

05-298/99

MOTION FOR RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF THE SERBIAN MINORITY IN KOSOVO

pursuant art. 47

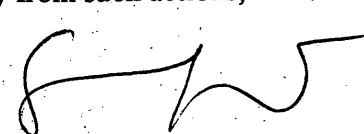
tabled by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Per Gahrton, Joost Lagendijk, Elisabeth Schroedter, Matti Wuori and Bart Staes

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament

The European Parliament

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Kosovo and in particular the one of 7 October 1999,
 - having regard to the joint report of the OSCE and the UNHCR describing the "climate of violence and impunity in Kosovo",
 - having regard to the statement on minorities by the head of UNMIK Bernard Kouchner during the hearing on Kosovo held in the European Parliament on 12 October 1999,
- A. deeply shocked by the murder of a Slavic speaking UN officer in Pristina on 11 October 1999,
- B. highly concerned by the aggression of a Serbian convoy under KFOR protection in the Pec region on 27 October with several people injured and by the blowing up of a railway bridge in Kosovska Mitrovica on 5 November 1999 on which a train carrying more than 400 Serbs was about to transit,
- C. whereas the Serbian population in Kosovo is constantly victim of violence that has caused the flight of a large part of it,
- D. pointing out that even Momcilo Trajkovic who is considered the leading Kosovo Serb political figure, was recently shot in the thigh in his house in Pristina,
- E. stressing that the number of Serbs and other minorities living in Kosovo is rapidly decreasing because of the climate of intimidation that makes it impossible to create the conditions for a real dialogue between the various ethnic groups,
- F. pointing out that in spite of the recently signed agreement the UCK has not completed its disarmament and that in many parts of Kosovo the self-proclaimed Provisional Government is interfering and often hindering the work of UNMIK administrators,
- G. whereas UNMIK, KFOR and the international police force so far has not been able to stop this wave of violence, seize the ones responsible of the crimes and provide a credible protection to the non Albanian population,
1. Strongly condemns the acts of violence against the Serbian minority and other minorities and expresses its solidarity to the victims of such aggressions and their families;
 2. Calls on the political leaders of the ethnic Albanian community to condemn these events, collaborate with the inquiries of UN authorities and distance themselves clearly from such actions;

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3. Recalls that the intervention of the international community in Kosovo was aimed at protecting the local population against the aggressions of military and paramilitary Serbian groups with a view to creating the conditions for the return of all refugees, restoring the self-government and reaffirming the values of the respect for human rights and coexistence;
4. Urges the UNMIK and KFOR to set up short and medium term effective plans for the protection of the Serbian minority and a long term plan for the gradual return of those who were forced to leave;
5. Urges UN officers to control that all the changes of property are made according to the law and to the market and not under threat or intimidation;
6. Invites the Head of UNMIK Bernard Kouchner to take seriously into account the possibility to delay local elections until violence has come to an end and a climate of tolerance is restored;
7. Urges ethnic Albanian leaders to cooperate fully with UNMIK and the Kosovo Transitional Council with a view facilitating the reconstruction process and the reconstruction of the civil society;
8. Calls on the Council to make clear to the Albanian political forces that EU aid is conditional to the full respect of the rule of law and of human and minority rights;
9. Urges the Commission and the Task Force for Reconstruction to select and support the projects of reconstruction only in those municipalities that are trying to favor a climate of cooperation among the different ethnic groups opposing expulsions and preventing violence;
10. Urges, in this respect, the Council to strengthen the presence of the ECMM in Kosovo with a view to gathering all the informations concerning the state of minorities in the region;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the UN Secretary General, the Head of UNMIK and the OSCE.

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