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*Plenary sitting*

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**B8-0454/2016**

29.3.2016

# **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure  
on discrimination against Middle Eastern Christians

**Edouard Ferrand, Mara Bizzotto**

**Motion for a European Parliament resolution on discrimination against Middle Eastern Christians**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas members of Iraq's religious minorities, whether Christian or Yazidi – jihadi terror's first victims – who wish to come to Europe in general and France in particular are finding it more and more difficult to obtain visas;
- B. whereas the French bishops conference in Lourdes on 15 to 18 March 2016, presided over by Archbishop George Pontier, called on both French and international public authorities not to let up in their efforts to help vulnerable minorities, such as the Yazidis and Christians;
- C. whereas Patrick Karam, founder of 'Coordination Chrétiens d'Orient en danger (Chredo)' said recently in a statement to the newspaper 'Le Figaro': 'the Socialist Government is taking care not to be outflanked by its left wing, which refuses to give them any priority and finds any mention of Christians repulsive';
- 1. Calls on the Council and the Commission to ensure, pursuant to Articles 2, 3, 6 and 21 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 205 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, that Middle Eastern Christians and Yazidis do not suffer any discrimination as regards obtaining visas for EU countries.