

14/5/01

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35-366/01

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 Helene Flautre, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, and Carlos Bautista,
on behalf of the Green/EFA group

on the situation in Algeria

The European Parliament

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Algeria,
- having regard to the Barcelona declaration,

A. Highly concerned by the repressive actions carried out by the Algerian government and the military in Kabilia against Berber militants which caused the death of more than 80 people;

B. Pointing out that students and other human rights campaigners have been marching peacefully to support recognition of their Tamazight tongue, spoken by about one third of the population, as an official language as well as other cultural and minority rights;

C. Stressing that since independence in 1962 successive governments have stressed the Arab character of the state and showed lack of assistance and investment in Kabylia, one of the most populous and poorest regions in the country;

D. Underlining that despite the implementation of an amnesty law and efforts made by President Bouteflika, Algeria is far from national reconciliation and still ravaged by massacres, repressive operations and human rights abuses;

E. Whereas the government has planned the adoption of new measures restricting the rights of the media;

F. Pointing out that Algeria and the EU are negotiating a new Euro-Mediterranean agreement;

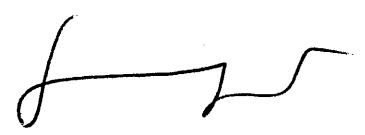
1. Condemns the killing of the Berber activists, expresses its solidarity to the families of the victims and considers such a violent action by the police a serious violation of the values on which the Barcelona declaration is based;

2. Welcomes the decision of President Bouteflika to set up a commission of inquiry into the causes of the violent clashes, but urges the Algerian authorities to refrain from any repressive act against the Berber population in Kabylia, to stop all violence and to bring to justice those responsible for killing of the civilian population;

3. Urges the Algerian authorities to adopt the necessary reforms to provide the Berber minority to fully enjoy cultural and linguistic rights;

4. Condemns the continuing violations of human rights committed both by fundamentalist groups and military units, including the high level of violence, disappearances, arbitrary arrests and torture;

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5. Expresses its deep concern on the proposed law on restrictions on the freedom of press, a move which fully jeopardises the efforts to improve the individual rights;

6. Calls on the Council and the Commission to make conditional the conclusion of the negotiation of the new EU/Algeria agreement to an effective improvement of the human rights situation and the development of the democratic process;

7. Urges the Council and the Commission to exert the necessary pressure on Algeria so as to impose an international inquiry on torture and disappeared persons

8. Urges the Member States to take the initiative by the UN to set up an ad-hoc international tribunal to judge war crimes, and crimes against humanity committed during the conflict;

9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, Commission and the President, the government and the Parliament of Algeria.