



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

22.5.2012

B7-0241/2012

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 122 of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation of North Korean refugees
(2012/2655(RSP))

Fiorello Provera, Mara Bizzotto, Oreste Rossi, Juozas Imbrasas
on behalf of the EFD Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation of North Korean refugees
(2012/2655(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

– having regard to its previous resolutions on the Korean Peninsula, in particular of 8 July 2010,

– having regard to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other human rights instruments,

– having regard to the United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution ‘Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea’ adopted on 25 March 2010 and supported by the EU Member States, which condemned the ‘systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights’ and ‘grave, widespread and systematic human rights abuses’ by the DPRK,

– having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure,

whereas four South Korean citizens, who are linked to North Korean refugees are currently being held in the Chinese city of Dandong on suspicion of committing espionage,

whereas in February 2012, Chinese security officials staged a series of roundups along the country's border with North Korea in which they arrested up to 33 North Korean defectors and placed them in holding cells before being sent back,

whereas several thousand North Koreans risk their lives by fleeing to north-eastern China before heading to other Asian states such as Thailand or Cambodia, where defectors seek asylum and resettlement in South Korea,

whereas at least 20,000 North Koreans have fled to the South since the 1950s,

whereas since the leadership takeover of President Kim Jong Eun, one of his first policies was to introduce a shoot-to-kill order to North Korean guards patrolling their side of the border,

whereas North Korean defectors who are suspected of meeting with Christians, South Koreans or Americans while in China are either executed, shipped off to a labour camp or imprisoned,

Urges for the immediate release of four South Koreans in Dandong, China and all other individuals who are involved in supporting the rights of North Korean defectors in China;

Expresses the urgent need for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to adhere to internationally acceptable human rights agreements and permit access to United Nations human rights observers;

Calls on the DPRK to put an immediate end to the ongoing grave, widespread and systematic human rights violations perpetrated against its own people, which may amount to crimes against humanity and thus be subject to international criminal jurisdiction;

Calls on the People's Republic of China to use its close relations with the DPRK to promote economic and social reform in the country, with a view to improving the living conditions and social rights of the North Korean population;

Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Member States and candidate countries, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council, the Commission, the Governments of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the United Nations Secretary-General