

21/10/2

Motion for a resolution

Tabled by FORD, PACIOTTI and GHILARDOTTI, 32 Quijano Rojo, VAN DEN BERG

On behalf of the PES Group

ON DEATH BY STONING IN IRAN

BS-548/02

The European Parliament,

- Having regard its previous resolutions on death penalty,
 - Having regard to the Charter on Human Rights of the United Nations,
 - Having regard to its previous resolution adopted on 13th December 2001 on EU-Iran relations which raised the point of the deteriorating human rights situation in Iran,
 - Having regard to its resolution of 5th September 2002 condemning the decision of the Sharia Court in New Gawu in Nigeria, confirmed by the Islamic Appeal Court in the state of Katsina, to sentence Mrs Amina Lawal to death by stoning,
- A. Considering the last report by UN Special Representative on Human Rights Situation in Iran, to the Human Rights Commission on April 2002, which emphasised that "Many of the punishments are gross violations of international human rights norms, including in particular the use of stoning"
- B. Having regard to recently published newspaper accounts that four Iranian women: Sima, Ferdows, shahanaz and Ashraf have been sentenced to stoning by official courts since the beginning of 2002 and are currently imprisoned awaiting death by stoning in public,
1. Calls on the Iranian government to vacate the stoning sentences for four women who are waiting their executions in prison,
 2. Denounces the public execution and calls on the Iranian government to stop these executions and to implement the UN Special Representative's recommendation to abolish stoning and other cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments,
 3. Reiterates that the European Parliament rejects outright the death sentence *and repulses the practice of stoning, a particularly cruel and inhuman punishment,*
 4. Alarmed that twenty-three people have been stoned to death in Iran in the past five years, sixteen of whom were women,
 5. Condemns all cruel and degrading punishment of women, and *expresses support for Iranian women who are being oppressed by discriminatory laws"*
 6. *Rappelle aux autorités iraniennes que ces condamnations sont en contradiction avec l'espoir d'une ouverture vers la démocratie et vers une amélioration des droits de l'homme que le gouvernement Khatami avait réveillé;*
 7. *Asks on the Commission to recall the issue of stoning, and in general of the respect of human rights, in the context of the UE-Iran relations;*

323. 698

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, the Commission, governments and parliaments of the Member States and candidate countries, the Secretaries General of the United Nations and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Fiorella Giordano
17.13

