

21.2.2024

A9-0424/41

Amendment 41

Karol Karski

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report

A9-0424/2023

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter –
annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

Motion for a resolution

Recital -A (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***-A. having regard to its resolution of
3 May 2022 on the persecution of
minorities on the grounds of belief or
religion^{1a},***

^{1a} ***OJ C 465, 6.12.2022, p. 33.***

Or. en

21.2.2024

A9-0424/42

Amendment 42

Karol Karski

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report

A9-0424/2023

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter –
annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

Motion for a resolution

Recital I

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

I. whereas violations of the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion continue around the world and are giving rise to oppression, conflict and war, and breaches of international law;

I. whereas violations of the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion continue around the world and are giving rise to oppression, conflict and war, and breaches of international law; ***whereas Christianity is the most persecuted religion in the world; whereas 360 million Christians live in countries where persecution is significant; whereas Nigeria accounts for 90 % of Christian martyrdoms worldwide;***

Or. en

21.2.2024

A9-0424/43

Amendment 43

Karol Karski

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report

A9-0424/2023

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24. Reiterates its concern regarding violations of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and related hate crimes; stresses that such violations occur across geographical and cultural boundaries; deplores the instrumentalisation of religion or belief identities for political purposes, including the exclusion of religious and belief minorities and religious communities in certain countries; condemns escalations of coercion, discrimination, harassment and violence perpetuated against members of thought, conscience, religious or belief minorities, their properties and places of worship; denounces the recourse to blasphemy, apostasy or other accusations based on religious grounds, including the possibility of the death penalty against the convicted, in relation to religious minorities and legitimate human rights activities, including on the internet and social media, and, more broadly, to restrict civil society space;

24. Reiterates its concern regarding violations of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and related hate crimes; stresses that such violations occur across geographical and cultural boundaries; deplores the instrumentalisation of religion or belief identities for political purposes, including the exclusion of religious and belief minorities and religious communities in certain countries; condemns escalations of coercion, discrimination, harassment and violence perpetuated against members of thought, conscience, religious or belief minorities, their properties and places of worship; denounces the recourse to blasphemy, apostasy or other accusations based on religious grounds, including the possibility of the death penalty against the convicted, in relation to religious minorities and legitimate human rights activities, including on the internet and social media, and, more broadly, to restrict civil society space; ***condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the persecution of Christians all around the world;***

Or. en

Amendment 44**Karol Karski**

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report**A9-0424/2023****Nacho Sánchez Amor**

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 44***Motion for a resolution**Amendment*

44. Denounces the erosion of the human rights and the safety of migrants, refugees and forcibly displaced persons; reaffirms their inalienable human rights and recalls the obligation of states to protect them in accordance with pertinent international law; calls for the EU and its Member States to effectively uphold these rights in the EU's migration and asylum policies and their cooperation with partner countries in this regard; deplores the increasing trend of xenophobia, racism and discrimination towards migrants; stresses that refugees and migrants, especially those who are undocumented, face different forms of violence, including during displacements, such as sexual and gender-based violence, as well as many barriers, such as in access to education, healthcare, decent housing and other basic services; is extremely concerned by the unprecedented number of forcibly displaced people as a result of human rights violations, which has doubled in the past 10 years; welcomes the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive¹⁷ and calls for its use when necessary; calls for the strengthening of efforts in the protection of the right of migrants and to guarantee their access to all basic services, including while in transit, **and to respect the principle of non-**

44. Denounces the erosion of the human rights and the safety of migrants, refugees and forcibly displaced persons; reaffirms their inalienable human rights and recalls the obligation of states to protect them in accordance with pertinent international law; calls for the EU and its Member States to effectively uphold these rights in the EU's migration and asylum policies and their cooperation with partner countries in this regard; deplores the increasing trend of xenophobia, racism and discrimination towards migrants; stresses that refugees and migrants, especially those who are undocumented, face different forms of violence, including during displacements, such as sexual and gender-based violence, as well as many barriers, such as in access to education, healthcare, decent housing and other basic services; is extremely concerned by the unprecedented number of forcibly displaced people as a result of human rights violations, which has doubled in the past 10 years; welcomes the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive¹⁷ and calls for its use when necessary; calls for the strengthening of efforts in the protection of the right of migrants and to guarantee their access to all basic services, including while in transit; calls for the root causes of

refoulement; calls for an immediate end to the illegal practice of pushbacks; calls for the root causes of migration and forced displacement to be addressed;

¹⁷ Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof (OJ L 212, 7.8.2001, p. 12).

migration and forced displacement to be addressed;

¹⁷ Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof (OJ L 212, 7.8.2001, p. 12).

