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## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the statements by the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the Council and the Commission

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

by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Monica Frassoni, Nelly Maes, Pierre Jonckheer, Joost Lagendijk, Danielle Auroi and Lukas Van der Taelen

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on the situation in the Middle East

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in the Middle East**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Middle East, in particular that of 7 February 2002, and its resolution on the Barcelona Council of 20 March 2002,
- having regard to the conclusions of the extraordinary meeting of EU Foreign Ministers held in Luxembourg on 3 April 2002,
- having regard to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338,
- A. deeply concerned at the escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, which has turned into an open war, with the widespread and dramatic involvement of the unarmed civilian population,
- B. profoundly shocked by the increasing number of innocent people on both sides who have become victims of a hopeless and endless spiral of violence,
- C. emphasising the disproportion between the forces facing each other, with the massive and brutal offensive of the Israeli forces in the Occupied Territories and the indiscriminate material and political destruction of Palestinian autonomy and its democratically elected leadership,
- D. deeply concerned at the widespread violations of humanitarian conventions by the Israeli forces with regard in particular to the incursions into the refugee camps, the ill-treatment of prisoners and the shooting at medical and humanitarian personnel and vehicles,
- E. whereas the delicate international situation requires credible, balanced and responsible efforts to cope with terrorism in all its forms, starting from a renewed approach to the Middle East crisis with a view to recreating the conditions for dialogue and resuming negotiations along the lines of the Oslo accords,
- F. recalling US President Bush's statements in favour of a Palestinian state, which have raised expectations of a strong and decisive international initiative in the area,
- G. noting Egypt's decision to downgrade its diplomatic relations with Israel and the widespread demonstrations in Arab countries against the Israeli re-occupation of most of the West Bank and Gaza,
- H. greatly worried by the clashes taking place at the border with Lebanon between guerrillas firing mortars and Israelis responding with fighter-bombers and artillery, which could spill over to the whole region,

- I. stressing that there cannot be security without peace and that military actions without a political perspective tend only to aggravate the situation,
  - J. pointing out that the fight against terrorism without a concrete strategy to address its root causes is doomed to failure,
  - K. deeply concerned at the wave of anti-Semitic attacks which have taken place in recent days in some European countries,
1. Firmly condemns the massive re-occupation by the Israeli army and security forces of the areas under the full administration of the Palestinian National Authority and calls on the Israeli government to immediately withdraw its troops, put an end to the long-standing blockade of the Occupied Territories and stop the mass detention of people, the occupation and demolition of Palestinian buildings and houses and all actions against medical and humanitarian personnel and vehicles which are making even more dramatic the toll of innocent lives amongst the Palestinian community;
  2. Firmly condemns all terrorist acts against the Israeli people and calls on President Arafat and the Palestinian authorities to do their utmost to end the acts of violence immediately, to bring the perpetrators to justice and to stop any direct or indirect support for terrorism;
  3. Urges the Israeli Prime Minister to stop the confinement of Mr Arafat, putting an end to his humiliating isolation and allowing him to resume his full functions as the democratically elected president of the Palestinian National Authority;
  4. Urges, in this regard, the Council to suspend immediately the Association Agreement with Israel;
  5. Urges the Council to adopt a common action on arms sales and to place an embargo on exports of EU weapons to Israel;
  6. Calls on the Council to make available to the UN Security Council forces that should be part of a UN protection force in the Middle East aimed at maintaining a ceasefire, defusing tension and protecting the civilian population;
  7. Urges the Council and the Member States to start preparing a mission of EU observers, including Members of the European Parliament, to monitor the situation on the ground and urges both parties to accept such an initiative;
  8. Urges the Commission to step up efforts to deliver all the necessary humanitarian aid to the population of the Occupied Territories;
  9. Welcomes the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1397, which calls for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence, affirms the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognised borders and

calls on both parties to resume negotiations on a political settlement on the basis of the Mitchell Report and the Tenet work plan;

10. Welcomes also UN Security Council Resolutions 1402 and 1403, calling for a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Occupied Territories without delay, and calls for their immediate implementation;
11. Believes that the upcoming mission of the US Secretary of State could be successful only if his diplomatic efforts are effectively coordinated with the EU and Russia, with the full involvement of the UN, so as to exert the strongest possible pressure on both parties;
12. Expresses its solidarity with the Jewish communities which have been victims of anti-Semitic attacks and calls on Member States' authorities to take action promptly in response to such acts;
13. Expresses its full solidarity with the Israeli army reservists refusing to serve in the Occupied Territories and regrets that the Council did not express its support for their broad social campaign to collect more signatures for their petition; believes that conscientious objection, as well as other ongoing grassroots and international peace initiatives, are a concrete way of stopping violence and that civil disobedience is helping to pave the way for peace;
14. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the government and parliament of Israel, the President of the Palestinian National Authority, the Palestinian Legislative Council and the UN Secretary-General.