



Plenary sitting

B8-0053/2016

14.1.2016

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 peace process in Colombia
(2015/3033(RSP))

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Dita Charanzová, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Louis Michel, Jozo Radoš, Marietje Schaake, Pavel Telička, Johannes Cornelis van Baalen
on behalf of the ALDE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the peace process in Colombia
(2015/3033(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its numerous resolutions on the situation in Colombia, including the situation of human rights,
 - having regard to the Multi-Party Trade Agreement between Colombia and Peru, of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Brussels on 26 July 2012,
 - having regard to paragraph 44 of the Message of the EP Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EuroLat) to the II EU-CELAC Summit in Brussels on the termination of the internal conflict between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and the Brussels Declaration adopted at the end of the II EU-CELAC Summit on 11 June 2015,
 - having regard to the statement of 24 September 2015 by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR), Federica Mogherini, on the agreement on transitional justice in Colombia, and her statements of 1 October 2015 and 4 November 2015 appointing Eamon Gilmore, former Deputy Minister and former Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Ireland, as her Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia,
 - having regard to the recent visa waiver agreement between the European Union and Colombia, signed on 2 December 2015,
 - having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas since 2013 the EU and Colombia have maintained a framework of close economic and trade cooperation, established in the Multi-Party Trade Agreement between Colombia and Peru, of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part, the ultimate aim of which is to create alliances that go beyond trade and include the strengthening of peace, human rights, democracy and welfare for their citizens;
- B. whereas the President of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos, visited Brussels on 4 November 2014 and received the full support of the President of the European Council at the time, Herman Van Rompuy, and VP/HR Federica Mogherini;
- C. whereas this close relationship includes international cooperation in areas of wide common causes, such as the struggle for peace and the fight against terrorism and drug trafficking;
- D. whereas the ‘Mesa de Diálogo’ (Table of Dialogue) between the Government of Colombia and the FARC was settled in Havana (Cuba) on 26 August 2012, following the signing of the General Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the

Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace, thus fulfilling the wish of the people of Colombia to live in peace;

- E. whereas during the different phases in Havana the negotiators reached agreements on a comprehensive rural reform, political participation and a democratic opening to build peace, the solution to the problem of illicit drugs, and truth and reparation for the victims of the conflict;
 - F. whereas on 23 September 2015 the Government of Colombia and the FARC announced the conclusion of an agreement on the creation of a Special Jurisdiction for Peace under international law to fulfil the rights of victims and contribute to the creation of a stable and lasting peace; whereas the parties have agreed to the implementation of a comprehensive system of truth, justice, reparation and no repetition, including the creation of a Commission for the Clarification of the Truth, Coexistence and Non-Repetition, as well as agreements on reparation to victims and the end of impunity; whereas following this agreement, both sides agreed to achieve peace by 23 March 2016 at the latest;
 - G. whereas the achievement of a stable and lasting peace in Colombia, through the resolution of an internal conflict that has lasted for over 50 years and has caused millions of victims, is a first priority for Colombia, but also for the European Union and the international community; whereas on 4 November 2015 VP/HR Federica Mogherini met her Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia, Eamon Gilmore, clearly stressing the EU's priority of providing support to the peace process;
 - H. whereas the progress made so far could be considered as a positive example of a conflict resolution process; whereas the peace process requires continuing efforts;
1. Supports and warmly welcomes the efforts made by the Colombian Government and the FARC to reach the agreements attained to date on the comprehensive rural reform, political participation and a democratic opening to build peace, the solution to the problem of illicit drugs and the creation of a Special Jurisdiction for Peace, which includes a Commission for the Clarification of the Truth, Coexistence and Non-Repetition;
 2. Condemns all the suffering caused by the conflict; considers that such agreements are decisive steps to achieve a final stable and durable peace agreement without impunity by 23 March 2016, which will put an end to half a century of internal armed conflict and take into account most notably the right of the victims of the conflict to full, true and fair reparation for the physical, moral and material damages suffered;
 3. Urges all parties to the process to continue working constructively towards a lasting resolution of the conflict and the full implementation of the agreements for a long-lasting and enduring peace;
 4. Expresses the importance of working on social reconciliation programmes, as they are essential to overcome the years of violence, which have caused an enormous number of victims;
 5. Recognises the political effort, realism and perseverance demonstrated by both the

Government of Colombia and the FARC and the important role played by victims' associations, NGOs and civil society in the process of bringing their conflicting views into line and gradually creating an area of commitment that has allowed progress in the negotiations to reach a stable and lasting peace desired by all Colombians, ensuring the non-repetition of the conflict;

6. Reiterates once again that violence is not a legitimate method of political struggle, and calls on those who have been of that conviction to embrace democracy with all its implications and requirements – as a first step, the permanent abandonment and surrender of weapons, and the defence of their ideas and aspirations through democratic rules and the rule of law;
7. Recognises the important role played so far by Cuba and Norway as guarantor countries and Chile and Venezuela as countries accompanying the peace process, and their efforts to help achieve peace in Colombia;
8. Welcomes the decision of 1 October 2015 by VP/HR Federica Mogherini to appoint Eamon Gilmore as her Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia; is committed to making all the necessary efforts to provide the new Special Envoy as soon as possible with the budgetary resources needed for the successful performance of his important mission;
9. Reiterates its readiness to provide all possible assistance to support the implementation of the final peace agreement, and renews its call on the EU Member States to create a trust fund to accompany the post-conflict phase;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Euro-Latin America Parliamentary Assembly and the Government and the Congress of Colombia.