Or. en

21.2.2024

A9-0424/45

Amendment 45

Karol Karski

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

A9-0424/2023

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 73

Motion for a resolution

73. Recalls the fundamental role the NDICI – Global Europe, including its thematic programme on human rights and democracy, plays as an EU flagship instrument in promoting and protecting human rights and democracy around the world; reiterates its calls for support to CSOs, pro-democracy activists and media organisations, including via the European Endowment for Democracy, to be stepped up in the light of the current regressive global trends; highlights the need to engage with civil society and other local partners in all the EU's relevant external activities; reiterates the importance of streamlining a human rights-based approach in the EU's external action instruments;

Amendment

73. Recalls the fundamental role the NDICI – Global Europe, including its thematic programme on human rights and democracy, plays as an EU flagship instrument in promoting and protecting human rights and democracy around the world; reiterates its calls for support to CSOs, pro-democracy activists and media organisations, including via the European Endowment for Democracy, to be stepped up in the light of the current regressive global trends; highlights the need to engage with civil society and other local partners in all the EU's relevant external activities; reiterates the importance of streamlining a human rights-based approach in the EU's external action instruments; ***reiterates the need to increase the effectiveness of the common security and defence policy, particularly in the Eastern Partnership countries;***

Or. en

21.2.2024

A9-0424/46

Amendment 46

Karol Karski

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2023 (2023/2118(INI))

A9-0424/2023

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 76

Motion for a resolution

76. Stresses that human rights clauses should apply in a coherent manner to all EU international agreements with third countries, including sectoral and investment agreements, and that these should be monitored closely and backed by a clear set of benchmarks and procedures to be followed in the event of human rights violations, and provide a basis for engaging with a third country on human rights in a practical and flexible manner; notes that until 2014 the EU formally activated the human rights clauses on two dozen occasions and since then it has only adopted 'appropriate measures' under these clauses on one occasion; reiterates that in the face of serious and persistent breaches of human rights clauses by its partner countries the EU should react swiftly and decisively, and as an ultimate course of action, by suspending the relevant agreements if other options prove ineffective;

Amendment

76. Stresses that human rights clauses should apply in a coherent manner to all EU international agreements with third countries, including sectoral and investment agreements, and that these should be monitored closely and backed by a clear set of benchmarks and procedures to be followed in the event of human rights violations, and provide a basis for engaging with a third country on human rights in a practical and flexible manner; notes that until 2014 the EU formally activated the human rights clauses on two dozen occasions and since then it has only adopted 'appropriate measures' under these clauses on one occasion; reiterates that in the face of serious and persistent breaches of human rights clauses by its partner countries the EU should react swiftly and decisively, and as an ultimate course of action, by suspending the relevant agreements if other options prove ineffective; ***is of the opinion that suspension should also take place where there is a serious conflict with shared values, such as in cases of support for aggression;***

Or. en

Amendment 47**Karol Karski**

on behalf of the ECR Group

Report**A9-0424/2023****Nacho Sánchez Amor**

Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2023

(2023/2118(INI))

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 85***Motion for a resolution**Amendment*

85. Calls for efforts to strengthen the visibility of EU actions and channels for the protection and support of HRDs; urges the Member States to lead by example and develop robust and effective national HRD guidelines and laws, serving as a model for other nations to follow; recognises the collective responsibility of the EEAS, the Commission, and the Member States in ensuring the effective implementation of the EU Guidelines on human rights defenders and calls for the EU to implement a genuine Team Europe approach to HRDs; fully supports the ProtectDefenders.eu mechanisms and calls for the EU and its Member States to foster the creation of similar mechanisms in like-minded countries, as well as joint activities between the EU, its Member States and third countries addressed to the protection of HRDs; underlines the importance of EU Special Representatives engaging with national authorities on the protection of human rights and individual cases; ***reiterates its call for the Commission to take a proactive role in the establishment of an EU-wide multi-entry visa scheme for HRDs at risk***; hereby urges the Member States to undertake procedural enhancements within their diplomatic missions, ensuring expeditious,

85. Calls for efforts to strengthen the visibility of EU actions and channels for the protection and support of HRDs; urges the Member States to lead by example and develop robust and effective national HRD guidelines and laws, serving as a model for other nations to follow; recognises the collective responsibility of the EEAS, the Commission, and the Member States in ensuring the effective implementation of the EU Guidelines on human rights defenders and calls for the EU to implement a genuine Team Europe approach to HRDs; fully supports the ProtectDefenders.eu mechanisms and calls for the EU and its Member States to foster the creation of similar mechanisms in like-minded countries, as well as joint activities between the EU, its Member States and third countries addressed to the protection of HRDs; underlines the importance of EU Special Representatives engaging with national authorities on the protection of human rights and individual cases; hereby urges the Member States to undertake procedural enhancements within their diplomatic missions, ensuring expeditious, comprehensible, accessible and attainable visa application processes; calls on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign

comprehensible, accessible and attainable visa application processes; ***further calls on the Member States to collaboratively establish and integrate a dedicated category within the EU Visa Code, thereby streamlining visa procedures and promoting uniformity in the EU's visa application process***; calls on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, in collaboration with the Member States and Parliament, to establish an annual list of countries of serious HRD concern, allowing for a coordinated Team Europe response, access to resources, enhanced monitoring, dedicated strategies and increased support at all levels; encourages the transparent presentation and review of this list in Parliament to uphold accountability;

Affairs and Security Policy, in collaboration with the Member States and Parliament, to establish an annual list of countries of serious HRD concern, allowing for a coordinated Team Europe response, access to resources, enhanced monitoring, dedicated strategies and increased support at all levels; encourages the transparent presentation and review of this list in Parliament to uphold accountability;

Or. en