of 1966,
- having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
- having regard to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement,
- having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 2 April 2015, al-Shabaab militants entered the campus of Garissa University in Kenya and killed 148 students and injured 79 others;
- B. whereas the attacks specifically targeted non-Muslim students;
- C. whereas the Kenyan Government named Mohamed Kuno, a high-ranking al-Shabaab official, as the mastermind of the attack;
- D. whereas in a public statement, al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attacks and announced that it is at war with Kenya, while on a mission to promote missionary

---

<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P7\_TA(2013)0006.

activities and to spread deviant ideology;

- E. whereas in November 2014, the students of Garissa University protested at the lack of security on the campus but were not taken seriously by the authorities;
  - F. whereas the Kenyan authorities had intelligence that an attack could take place on the campus, but the country's rapid response team was not able to leave Nairobi for hours after the massacre, as it was awaiting transport, and arrived long after journalists and politicians;
  - G. whereas as a consequence of the belated response, senior officials have been suspended and it has been announced that 10 000 new police officers will be recruited;
  - H. whereas the gunmen were Somali and Kenyan nationals, highlighting the ability of al-Shabaab to recruit within the country;
  - I. whereas in October 2011 Kenya deployed troops in Somalia in an effort to stop al-Shabaab from threatening the border;
  - J. whereas since then, several deadly attacks by al-Shabaab have taken place in Kenya;
  - K. whereas Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya and Uganda have provided military and political support for the efforts to achieve stability in the region, especially through the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), thereby working for a viable solution for security and stability in the region which is African-owned and African-led, with the active support of the international community; whereas the African Union is a valuable partner for peace and stability in the region;
  - L. whereas the EU is AMISOM's biggest donor;
  - M. whereas the EU's military training mission (EUTM Somalia) has trained thousands of Somali soldiers in Uganda, who have played an important role in recovering large areas of Somalia from al-Shabaab control;
  - N. whereas the EU has taken several initiatives since 2011 to promote security and peace in the region of the Horn of Africa, and has notably appointed a Special Representative for the Horn of Africa;
  - O. whereas the counterterrorism activities of the Kenyan authorities, such as the Usalama Watch operation and operations carried out by the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit, have created a marginalisation and stigmatisation of Muslim communities in Kenya;
1. Deplores the loss of lives at Garissa University and expresses its deepest condolences to the families of the victims;
  2. Stands shoulder to shoulder with the people of Kenya in their determination to fight all forms of terrorism in their country and to defend their human rights, notably their right to education;
  3. Calls on the Kenyan Government to take its responsibility and to address the violence of

al-Shabaab as well as its root causes; regrets the belated response of the police forces and welcomes the immediate consequences imposed by the Kenyan authorities;

4. Urges the Kenyan authorities to ensure that any division between faiths, as well as drawing of parallels between the Muslim community and al-Shabaab, is prevented, and to take all measures to ensure that the unity of the country is preserved for the good of its social and economic growth and stability as well as the dignity and human rights of its people;
5. Invites the Kenyan Government, opposition leaders and religious faith leaders to address historical grievances of marginalisation, regional divides within the country and institutional discrimination, and to ensure that counterterrorism operations target only the perpetrators and not wider ethnic and faith communities;
6. Recalls that freedom of religion is a fundamental right and strongly condemns any violence or discrimination on the basis of religion;
7. Calls for a thorough investigation to be carried out following the attacks, to identify those responsible and bring them to justice;
8. Insists that the spiralling violence of al-Shabaab must be addressed together with the neighbouring countries; asks the EU to provide all the necessary financial, logistical and expert support in this matter, including the possibility of recourse to the African Peace Facility and EU crisis management tools;
9. Welcomes the readiness of the Somali Government to launch talks with members of al-Shabaab who have surrendered; stresses that serious discussions can only start when al-Shabaab declares it wants to be a part of the solution for Somalia; underlines the significance of the recent military gains of the Somali National Army and AU Forces, freeing towns and routes from the control of al-Shabaab; takes note of the death of Ahmed Godane, leader of al-Shabaab;
10. Asks the EU to maintain its support to AMISOM and to continue funding EUTM Somalia, as well as ensuring adequate financial and human resources for the support of the work of the EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa and direct access to CSDP and EU development and humanitarian policy structures;
11. Welcomes the initiatives of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and calls on the African Union to engage, as a matter of urgency, in concrete action, together with all countries involved, to coordinate the fight against terrorist groups in the Sahel region;
12. Urges the EU to initiate a comprehensive and coordinated global response to combat radicalisation and financing of terrorism in the world; recalls that terrorism is a global threat which requires a global response; regrets the lack of international attention to attacks that affect us all;
13. Calls for the EU to monitor its regional project on anti-money laundering and countering financial terrorism, aimed at strengthening the capacities of financial

intelligence units and other law enforcement bodies, as well as establishing closer links between relevant authorities across the region;

14. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the government and parliament of Kenya, the governments and parliaments of all countries in the Horn of Africa and the African Union.