

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

---

*Session document*

8 May 2003

B5-0234/2003/rev.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Charles Pasqua

on behalf of the UEN Group

on the eleventh EU-Russia summit, to be held on 31 May 2003 in St Petersburg

**European Parliament resolution on the eleventh EU-Russia summit, to be held on 31 May 2003 in St Petersburg**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its resolutions tabled on the occasion of previous EU-Russia summits,
  - having regard to the 4 June 1999 EU Common Strategy on Russia, which was adopted at the Cologne European Council,
  - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) concluded between the European Union and the Russian Federation, which came into force on 1 December 1997,
  - having regard to the Commission Communication entitled ‘A northern dimension for the policies of the Union’ (COM(1998) 589 - C4-0067/1999) and the Action Plan for a Northern Dimension in the European Union's external and cross-border policies, which was adopted at Feira,
  - having regard to the proposals put forward by the Commission at the 13-14 October 2000 Biarritz European Council with a view to safeguarding the EU's energy independence on a long-term basis,
  - having regard to Russia's medium-term strategy for the development of relations between the Russian Federation and the European Union (2000-2010), which was submitted at the Helsinki EU-Russia summit,
  - having regard to the Founding Act on relations between NATO and the Russian Federation, which was adopted in Paris on 27 May 1997,
  - having regard to its recommendation of 5 May 1999 to the Council on the Common Strategy vis-à-vis the Russian Federation,
  - having regard to the conclusions of the sixth meeting of the EU-Russia Cooperation Council, which was held on 15 April 2003,
  - having regard to the fact that the forthcoming EU-Russia summit will be attended by leaders from the 10 new Member States,
- A. whereas, following the collapse of the Communist regime, the strengthening of cooperation between the European Union and Russia makes a crucial contribution to the security and stability of the European continent and whereas both the Union's strategy for

strengthening relations with Russia and the Action Plan should therefore be fully deployed,

- B. whereas cooperation between the EU and Russia relates to many areas, ranging from assisting the consolidation of democracy and the market economy to maintaining international peace and security,
- C. whereas such cooperation is based on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, which lays down a general framework for all aspects of institutional, political and administrative cooperation,
- D. whereas the Common Strategy on Russia includes a series of joint instruments, forms of dialogue, joint conflict-prevention measures and disarmament talks, including special mechanisms for the introduction of joint initiatives with regard to specific third countries and regions,
- E. whereas, whilst the Member States and the Tacis Committee are bound by the Common Strategy, the Member States retain a certain degree of autonomy in defining their policies vis-à-vis Russia,
- F. whereas the development of the oil and gas resources in north-west Russia and the Barents Sea and the development of infrastructures for transporting those resources to the European market could, as part of the Northern Dimension policy, contribute significantly to the European Union's energy supply,
- G. whereas a proposal was put forward at the Biarritz European Council to strengthen energy cooperation between Russia and the European Union, in order to confer on Russia an important role in the Union's future strategy on energy supply,
- H. whereas the support given to the establishment of the rule of law, democracy and principles of good governance in a context of federalism must not in any way serve as a pretext for interference in the Russian Federation's domestic affairs,

#### *Fight against terrorism and organised crime*

1. Welcomes efforts to strengthen cooperation between the European Union and Russia with regard to the fight against international terrorism through the conclusion of an Action Plan under which the two parties undertake to bring to justice the organisers of terrorist acts and the leaders who hide or support such people, to strengthen their cooperation with a view to preventing and repressing acts of terrorism by establishing international anti-terrorism conventions and tabling Security Council resolutions, to finalise the agreement between Europol and Russia on the exchange of technical and strategic information (so that it can be signed as quickly as possible), and to step up efforts to put an end to the financing of terrorism, in particular by freezing terrorists' funds;
2. Stresses the importance of continuing efforts to implement the Action Plan for the fight against organised crime and calls on the EU and Russian Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs to make progress at their meeting of 20 May 2003 on JHA issues;
3. Calls for progress also to be made with regard to a readmission agreement;

4. Supports the efforts being made by Russia – and commits the European Union to participating actively in those efforts – to institute an effective fight against the organised crime, corruption, money laundering and drugs trafficking (in particular trafficking originating in Afghanistan) which hamper Russia's economic development and its relations with the European Union;

#### *International trade*

5. Highlights the fact that Russia is the EU's fifth largest trading partner and that the EU is Russia's largest trading partner;
6. Encourages Russia to continue its efforts to re-establish the authority of the state and to reform the Federation, in particular by cutting bureaucracy in order to ease restrictions on private initiative;
7. Hopes that the efforts being made to create a common European economic area will quickly produce tangible results and, with that in mind, welcomes the Cooperation Council's conclusions relating to the finalisation of that project before the end of the current year;
8. Warmly welcomes Russia's stated intention to join the World Trade Organisation;

#### *Energy dialogue*

9. Looks forward to progress being made on the removal of Siberian overflight payments;
10. Supports the efforts made to improve the legal framework governing energy production and transportation, with particular regard to the fiscal code applicable to Production Sharing Agreements (PSA), but stresses the need to use other legal arrangements, such as joint ventures, and, in that connection, to provide adequate access to energy transportation networks;
11. Believes that long-term and stable cooperation in the energy sector is in the common interest of both the EU and Russia;
12. Welcomes Russia's wish for the Member States to increase their investment in the Russian energy sector and to accelerate high-technology transfers, so as to enable better use to be made of Russia's energy potential;
13. Encourages the EU and Russia to extend their dialogue in the field of hydrocarbons and to consolidate the exchange of information concerning the oil market;

#### *Maritime safety*

14. Welcomes the agreement between the EU and Russia to strengthen their cooperation on maritime safety in order to prevent maritime accidents;

15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States, and to the Russian Duma and Federal Government.