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85-649/01

Draft resolution

tabled by Mr LINKOHR, VOLCIC and SOULADAKIS, Van den Berg.
on behalf of the PES Group

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND
THE SOUTHERN CAUCASUS

The European Parliament

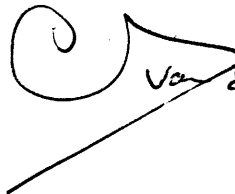
- A. Having regard to the Agreements for Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, July 1999, and the joint declaration by the Presidents of the three states, June 1999 in Luxembourg, for cooperation in the region and more widely in Europe;
 - B. Welcoming the assertion of the European identity of the peoples of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia by their political representatives;
 - C Having regard to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, which is the only regional cooperation that includes the three countries of Southern Caucasus among its eleven country members of the region;
 - D. Desirous to underpin initiatives to strengthen human rights, civil society and social, economic and political reforms in each of the states of the Southern Caucasus;
 - E. Conscious of the situation of the peoples of the Southern Caucasus, at the eastern extremity of Europe, and the inherited difficulties in their relations from Soviet era, and consequent enduring human suffering and other problems
 - F. Determined to reinforce bilateral and multilateral dialogue with the peoples of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and the other countries of the region in their political, economic and social life, as avenues for incremental confidence building measures
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- 1. Proposes a Conference of the three states of the Southern Caucasus, the Russian Federation, the USA and the European Union, in order to draw up a strategy for regional cooperation, which promotes peace, human rights, democracy, social and cultural development, economic growth and cooperation on shared environmental problems.
 - 2. Proposes an institutional structure for cooperation in the Southern Caucasus in which the European Commission provides advisory and technical services, strengthens the already existing cooperation under the initiative of Black Sea Economic Cooperation, and requests the Council to give the appropriate mandate.
 - 3. Demands the establishment a European Commission Delegation in Armenia and in Azerbaijan.
 - 4. Supports and encourages initiatives for the regional cooperation among the countries of the region and specially the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

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5. Calls for a Conference on investment and economic development in the Southern Caucasus by banks and firms in the European Union with special emphasis on energy.
6. Requests the Belgian Presidency to report to Parliament on the initiatives envisaged in this resolution.
7. Calls the Commission and the Council for a global report on the situation, the cooperation, and the initiatives in the region.
8. Request its President to transmit this resolution to the European Commission, Council and the Governments and Parliaments of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and the other countries members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

P.O. Nedem Alu

LINKOTR, VOLCIC
SOULADAKU

 Van der Berg.