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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Commission statement

pursuant to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Baroness Ludford

on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the trial of Leyla Zana

European Parliament resolution on the trial of Leyla Zana

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution on human rights in the world in 2003 and the EU's human rights policy on the matter (reference: 2003/2005),
- having regard to its resolution of 1 April 2004 on the Commission's regular report for 2003 on Turkey's progress towards accession,
- having regard to Rule 37(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. having decided to retain closer contacts with former winners of the Sakharov Prize so as to enable the prize to play a role in safeguarding and helping ensure respect for human rights in the countries concerned,
- B. regretting the events in the trial reopened against Sakharov Prize winner Leyla Zana and three other former Democracy Party (DEP) MPs,
- C. stressing that this case is symbolic of the gap which exists between the Turkish judicial system and that of the EU,
 1. Takes note of the decision of the Turkish court;
 2. Reiterates its call for an amnesty for prisoners of conscience (including Leyla Zana and the three other former MPs of Kurdish origin);
 3. Believes that Leyla Zana should be freed on bail until her trial is reopened in a fair and balanced form;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights and the Government and Parliament of Turkey.