

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

15 December 2003

B5-0565/2003

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Pedro Marset Campos

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the EU embargo on arms sales to China

European Parliament resolution on the EU embargo on arms sales to China

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on China,
 - having regard to the Communication from the Commission on the EU Strategy towards China (COM(2001)265),
 - having regard to the conclusions of the EU-China summit held in Beijing on 30 October 2003,
 - having regard to the Code of Conduct on Arms Exports,
 - having regard to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the EU imposed an embargo on exports of arms to the People's Republic of China after the harsh crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square on 4 June 1989,
- B. whereas in a conversation with his Chinese counterpart Wen Jiabao, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder has openly expressed his support for the lifting of the EU arms embargo,
- C. whereas the German Federal government has linked the lifting of the EU arms embargo to its plan to export the Hanau Siemens nuclear mixed oxide fuel (MOX) plant to the People's Republic of China,
- D. whereas nuclear technology does not fall under the current arms embargo,
- E. whereas the Hanau Siemens MOX plant falls under Council Regulation (EC) No 1334/2000 of 22 June 2000 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports of dual-use items and technology, Article 4 of which requires specific authorisation to be obtained from national authorities for such exports, in particular if the country of destination is subject to an EU arms embargo,
- F. whereas China is a nuclear power; whereas it acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1992 and signed the 1997 Additional Safeguards Protocol of the International Atomic Energy Agency,
- G. whereas the EU and China should contribute to worldwide arms control and disarmament, particularly where weapons of mass destruction are concerned,
1. Reaffirms its view that the EU's policy towards China must necessarily take the following three key factors into account: China's role in the world and the region, economic considerations, human rights and the rule of law;

2. Calls on the EU and China to contribute to the elaboration of international legally binding instruments limiting and at the final stage prohibiting arms transfers and insists on its vision of a world without an arms trade;
3. Insists on the strict application by all EU Member States of the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports and Council Regulation (EC) No 1334/2000 of 22 June 2000 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports of dual-use items and technology;
4. Calls on all EU Member States and applicant countries to apply the regulations of the Code of Conduct prohibiting the export of any technology for purposes of riot control, torture and human rights violations to countries which commit civil and human rights violations; calls on the Commission to introduce the appropriate measures to ensure that the EU Member States comply with all relevant EU regulations in their exports to China;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the EU Member States and applicant countries and the Government of China.