



---

*Plenary sitting*

---

**B8-1070/2016**

4.10.2016

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 135 of the Rules of Procedure

on Sudan  
(2016/2911(RSP))

**Pier Antonio Panzeri, Victor Boștinăru, Knut Fleckenstein, Josef Weidenholzer, Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Eric Andrieu, Nikos Androulakis, Francisco Assis, Zigmantas Balčytis, Hugues Bayet, Brando Benifei, José Blanco López, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Biljana Borzan, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nicola Caputo, Andrea Cozzolino, Andi Cristea, Miriam Dalli, Viorica Dăncilă, Nicola Danti, Isabella De Monte, Monika Flašíková Beňová, Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Enrico Gasbarra, Elena Gentile, Maria Grapini, Enrique Guerrero Salom, Sylvie Guillaume, Jytte Guteland, Sergio Gutiérrez Prieto, Anna Hedh, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Liisa Jaakonsaari, Agnes Jongerius, Eva Kaili, Afzal Khan, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Javi López, Krystyna Łybacka, Louis-Joseph Manscour, David Martín, Costas Mavrides, Marlene Mizzi, Sorin Moisă, Alessia Maria Mosca, Victor Negrescu, Momchil Nekov, Norbert Neuser, Demetris Papadakis, Vincent Peillon, Pina Picierno, Tonino Picula, Kati Piri, Miroslav Poche, Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero Fernández, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Siôn Simon, Tibor Szanyi, Paul Tang, Claudia Țapardel, Marc Tarabella, Marita Ulvskog, Elena Valenciano, Julie Ward, Flavio Zanonato, Carlos Zorrinho**

on behalf of the S&D Group

**B8-1070/2016**

**European Parliament resolution on Sudan  
(2016/2911(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sudan,
  - having regard to the joint statement by the EU, and the representatives of the Troika (Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States), and Germany welcoming the Sudan Call's Signing of the AUHIP Roadmap in Brussels, 08/08/2016,
  - having regard to the UN Security Council Resolution 2296 on Sudan adopted at its 7728th meeting, of 29 June 2016,
  - having regard to article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, both of which provide that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,
  - having regard to the EU Council declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the lack of a conducive environment for the Sudanese elections in April 2015,
  - having regard to the EU statement of 15 July 2014 on the release of political detainees in Sudan,
  - having regard to the Report of the UN HRC Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Sudan, of 4 September 2014,
  - having regard to the "Sudan Call" declaration on the "Establishment of a State of Citizenship and Democracy",
  - having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
  - having regard to the Rule 135 of the Rules of Procedure;
- A. whereas in Darfur, conflict has continued for 13 years, with government forces continuing to attack civilians, especially in Jebel Mara; whereas indiscriminate bombing of civilians including unlawful attacks on villages by Sudanese forces in the South Kordofan, Blue Nile and Darfur is ongoing;
- B. whereas Sudan is a signatory at the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ;

- C. whereas a recent credible investigation reveals evidence of the use of chemical weapons on civilians in the Jebel Marra area of Darfur since January 2016 with the most recent on the 9 September by Sudanese Government, where villagers reveal gruesome effects of suspected chemical weapons attacks;
- D. whereas there is continuing repression of civil and political rights and over 80,000 civilians were reportedly displaced in Darfur in the first five months of 2016;
- E. whereas human rights violations and abuse are escalating in Darfur, including those involving extrajudicial killings, the excessive use of force, abduction of civilians, acts of sexual- and gender-based violence, violations and abuses against children, and arbitrary arrests and detentions;
- F. whereas civic space for opposition political parties, civil society and human rights defenders is restricted in Sudan; whereas So far this year, eight civil society activists have been arbitrarily arrested, four representatives of Sudanese civil society were intercepted by security officials at Khartoum International Airport on their way to a high level human rights meeting with diplomats that took place in Geneva on 31 March;
- G. whereas human rights groups have uncovered credible evidence of chemical weapons attacks on civilians by Sudanese Government, where villagers from the Jebel Marra region of Darfur, reveal gruesome effects of suspected chemical weapons attacks with the most recent attack on 9 September 2016 in Gamarah village; in addition to reported attacks by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a Sudanese military unit composed of former pro-government militia under command of the Sudanese National Intelligence and Security Service;
- H. Whereas the Rapid Support Forces were recently deployed along the northern border of Sudan, in order to counter the flow of irregular migrants;
- I. whereas on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 2016, 48 potential Sudanese asylum seekers were deported from Italy to Sudan and at least
- J. Whereas in May 2016 Sudanese authorities deported over 400 Eritreans, arrested en route to Libya.
- K. whereas women are faced with systemic discrimination and imposition of corporal punishment, flogging, for vaguely defined dress code violations, in particular the ongoing crackdown on protesters and abuse of independent civil society and human rights defenders among other things ;
- L. whereas ongoing abuses by the National Intelligence and Security Service with its broad powers of arbitrary arrests, detention and ill-treatment/torture of political detainees, students, activists is persistently on the increase in Sudan;

