

10/4/00

Strasbourg, 10 April 2000

B5-356/00

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mr Haarder, Mr Watson, Ms Plooij-van Gorsel and Mr Ducarme on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the situation in Taiwan

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Taiwan and on China,

- A. whereas Presidential elections were held in Taiwan on March 18, and Mr Chen, candidate of the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), emerged as winner,
- B. whereas the People's Republic of China, on February 21, published a White Paper in which China threatens to use military force, not only if Taiwan should proclaim independence, but also if Taiwan keeps delaying talks on an eventual reunification with China,
- C. whereas Mr Chen has said he will not declare independence and right after the elections offered to meet China's leaders for a "peace summit",
- D. whereas democracy as a rarity in south-east Asia and Taiwan may be a powerful example to its neighbours,
 1. Congratulates Taiwan for its smooth and peaceful transition into democracy, which through the last elections also has shown itself capable of peaceful exchange of power;
 2. Rejects any military threats and calls on both China and Taiwan to refrain from any kind of provocative action,
 3. Calls on China and Taiwan, as equal partners, to use dialogue and negotiations to find a solution to their differences;

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4. Believes that the crisis has been averted this time, but is aware that the situation could worsen again; therefor insists that the free, democratic world makes clear where its sympathies lie in case tensions should again escalate across the Taiwanese strait;
5. Calls on the EU Member States and the European Commission to step up their relations with Taiwan, with a view to secure a better representation for Taiwan in international for a (including the WTO), and to open a European Commission Representative office in Taipei;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of Taiwan and of the People's Republic of China.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. P. G.', located in the right-center of the page.