EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Session Document

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JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

Pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure by

- Bastiaan Belder on behalf of the IND/DEM group on the defence of multiethnicity in the Vojvodina

B6-0518/2005

European parliament resolution on the defence of multiethnicity in the Vojvodina

The European parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 16 September 2005 on the minorities in the Vojvodina,
- having regard to the mandate of the Conference of Presidents for a fact-finding mission in the Vojvodina,
- having regard to the parliamentary fact-finding mission in the Vojvodina,
- having regard to the upcoming negotiations on Stability and Association Agreement with Serbia-Montenegro, and the already agreed Feasibility Study on it,
- having regard to Rule 115 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas incidents against human and minority rights are continuously reported from the Vojvodina by political forces and that of the civil society even since the fact-finding mission, including physical and verbal attacks,
- B.. whereas no real progress has been made to stop the deterioration of long-term existence of ethnic minorities in the Vojvodina in the fields of education, representation in public administration and the judicial system just as in the police, equal access to fair jurisdiction and the institutions of a state of law,
- C. whereas lack of concise politics on refugee issues leads to breaches of international standards on resettling, thus endangering the political and financial efforts of the European Union,
- 1. continues its own regular monitoring on Vojvodina with special regard on the negotiations on the Stability and Association Agreement, on the basis of which the Parliament demands regular consultations with the Commission during the whole procedure of the negotiations,
- 2. supports a public hearing on the minority and political situation in the Vojvodina organized by the SEE Delegation,
- 3. states that the Parliament uses its budgetary powers to exercise pressure on Serbia-Montenegro to bring it to compliance with the Copenhagen criteria,
- 4. asks the Council to pay more attention to the high security risks that the minority incidents in the Vojvodina represent.