- M. whereas the “Sudan Call” co-signatories ( representatives from political and armed opposition parties, including the National Umma Party, the National Consensus Forces and the Sudan Revolutionary Front) committed to work towards the end of the conflicts raging in different regions of Sudan and towards legal, institutional and economic reforms;
- N. whereas two arrest warrants for President al-Bashir were issued in 2009 and 2010 by the International Criminal Court (ICC), accusing him of responsibility for war crimes, crimes against humanity and acts of genocide, and whereas, although Sudan is not a state party to the Rome Statute, UN Security Council Resolution 1593 (2005) requires it to cooperate with the ICC, and Sudan must therefore comply with the ICC arrest warrant;
- O. Whereas in June 2008 EU Foreign Ministers (GAERC) concluded ‘*that Council stands ready to consider measures against individuals responsible for not-cooperating with the ICC*’
1. Remains deeply concerned at the ongoing violation of human rights, indiscriminate bombing of civilians by the Sudanese Forces, unlawful killings, abductions, and gender-based and sexual violence in the conflict areas notably in Darfur, Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile as well as the accompanying serious humanitarian emergency caused by enormous internal displacements;
  2. Deplores the use of chemical weapons against civilians in the Jebel Marra area of Darfur by the Sudanese Government and highlights that is a serious violation of the international norms and also a war crime;
  3. Condemns the arbitrary arrest and detention of activists, the ongoing detention of human rights defenders and journalists in Sudan; urges the Government of Sudan to guarantee the peaceful exercise of the freedoms of expression, association and assembly; Underlines that the National Dialogue will only succeed if carried out in an atmosphere where freedoms of expression, of media, of association and assembly are guaranteed;
  4. Calls on the African Union and the Sudanese Government to promptly investigate all allegations of torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary detention and excessive use of force and to hold those responsible to account in fair trials without recourse to the death penalty;
  5. Urges the Government of Sudan to partner with Civil Society organizations in a constructive engagements to promote human rights awareness in Sudan without delay; Instructs the Sudanese Government to release all political prisoners and ensures practices of arbitrary detention immediately stopped;

6. Calls on the Sudanese authorities to put an end to all acts of harassment and intimidation against human rights activists and to comply with the relevant international norms and standards, in particular the United Nations (UN) Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 9, 1998, and regional and international human rights instruments ratified by Sudan;
7. Welcomes Sudan's acceptance of recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and strengthen efforts to prevent torture and inhuman treatment;
8. Recalls the June 2008 GAERC conclusions addressing the continued failure of the Government of Sudan to cooperate with the International Criminal Court (ICC) and pointing out that the Government of Sudan has an obligation, and the capacity, to cooperate and that any arrest warrant issued by the ICC should be respected; urges Omar al-Bashir to comply with international law and to appear before the ICC for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide;
9. Calls on the European Union to move to impose targeted punitive sanctions against those responsible for continued war crimes and non-cooperation with the International Criminal Court; request the EEAS, without any further delay to draw up a list of individuals for such sanctions.
10. Welcomes the Government of Sudan for signing the Roadmap Agreement on 16 March 2016, and subsequently clarifying its commitments regarding the inclusion of other relevant stakeholders in the National Dialogue and to continue to uphold any decisions reached between the opposition signatories and the 7+7 Mechanism, the steering committee of the National Dialogue;
11. Calls on the EU and its Member States to continue its commitment to supporting the effort of the African Union to bring peace to Sudan and the Sudanese people in their transition to an internally reformed democracy;
12. Calls on the Commission to closely monitor EU development assistance in Sudan in order to prevent any direct or indirect support to local militias;
13. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take every action to fully comply with binding obligations under the Geneva Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly with respect to the principle of non-refoulement.
14. Calls on the EU and its Member States to ensure that the European Parliament is fully informed of the dialogue established under the Khartoum Process and that the activities funded through the EU Africa Trust Fund, particularly those aiming to build the capacities of the Government of Sudan are done in full compliance with existing agreements, ensuring that the respect of international obligations and laws are fully transparent to the citizens and civil societies in the EU and Sudan.

15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Government of Sudan, the African Union, the United Nations Secretary-General, the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the Pan-African Parliament (PAP).