

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

28 January 2003

B5-0080/2003

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the statement by the High Representative for the common foreign and security policy

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

by Charles Pasqua, Cristiana Muscardini, Gerard Collins, Luís Queiró and Mogens N.J. Camre

on behalf of the UEN Group

on Iraq

European Parliament resolution on Iraq

The European Parliament,

- having regard to all the United Nations resolutions on Iraq,
- A. whereas the authorities governing Iraq are failing in their obligation to cooperate actively with the inspectors under UN Security Council Resolution 1441 and, consequently, these facts confirm the suspicion that Iraq still poses a threat to world peace and security,
- B. whereas the Iraqi authorities must provide the United Nations inspectors, without delay or obstruction of any kind, with all the information required and must open all the sites that are the subject of an investigation without restrictions, including the possibility of interviewing, without the presence of witnesses, scientists and officials involved in Iraqi conventional, biological and nuclear weapons programmes,
- C. whereas the work of the UN inspectors, by virtue of the framework within which Iraq may operate, cannot be regarded as interference in a sovereign country, and still less as an act of espionage likely to undermine Iraq's territorial rights and sovereignty,
- D. whereas it is necessary to make a distinction between the regime of Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi people, who have been suffering for decades from all sorts of problems and restrictions,
- E. whereas, consequently, the international community, under the auspices of the UN Security Council, must maintain a firm position vis-à-vis the Iraqi authorities, a position leaving no doubt as to the need to cooperate unconditionally and swiftly with the UN inspectors, failing which other means will be taken to achieve the objectives set,
 1. Reiterates its position of principle that military intervention would never be acceptable except as a last resort, and after having exhausted all diplomatic means;
 2. Calls on the Iraqi authorities to cooperate actively with the UN inspectors so that they can rapidly conclude their work, while preventing any delaying tactics by Iraq designed to prolong the mandate of the inspectors, the sole outcome of which would be to prolong the application of UN resolutions and ensure that the current situation is maintained;
 3. Appeals to Saddam Hussein, in the name of world peace and security, to apply immediately and unconditionally all the United Nations resolutions, and to take all the forceful political initiatives that will avoid war and start the process of democratisation of Iraq enabling the Iraqi people to enjoy fully the benefits of peace;
 4. Expresses its grave concern at the serious omissions by the Iraqi authorities concerning disarmament, referred to in the report by Hans Blix to the United Nations Security Council, and consequently, calls on all the political authorities with information on the

possible existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq to forward them to the UN Security Council so as to facilitate the application of its resolutions on Iraq, in particular through the presentation of evidence, while pointing out that the burden of proof rests with Iraq;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and candidate countries and to the General Assembly, Secretary-General and Security Council of the United Nations, and to Saddam Hussein.