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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Enrique Baron Crespo, Reino Paasilinna and Claudio Fava

on behalf of the PSE Group

on the 12th EU-Russia Summit on 6 November 2003 in Rome

European Parliament resolution on the 12th EU-Russia Summit on 6 November 2003 in Rome

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia, in particular that of 15 May 2003 on preparation of the EU-Russia Spring Summit;
 - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Russia which entered into force on 1 December 1997,
 - having regard to the Common Strategy of the EU on Russia dating from June 1999 and valid for a period of four years,
 - having regard to its resolutions of 10 April 2002 and 16 January 2003 on Chechnya,
 - having regard to its resolution of 21 November 2002 on the outcome of the EU-Russia Summit of 11 November 2002,
 - having regard to the Commission Communication to the Council and Parliament of 11 March 2003 entitled 'Wider Europe - Neighbourhood: a new framework for relations with our eastern and southern neighbours' (COM(2003) 104),
 - having regard to the sixth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and Russia on 15 April 2003,
 - having regard to the 2003 tercentenary celebrations in St Petersburg and the EU's representation,
 - having regard to its resolution on 'Wider Europe – Neighbourhood', to be adopted on this day,
 - having regard to the Council Presidency's Declaration of 8 October 2003,
- A. whereas enhanced and comprehensive cooperation with Russia is of strategic importance for the achievement of stability and security for the whole of Europe,
- B. whereas enlargement will bring the EU even closer to Russia and both sides are interested in good-neighbourhood relations,
- C. whereas good relations between the EU and Russia are important to their role on the world stage,
- D. whereas the economic dialogue, the planned Common Economic Area and the energy dialogue are of crucial importance for the economic development of Europe and could

largely contribute to a stabilisation of FDI in Russia,

- E. whereas the still unstable state of democracy and the rule of law are counterproductive for the economic and political development of the Russian Federation,
 - F. whereas the Common EU Strategy must be updated, taking into account the developments of the last five years,
 - G. whereas the TACIS programme's scope and effectiveness have been increased since the last revision of the procedures, but could still be enhanced by putting more emphasis on the investment-triggering components,
 - H. whereas the PCA is still largely underused in particular by the Russian side, and lengthy decision making-procedures concerning the allocation of responsibility within the Russian Government hamper the full use of its potential,
 - I. whereas the crisis in Chechnya is continuing to produce human rights abuses perpetrated by the Russian security and military forces, as well as unacceptable acts of violence and terrorism by the Chechen fighters, spreading insecurity in the whole region,
 - J. whereas, at the end of the recent EU-Russia Summit held in Rome, the Italian Presidency expressed unconditional support for the President of the Russian Federation and his policy, going against the official EU position,
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- 1. Notes the agreement reached at the summit to reinforce the strategic partnership between the EU and Russia on the basis of common values and with the aim of consolidating stability, security and prosperity in a Europe without dividing lines; underlines, however, that the understanding and definition of these common values should be sharpened;
 - 2. Welcomes the progress made towards the creation of the four 'common areas', including the Common European Economic Area, which is important to FDI and long-term economic relations, as well as the creation of the Permanent Partnership Council; underlines the importance of the energy dialogue, Russia's important role as energy supplier for the EU and the EU's importance for investments in this field, with particular reference to the urgently needed maintenance and investment in new, environmentally more reliable techniques;
 - 3. Calls on the Russian State Duma to ratify as soon as possible the Kyoto protocol, which must not be used as a bargaining tool;
 - 4. Calls on Russia to finally ratify the Energy Charter;
 - 5. Welcomes the renewal of the Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation, as well as Russia's participation in the Bologna process;
 - 6. Recognises the work done towards establishing a 'common area of freedom, security and justice', and hopes that this will contribute to the development of a common understanding about the rule of law and long-term reliance on the legal system; expresses

its hope that this will contribute to an in-depth discussion about democratic values, which include freedom of speech and of the mass media;

7. Calls, in this respect, on Russia to finally build up a modernised judiciary, guaranteeing full respect for the law and fair, impartial and non-discriminatory application of the law and conduct of court proceedings;
8. Is deeply concerned at continuing reports of grave human rights abuses in Chechnya, and urges the Russian authorities to allow unfettered international human rights monitoring in the republic, to immediately halt attempts by the Russian authorities to forcibly return Chechen internally displaced persons until they can return voluntarily in safety and dignity to their place of origin or choice, and to ensure immediate action to bring to justice those responsible for grave abuses committed during the conflict in Chechnya and provide concrete information about all criminal investigations into alleged crimes which may amount to human rights violations or violations of international humanitarian law;
9. Urges the Council and the Commission to keep the issue of Chechnya as a separate item high on the agenda and to reiterate once again to the Russian authorities the call for the resumption of negotiations with all the parties, in order to achieve an immediate political solution to the conflict, which cannot be considered solely as part of the fight against terrorism, making clear the EU's willingness to act as a mediator;
10. Deplores the declarations made by the Italian President of the EU Council at the end of the EU-Russia Summit, in which he expressed his support for the Russian Government's position concerning the human rights situation in Chechnya and the state of democracy in the Russian Federation;
11. Regrets that human rights were not taken into account in the Summit conclusions and reiterates its position calling for this issue to be emphasised in bilateral relations;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution the Council, the Commission, the parliaments of the Member States and accession countries and the President and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.