



PPE, Coeur de l'Europe
EVP, Herz Europas
EPP, Heart of Europe
PPE, Cuore dell'Europa
EVP, Hart van Europa
ΕΑΚ, Καρδιά της Ευρώπης
PPE, Corazón de Europa
PPE, Coração da Europa
EPP, Europas hjerte
EKP, Euroopan sydän
EPP, Europas hjärta

Groupe du Parti Populaire Européen (Démocrates-Chrétiens) au Parlement européen
Fraktion der Europäischen Volkspartei (Christliche Demokraten) im Europäischen Parlament
Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament
Gruppo del Partito Popolare Europeo (Democratici Cristiani) al Parlamento Europeo
Fractie van de Europese Volkspartij (Christen-democraten) in het Europees Parlement
Κ.Ο. του Ευρωπαϊκού Λαϊκού Κόμματος (ΧΔ) στο Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο
Grupo del Partido Popular Europeo (Democrata- cristianos) en el Parlamento Europeo
Grupo do Partido Popular Europeu (Democratas-Cristãos) no Parlamento Europeu
Det Europæiske Folkepartis Gruppe (Kristelige Demokrater) i Europa-Parlamentet
Euroopan kansanpuolueen ryhmä Euroopan parlamentissa (kristillisdemokraatit)
EPP-gruppen i Europaparlamentet

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B 13/3/00

Strasbourg, 13 March 2000
ARH/lp

BS-261/00)

Draft motion for a Resolution

pursuant to rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Messrs. Oostlander and Posselt and Ms. Carlsson

(Arthur V. Veldman)

on behalf of the EPP-ED group

On Chechnya

The European Parliament:

- recalling its urgency resolutions of 7 Oct. 1999, 18 Nov. 1999, 20 Jan. 2000 and 17 Feb. 2000,
- recalling the results of the European Union's Troika meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister Ivanov of the Russian Federation on 4 March 2000,
- recalling the European Union's Common Strategy on Russia as decided in Cologne on 4 June 1999,
- whereas Article 2 of the Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the Russian Federation and the EU states that "respect for the democratic principles and human rights" constitutes an essential element of the partnership;
- having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights;

A. Whereas the war in Chechnya caused tremendous human suffering;

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- B. Whereas Chechnya was thoroughly destructed during two war campaigns;
 - C. Whereas the Chechen authorities were not able to establish the rule of law and a proper administration because among other things the Russian authorities did not fulfil their promises enshrined in the treaty negotiated between General Lebed and the Chechen authorities at the end of the first Chechen war;
 - D. Alarmed by the desperate situation of civilians and especially refugees in Chechnya and the neighbouring region;
 - E. Deeply concerned about the inadequate efforts made by the Russian authorities to investigate continuing reports of widespread violations of human rights and humanitarian law committed by Russian forces in Chechnya and to prevent similar acts from being committed in the future;
 - F. Worried about the lack of international monitors allowed to enter the region and to investigate alleged human rights abuses, especially in so-called "filtration camps" like the one in Chernokosovo;
 - G. Concerned about the charges brought against Radio Liberty reporter Andrei Babitsky, allegedly participating in armed bands and facing a prison sentence of up to five years if found guilty;
 - H. Whereas a fruitful dialogue between the Union's institutions and the Russian Federation, as recently in Lisbon, can only be based on a common respect for human rights and human values;
1. Reiterates its call for a quick ending of the war by political means;
 2. Calls on the Russian Government to carefully monitor compliance with the European Convention on Human Rights;
 3. Calls on the Russian authorities to carry out full investigation of allegations of executions, arbitrary detentions and torture in Chechnya by Russian troops, to make sure that servicemen committing atrocities will be punished and to ensure that the right to life, the right to physical and mental integrity and the right to be free from arbitrary arrest and detention of the population of Chechnya are protected;
 4. Calls on the Russian authorities to take into account the report presented by Lord Judd, head of a delegation of the Council of Europe, after his recent visit to Chechnya and to allow in Chechnya the establishment of a permanent presence of international human right monitors from the Council of Europe and the OSCE with a mandate to be free to move wherever they want and welcomes as a first step in this direction the agreement reached between Vladimir Kalamonov, Russia's newly appointed human rights commissioner on Chechnya and Alvaro Gil-Robles, the Council of Europe's human rights commissioner, on opening a human rights office in Chechnya, staffed by 20 workers, including two envoys from the Council of Europe;

5. Calls on the European Commission to attach priority to health and humanitarian assistance in order to relieve living conditions in refugee camps, as well as in the towns and villages of Chechnya;
6. Calls on the Russian authorities that full access and appropriate conditions be provided to enable international humanitarian assistance to be delivered to Chechnya and welcomes as a first step in this direction the arrival in Grozny of a first "trial-run" convoy of 10 trucks with food supplies from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
7. Urges the Russian authorities to ensure that Russian and international journalists in the region can work without unnecessary constraint and to provide a full account of what happened to Russian journalist Andrei Babitsky and why he has been forbidden to leave Russia and to attend a meeting at the European Parliament's March plenary session in Strasbourg;
8. Calls on the Chechen authorities to take all measures in their power to locate and release all civilian hostages kidnapped before and during the current conflict in Chechnya and to launch a special investigation into the case of Russian news agency ITAR-TASS photo journalist Vladimir Yatsina, kidnapped in Ingushetia by a Chechen group on 19 July 1999 and since missing;
9. Calls on the European Commission to prepare EU-Assistance to (1) the reconstruction of Chechnya and (2) to the establishment of an effective administration based on the rule of law;
10. Reiterates the importance of continuing and intensifying the political dialogue between the Commission, the Council and the Russian Government in the framework of the Common Strategy on Russia;
11. Supports the conclusions of the Lisbon summit of 3 and 4 March 2000 as to the Russian actions in Chechnya while insisting on compliance with the promises of Foreign Minister Ivanov to create opportunities for international organisations to monitor the local situation;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the Secretary-General of the UN, the UN Human Rights Commission, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Russian State Duma and the Federal Council, the Government of the Russian Federation and the authorities in Chechnya.