

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

21 February 2002

B5-0129/2002

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council statement

pursuant to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Emma Bonino, Gianfranco Dell'Alba, Olivier Dupuis, Francisca Sauquillo Pérez del Arco, José María Mendiluce Pereiro, Domenico Mennitti, Daniel Ducarme, Frédérique Ries, Lousewies van der Laan, Claudio Martelli, Mariotto Segni, Margie Sudre, Richard A. Balfe, Christoph Werner Konrad, Elena Ornella Paciotti, Michel-Ange Scarbonchi, Jules Maaten, Amalia Sartori, Marco Pannella, Maurizio Turco, Benedetto Della Vedova, Marco Cappato, Gérard M.J. Deprez, Jas Gawronski, Paulo Casaca, Francesco Turchi, Ari Vatanen, Giuseppe Di Lello Finuoli, Antonio Di Pietro, Carlo Fatuzzo, Reinhold Messner, Jean-Maurice Dehousse and Jens-Peter Bonde

on the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

European Parliament resolution on the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

The European Parliament,

- A. mindful that during the last century millions of children, women and men were victims of unimaginable atrocities, including terrorist attacks on innocent civilians, that deeply shock the conscience of humanity,
- B. whereas the Statute of the International Criminal Court, competent to judge war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity, was adopted in Rome on 17 July 1998,
- C. whereas, for the first time, a court with world-wide jurisdiction will be established as an effective deterrent and a means of redress for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community,
- D. noting that, as at 10 February 2002, 52 countries had ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and that 60 ratifications are required for the Statute to enter into force and for the ICC to become a reality,
- E. whereas the first meeting of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute is scheduled to take place in September 2002, and all countries that have ratified the Statute by June 2002 will participate as full members,
- F. whereas, however, some regions of the world are still under-represented within the group of countries that have ratified the Rome Statute of the ICC and further steps are necessary to ensure that accession to the Statute is as universal as possible,
- G. conscious that the actual establishment of the Court will be a momentous process and that the steps that need to be taken over the coming months, leading to the entry into force of the Rome Statute, will be crucial to assure the long-term success of the Court,
 - 1. Welcomes the efforts made by the Council of the European Union and the Member States to ensure the early establishment of the ICC and the full implementation of the Rome Statute, pursuant to the Common Position of 11 June 2001;
 - 2. Congratulates the 52 States that have already ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute and welcomes the Statute's imminent entry into force;
 - 3. Commends the essential role played by the European Commission, in cooperation with non-governmental organisations, in encouraging prompt and effective ratification by countries throughout the world;
 - 4. Urges the EU Member States and the candidate and associated countries that have not yet ratified the Rome Statute to do so as soon as possible and to adopt any necessary

implementing legislation;

5. Urges all other States to ratify the Statute or to accede to it as soon as possible in order to ensure the widest possible participation from all regions of the world in the first meeting of the Assembly of States Parties;
6. Requests that the European Union and the Member States, in all bilateral and multilateral contacts, particularly with countries in regions that are under-represented, undertake the necessary steps to encourage the ratification of the Statute and the adoption of implementing legislation by the largest possible number of States;
7. Calls upon the Council of the European Union to develop a concrete plan of action, for adoption during the Spanish Presidency, in order to promote the ratification of the Rome Statute or accession to it by countries of all regions of the world and the effective establishment of the Court, in cooperation with the United Nations Preparatory Commission for the ICC and the host country;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the parliaments of the Member States, the governments and parliaments of the candidate countries and the UN Secretary-General.