European Parliament resolution on the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the annual report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy,

– having regard to Title V of the Treaty on European Union (TEU),


– having regard to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 and the joint declaration on EU-NATO cooperation of 10 July 2018,

– having regard to the declaration by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) on political accountability¹,

– having regard to the 2016 Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy,

– having regard to the joint communication from the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 7 June 2017 on a strategic approach to resilience in the EU’s external action (JOIN(2017)0021),

– having regard to the Sofia Declaration of 17 May 2018 and the Council conclusions on enlargement and stabilisation and association process of 26 June 2018 and 18 June 2019,

– having regard to United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1, ‘Transforming our

world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’, of 25 September 2015,

– having regard to UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which established the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in 2000,

– having regard to its recommendation of 15 November 2017 to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) on the Eastern Partnership, in the run-up to the November 2017 Summit3,

– having regard to Rule 54 of its Rules of Procedure,

– having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (A9-0054/2019),

A. whereas Parliament has a duty and responsibility to question the efficacy of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP);

B. whereas currently we are witnessing the retreat of traditional partners from the global stage, increasing pressure on cooperation and institutions, and the rising assertiveness of regional powers;

C. whereas Islamism is one of the main challenges threatening public safety in Europe today, and rapid, assertive and coordinated action should be taken both domestically and abroad;

D. whereas the prerogatives of the national parliaments in the area of their own national foreign and security policy should be paramount and respected; whereas an overly ambitious common foreign policy potentially undermines European security;

E. whereas the world is facing a global shift of powers with geopolitical competition being a leading trend in foreign policy, which requires quick and adequate response mechanisms and capabilities that are best delivered through existing structures;

F. whereas oppression and mass and uncontrolled migration are among the leading causes of global conflict;

G. whereas the EU’s enlargement policy is a contributing cause of instability;

H. whereas in view of the collapse of important arms control and disarmament agreements – and also in view of ‘emerging technologies’ such as cyber technology and autonomous weapons disarmament – arms control and non-proliferation should become a major focus of the EU Member States’ foreign and security policy;

1. Considers that the EU Member States should rely more on trade and development instruments;

2. Stresses that the EU Member States have to switch from a responsive to an anticipatory approach, and emphasises the importance of teaming up with like-minded strategic

partners in order to defend Western values;

3. Recalls the ineffective operation of EU-led civilian missions, and calls on the Commission to launch an independent transparent audit of all past and current international civilian as well as police operations/missions;

4. Believes that conflict prevention, peacebuilding and the peaceful resolution of protracted conflicts, in particular in the EU’s immediate neighbourhood, should be the priorities in the coming years for the EU Member States;

5. Recalls that modern democracies require fully functioning legislative branches and, in this regard, underlines the importance of supporting the work of parliaments in both the Western Balkans and the neighbourhood;

6. Recalls the sovereignty of Member States and emphasises the need for cooperative foreign and security policies that are not coercive by nature;

7. Calls for a credible strategy in the Western Balkans, which should exclude any further enlargement to countries such as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo;

8. Calls on the Member States to strengthen their capacities and encourage cooperation and information-sharing in order to prevent state and non-state actors from third countries from exerting hostile interference in Member States’ decision-making;

9. Recognises that one of the major threats to European security is from mass and uncontrolled migration, and believes that this issue should be at the core of Member States’ foreign and security policy;

10. Underlines the threat to Europe from Islamism and calls for a concerted effort to meet this challenge, in cooperation with partners such as the United States and Russia;

11. Stresses the need to stop the partnership and enlargement procedures with Turkey, especially given the ongoing illegal actions led by that country, such as the invasion of Syria and Libya, and the illegal drilling in island territories of the sovereign states of Cyprus and Greece;

12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the President of the European Council, the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and the Member States.