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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Ole Andreasen

on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the political situation in Sri Lanka

PE 338.622

European Parliament resolution on the political situation in Sri Lanka

The European parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sri Lanka, in particular its resolution of 18 May 2000;

- A. whereas internal conflict has been going on in Sri Lanka for over 20 years;
 - B. whereas over the years, the so-called Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have carried out indiscriminate acts of terrorism throughout Sri Lanka and have deliberately sought to undermine and destabilise the democratic political structure in Sri Lanka;
 - C. whereas the European Parliament is unequivocal in its condemnation of terrorism and its support for a democratically-elected government;
 - D. whereas differences over peace talks with the Tamil Tigers have caused a deep crisis between Sri Lanka's President and Prime Minister and those differences burst into a full-scale political crisis when Mrs Kumaratunga sacked three ministers and suspended parliament, accusing the Prime Minister of conceding too much to the rebels;
 - E. whereas Norway has played a key role in brokering talks between the rebels, but now says its role in the peace process is on hold until the President and Prime Minister resolve their power struggle;
 - F. whereas the talks were suspended in April after the rebels demanded more interim autonomy;
 - G. whereas the ceasefire will be much more difficult to sustain in a political vacuum;
- 1. Expresses its considerable concern about Sri Lanka's peace-process;
 - 2. Encourages both parties involved in the conflict to strictly adhere to the provisions of the ceasefire agreement, which is the cornerstone of the peace process, and to accept the rulings of the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission;
 - 3. Calls on the EU to address the situation as a matter of urgency and to continue to monitor such progress in the search for a lasting and equitable political solution based upon respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law securing the interests of all peoples and communities within a united Sri Lanka;

4. Reaffirms the importance of urgent humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance in the North and East and recalls the willingness of the donor community to assist in the development of the entire country;
5. Is deeply concerned about the fate of \$4.5 billion worth of international aid pledged for reconstruction which is tied to progress in the talks;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth and the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE.