

12.5.2021

A9-0131/6

Amendment 6

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 3

Motion for a resolution

3. Welcomes the opening of Chapter 8 (competition policy) and Montenegro's decision to accept *the principles of* the revised enlargement methodology; calls on Montenegro in particular to efficiently meet the interim benchmarks for Chapters 23 and 24, which will be the next milestone, and strongly supports the closing of accession chapters as Montenegro delivers and implements reforms on required benchmarks; recalls that three chapters have been provisionally closed since the opening of the first chapter in December 2012, and encourages Montenegro to place a clear focus on working to address the closing of benchmarks in all other chapters;

Amendment

3. Welcomes the opening of Chapter 8 (competition policy) and Montenegro's decision to accept the revised enlargement methodology; calls on Montenegro in particular to efficiently meet the interim benchmarks for Chapters 23 and 24, which will be the next milestone, and strongly supports the closing of accession chapters as Montenegro delivers and implements reforms on required benchmarks; recalls that three chapters have been provisionally closed since the opening of the first chapter in December 2012, and encourages Montenegro to place a clear focus on working to address the closing of benchmarks in all other chapters;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/7

Amendment 7

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Commends Montenegro's progress in several areas of the accession negotiations, including international police cooperation and the fight against organised crime (including trafficking in human beings and drug smuggling); calls on the authorities to accelerate political and economic reforms, particularly on the rule of law and fundamental rights, the judiciary, media freedom and the fight against corruption, where further significant progress has to be made;

Amendment

9. Commends Montenegro's progress in several areas of the accession negotiations, including international police cooperation and the fight against organised crime (including *in establishing an initial track record in the areas of* trafficking in human beings and drug smuggling); calls on the authorities to accelerate political and economic reforms, particularly on the rule of law and fundamental rights, the judiciary, media freedom and the fight against corruption, where further significant progress has to be made;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/8

Amendment 8

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. Welcomes the recent appointments to Montenegro's Delegation to the EU-Montenegro SAPC and the completion of the Montenegro delegation to SAPC; calls for the resumption of the work of the SAPC as soon as possible;

Amendment

16. Welcomes the recent appointments to Montenegro's Delegation to the EU-Montenegro SAPC and the completion of the Montenegro delegation to SAPC; calls for the resumption of the work of the SAPC as soon as possible ***and welcomes the remote SAPC meeting planned for June 2021; underlines the importance of parliamentary exchanges and the resumption of biannual meetings;***

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/9

Amendment 9

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 19

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

19. *Is concerned about the recent developments as regards the Special Prosecutor for Organised Crime and Corruption as well as around the planned changes in the composition of the Prosecutorial Council; invites the Montenegrin Government to amend crucial pieces of legislation, including in the case of the proposed amendments to the Law on the Prosecutor's Office and the Law on the Special Prosecutor's Office in line with democratic norms and established European practice, and to follow up on the Venice Commission's opinion in this respect; emphasises that the independent functioning and integrity of the Special Prosecutor's Office is key for Montenegro's progress in the area of the rule of law;*

19. *Welcomes the fact that in the process of the revision of the Law on the State Prosecution Service, Montenegro has twice requested the Venice Commission's opinion; invites Montenegro to amend this crucial piece of legislation in line with democratic norms and established European practice, and to follow up on the Venice Commission's opinions of March and May 2021 respectively; emphasises that the independent functioning and integrity of the Special Prosecutor's Office is key for Montenegro's progress in the area of the rule of law;*

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/10

Amendment 10

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 22

Motion for a resolution

22. Welcomes the fact that some progress has been made in the fight against organised crime, in particular as regards stronger capacity and professionalism of the police; encourages Montenegro to continue its efforts in this area, in particular through combating internationally operating criminal networks, with a particular focus on the fight against money laundering, human, drug and arms trafficking, illegal gambling and cigarette smuggling, and tracking their links to *local* politicians and *police officers*;

Amendment

22. Welcomes the fact that some progress has been made in the fight against organised crime, in particular as regards stronger capacity and professionalism of the police; encourages Montenegro to continue its efforts in this area, in particular through combating internationally operating criminal networks, with a particular focus on the fight against money laundering, human, drug and arms trafficking, illegal gambling and cigarette smuggling, and tracking their *possible* links to politicians and *representatives of state institutions*;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/11

Amendment 11

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31

Motion for a resolution

31. Calls on the Montenegrin authorities to devote special attention to money laundering, tax evasion and any other criminal activity in the framework of the investor citizenship scheme, *while considering phasing it out*;

Amendment

31. Calls on the Montenegrin authorities to devote special attention to money laundering, tax evasion and any other criminal activity in the framework of the investor citizenship scheme, *which will expire in 2021; welcomes the recent decision of the Montenegrin Government to phase it out by the end of the year*;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/12

Amendment 12

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 34

Motion for a resolution

34. Calls for the strengthening of European cooperation with Montenegro on addressing disinformation, and cyber and hybrid threats that seek to undermine the European perspective of the region; is concerned about the growing vulnerability of Montenegro owing to the increase of its public debt, in particular to China;

Amendment

34. Calls for the strengthening of European cooperation with Montenegro on addressing disinformation, and cyber and hybrid threats that seek to undermine the European perspective of the region; is concerned about the growing vulnerability of Montenegro owing to the increase of its public debt, in particular to China; ***calls on the Commission to find, together with international financial institutions, a reasonable solution to support Montenegro's fiscal sustainability and reforms in line with the country's European perspective;***

Or. en

Amendment 13**Vladimír Bilčík**

on behalf of the PPE Group

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Tonino Picula**2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 38***Motion for a resolution*

38. Emphasises the need to protect all of the national minorities' rights, in particular as some of them no longer have minority party representatives in the Skupština; urges the Montenegrin authorities to pay special attention to issues related to the national and ethnic affiliation of Montenegrin citizens; calls for respect of the multi-ethnic identity of the country, including the languages used, cultural heritage and the traditions of local communities; stresses that further progress has to be made in the social inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in the labour market, education and public life in Montenegro, and calls on the authorities to ensure their access to personal documents, to guarantee their legal status and to take effective measures against hate speech;

Amendment

38. Emphasises the need to protect all of the national minorities' rights, in particular as some of them no longer have minority party representatives in the Skupština; urges the Montenegrin authorities to pay special attention to issues related to the national and ethnic affiliation of Montenegrin citizens; ***takes note, in this respect, of the recent proposal by the Montenegrin Government on amending the Montenegrin citizenship law; underlines that any amendments to such sensitive laws must undergo a broad consultation process and should only be adopted in line with democratic norms and established European practice and with a view to advancing Montenegro's European perspective;*** calls for respect of the multi-ethnic identity of the country, including the languages used, cultural heritage and the traditions of local communities; stresses that further progress has to be made in the social inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in the labour market, education and public life in Montenegro, and calls on the authorities to ensure their access to personal documents, to guarantee their legal status and to take effective measures against hate speech;

12.5.2021

A9-0131/14

Amendment 14

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 39

Motion for a resolution

39. Takes note of the Law on Domestic Violence Protection and the changes *currently being made* to it, and urges the Montenegrin authorities to thoroughly implement it, including by allocating sufficient resources, as gender-based, domestic violence and violence against children remain an issue of serious concern; calls for more vigilance and the establishment of support systems for victims of domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Amendment

39. Takes note of the Law on Domestic Violence Protection and the *planned* changes to it, and urges the Montenegrin authorities to thoroughly implement it, including by allocating sufficient resources, as gender-based, domestic violence and violence against children remain an issue of serious concern; calls for more vigilance and the establishment of support systems for victims of domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/15

Amendment 15

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 47

Motion for a resolution

47. Welcomes the signing of the Protocol on the Determination of the Border Point between Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia in May 2019 and encourages Montenegro to continue to address, in a constructive spirit and as early as possible in the accession process, outstanding bilateral issues with its neighbours, including the unresolved border demarcation issues with Serbia and Croatia; notes that bilateral relations with Serbia have been marked by tensions and insists that all bilateral disputes be resolved through inclusive and non-confrontational dialogue, while avoiding any form of foreign interference in domestic issues;

Amendment

47. Welcomes the signing of the Protocol on the Determination of the Border Point between Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia in May 2019 and encourages Montenegro to continue to address, in a constructive spirit and as early as possible in the accession process, outstanding bilateral issues with its neighbours, including the unresolved border demarcation issues with Serbia and Croatia; ***recalls that existing bilateral border agreements should be respected; reiterates that border disputes should be dealt with in the spirit of good neighbourly relations, bilaterally, and through existing international mechanisms***; notes that bilateral relations with Serbia have been marked by tensions and insists that all bilateral disputes be resolved through inclusive and non-confrontational dialogue, while avoiding any form of foreign interference in domestic issues;

Or. en

12.5.2021

A9-0131/16

Amendment 16

Vladimír Bilčík

on behalf of the PPE Group

Tonino Picula

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Tonino Picula

2019-2020 Reports on Montenegro
(2019/2173(INI))

A9-0131/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 49

Motion for a resolution

49. Welcomes the signing of a protocol on cooperation in the search for missing persons between the Governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro as a good example of cooperation in investigating cases of missing persons; is concerned by the lack of progress in dealing with war crimes committed in Montenegro and calls on the authorities to intensify their efforts to punish war crimes and determine the fate of missing persons and to support and develop the established Documentation and Information Centre;

Amendment

49. ***Strongly condemns any attempts by politicians in Montenegro and elsewhere in the region to deny the Srebrenica genocide or any other war crimes that took place in the former Yugoslavia;*** welcomes the signing of a protocol on cooperation in the search for missing persons between the Governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro as a good example of cooperation in investigating cases of missing persons; is concerned by the lack of progress in dealing with war crimes committed in Montenegro and calls on the authorities to intensify their efforts to punish war crimes and determine the fate of missing persons and to support and develop the established Documentation and Information Centre;

Or. en