

4 October 1999

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

With request for inclusion in the debate on topical
And urgent subjects of major importance

Pursuant to Rule ⁵⁰~~47~~ of the Rules of Procedure

By SCHORI, KREHL, SAKELLARIOU, WIERSMA, PAASILLINA, HOFF,
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On behalf of the PSE group

BS-149/99

On the alarming situation in Chechnya

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution on the situation in the Dagestan Republic of Russia of 16 September
 - having regard to its assent of 30 November 1995 to the conclusion of an Agreement on Partnership and Co-operation between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Russian Federation, of the other part¹, and its assent of 11 June 1997 to the conclusion of the Protocol to the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Russian Federation² and to the Common Strategy of the European Union on Russia, adopted by the Council in June 1999,
 - having regard to the EU's support to the continued development of co-operation within the Black Sea Council,
 - having regard to the Council's diplomatic démarche undertaken on 30 September 1999 in Moscow on the situation in Chenchnya,
- A. whereas the European Union is committed to strengthening the strategic partnership with Russia in terms of economic integration and of co-operation while maintaining stability and security in Europe and beyond,
 - B. stressing the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation,
 - C. deeply concerned about the raising violence of the military actions on the Chechen territory, with incessant bombings of civil installations in Chechnya such as of the town of Urus Martan, the killing of civilians, including children and women, and wounding others, and possible other civilian victims in other places, which has forced almost 100.000 refugees to flee to neighbouring Russian regions,
 - D. worried about a possible further escalation of the conflict leading to a situation similar to the one during the

¹ OJ C 339, 18.12.1995, p. 45

² OJ C 200, 30.6.1997, p. 66.

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Chechen war in 1994-96 in which tens of thousands of people died and fled mainly to Ingushetia populated by the Chechens' ethnic kin, and the spreading of the conflict to other regions;

1. Regrets deeply the loss of life among the civilian population and calls upon the Russian authorities to respect the international principles of human rights and ensure the safety of the civilian population;
2. Insists that military actions can not be considered as a viable long-term solution to internal crisis and therefore invites all parties involved to do everything to end the conflict and ensure the safe return of the thousands of displaced people;
3. Condemns the terrorist actions of any kind including those of Islamic radicals and international terrorists;
4. Invites the international community to use all its political and economic influence in order to bring a quick end to the conflict, asks the OSCE to inform the European Parliament about its assessment of the situation in the region and its recommendations for further action of the international community in order to solve to conflict and to make the return of the tens of thousands of refugees to their homes possible before the winter starting in the region within a month;
5. Calls upon the Russian authorities not to use the current situation as a pretext for delaying democratic elections for the DUMA of the RF planned for 19 December 99;
6. Invites the European Humanitarian Aid Office ECHO to assess the humanitarian situation in Chechnya and the neighbouring regions concerned by the refugees influx and to present to Parliament, a proposal for short-term humanitarian aid drawing on its former experience in the region;
8. Calls upon the Russian and Chechen authorities to make the work of humanitarian NGOs in the region of the North Caucasus and in particular in Chechnya possible;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Duma and Government of the Russian Federation, the authorities in Chechnya, the OSCE and the Secretary-General of the UN.

Group (PSE)

Responsible (Rob van de Water)

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