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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 Charles Pasqua, Cristiana Muscardini and Roberta Angelilli

on behalf of the UEN Group

on the twelfth EU-Russia Summit on 6 November 2003 in Rome

**European Parliament resolution on the twelfth EU-Russia Summit on 6 November 2003 in Rome**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its resolutions on previous EU-Russia Summits,
  - having regard to the European Union's Common Strategy on Russia, adopted by the European Council in Cologne,
  - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) concluded between the European Union and the Russian Federation, which entered into force on 1 December 1997,
  - having regard to the Commission communication on '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 external and cross-border policies of the European Union, adopted in Feira,
  - having regard to the proposals submitted by the Commission to the European Council meeting in Biarritz on 13 and 14 October 2000 aimed at guaranteeing the European Union's long-term self-sufficiency in energy,
  - having regard to Russia's medium-term strategy for the development of relations between the Russian Federation and the European Union (2000-2010), presented at the EU-Russia Helsinki Summit,
  - having regard to its recommendation of 5 May 1999 to the Council on the common strategy on Russia,
  - having regard to the reports on the Common Economic Area (concept paper) and on the EU-Russia energy dialogue,
  - having regard to the agreement concluded between the European Union and Russia on police cooperation,
  - having regard to the scientific and technological cooperation agreement concluded between the European Union and Russia,
  - having regard to the Joint Statement adopted at the end of the twelfth EU-Russia Summit,
  - having regard to Rule 37(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, following the collapse of the Communist regime, the consolidation of cooperation between the European Union and Russia represents a decisive contribution to security and stability in Europe, and whereas the Union's strategy for closer relations with

Russia and the action plan should therefore be given due importance,

- B. whereas cooperation between the EU and Russia concerns many areas, ranging from aid to the consolidation of democracy and the market economy to the maintenance of international security and peace,
- C. whereas this cooperation is based on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, which provides a general framework for all areas - institutional, political and administrative - of cooperation,
- D. whereas the common strategy on Russia comprises a set of common instruments, forms of dialogue, common measures on conflict prevention and disarmament talks, including special mechanisms to set up common initiatives vis-à-vis specific third countries and regions,
- E. whereas the establishment of a common economic area is one of the priorities of the EU-Russia partnership,
- F. whereas, although the Member States and the Tacis Committee are bound by the Common Strategy, the Member States retain a degree of autonomy in defining their policies on Russia,
- G. whereas the exploitation of oil and gas resources in north-west Russia and the Barents Sea, as well as the development of transport infrastructure to transfer the oil and gas to the European market could, as an element of the northern dimension policy, make a significant contribution to supplying the European Union in energy,
- H. whereas it was proposed at the Biarritz European Council that energy cooperation be strengthened between Russia and the European Union with a view to conferring on Russia an important role in the Union's future energy supply strategy,
- I. whereas the support given to the establishment of the rule of law, democracy and good governance principles in the context of federalism should in no way serve as a pretext for seeking to interfere in the internal affairs of the Russian federation,
- J. whereas the authorities of the Russian Federation are still faced with acts of terrorism sponsored, organised and planned by fundamentalist separatist armed groups operating in the province of Chechnya, terrorist networks constituting a threat not only to the Russian Federation but to all democratic countries,

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

1. Welcomes the efforts to strengthen cooperation between the European Union and Russia in the fight against international terrorism by stepping up cooperation to prevent and suppress terrorist acts and working towards the establishment of international anti-terrorist conventions and Security Council resolutions;
2. Considers that the military operations conducted by the Russian army in the province of Chechnya are part of the maintenance of law and order and the fight against terrorism and

that, on this basis, responsibility for such action lies solely with the Russian Federation; calls therefore on the international community to respect the Russian Federation's sovereignty and limit all-too-often rash statements on the conflict between the Russian Federation and the Chechen terrorist factions;

3. Believes that no definitive peaceful solution will be found to the Chechen problem so long as the fundamentalist separatists do not definitively renounce terrorism;
4. Welcomes Russia's determination to fight international terrorism resolutely, and notes that this hard-line policy has widespread backing among the Russian population;
5. Calls for progress also to be made with regard to the readmission agreement;
6. Supports the efforts made by Russia - and urges the European Union to contribute actively - to take effective action against organised crime, corruption, money laundering and drug trafficking, especially from Afghanistan, which are hampering Russia's economic development and relations with the European Union;
7. Welcomes the signing of the police cooperation agreement enabling Europol and the relevant Russian authorities to exchange strategic and technical data in order to fight all the various branches of organised crime (trafficking in drugs and human beings, illegal immigration, money laundering and terrorism);

#### **International trade**

8. Stresses the fact that Russia is the EU's fifth most important trade partner and that the EU is Russia's main trade partner;
9. Encourages Russia to continue its action to restore the authority of the State and reform the Federation, in particular by reducing bureaucracy in order to ease restrictions on private initiative;
10. Hopes that the efforts to establish a common economic area will soon produce practical results, and in this connection approves the Cooperation Council's conclusions on the finalisation of this project by the end of this year;
11. Supports the proposed accession of Russia to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) by the end of 2004;
12. Regrets the fact that the Summit did not succeed in reaching a decision on extending the EU-Russia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement to the ten future EU Member States;

#### **Energy dialogue**

13. Supports the efforts made to improve the legal framework governing energy production and transport, in particular with regard to the tax code to be applied to Production Sharing Agreements (PSA), but insists on the need to make use of other legal arrangements, such as joint ventures, and, in this context, to guarantee adequate access to energy transport networks;

14. Considers that long-term and stable cooperation in the energy sector is in the interests of both the EU and Russia;
15. Takes the view, in this connection, in accordance with the provisions contained in the fourth report on the EU-Russia energy dialogue, that Russia should be involved in the observatory to monitor the petroleum market;
16. Approves also the proposed setting-up of a high-level EU-Russia industrial group;

#### **Scientific and technological cooperation**

17. Encourages the EU and Russia to broaden their dialogue in the field of hydrocarbons and to step up exchanges of information on the oil market;
18. Welcomes the signing of a scientific and technological cooperation agreement between the European Union and the Russian Federation, which signals their wish to step up cooperation in such important areas as biomedicine, health, the environment, climate, non-nuclear energy, the information society, social sciences, and the training and mobility of scientists;
19. Stresses, in particular, that this agreement will enable Russian scientists to take part in the EU's sixth research and development framework programme;
20. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the Member States, and the Russian Duma and Federal Government.