Strasbourg, 15 May 2000

B5- 438/00

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 Gasoliba, Mr Sanchez and Mr Beysen on behalf of the ELDR Group

on Guatemala

The European Parliament,

- recalling its previous resolutions on the situation in Guatemala;
- A. Whereas the implementation of the Peace Agreements requires the joint efforts of all sectors of the Guatemala authorities in order to turn the agreed measures and objectives into lasting reality, including full respect of human rights, equal opportunities for the indigenous population and reform of the judicial system;
- B. Concerned of the fact that many crimes against humanity are still not punished, despite the reconciliation process and the provisions included in the Peace Agreements;
- C. Noting with satisfaction President Portillo's public commitment to ensure that those who are responsible of political murders be brought to justice without any further delay;
- D. Whereas the Truth Commission and the Recovery of Historic Memory have complied with their mandate to investigate objectively and impartially the human rights violations and violence relating to the armed confrontation in Guatemala and have recommended specific measures to promote peace and national reconciliation;
- E. Whereas the institution of ad hoc tribunals in relation to the Yugoslavian and Rwandan conflicts, the signing of the Rome Statute in July 1998 for the establishment of a International Criminal Court and the recent events concerning Senator Pinochet emphasise a trend in international law and politics favouring the view that a major antidote to human rights abuses is prosecution;

- 1. Supports any effort to continue with the implementation of the peace accords in order to bring stability and reconciliation in Guatemala;
- 2. Urges the Guatemala government to maintain the utmost respect for human rights and the rule of law and to make the recommendations of both the Truth Commission and the Recovery of Historic Memory reports into government policy;
- 3. Calls on the Guatemala authorities to fully curry out investigation on crimes against humanity in Guatemala committed during the civil war and to bring to justice those responsible for these crimes;
- 4. Calls on the Guatemala government to support, with the assistance of the EU, a programme of exhumations of clandestine cemeteries, which were created to bury the victims of army massacres;
- 5. Calls on the Commission to reinforce EU programmes in assisting the eradication of human rights abuses and the implementation of the peace accords;
- 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Government and the Congress of Guatemala.

Pp. Mr Gasiliba Mr Sinchez Mr Boyson