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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marco Pannella, Maurizio Turco, Emma Bonino, Marco Cappato,
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on the serious and persistent violation of fundamental human rights in
Vietnam

European Parliament resolution on the serious and persistent violation of fundamental human rights in Vietnam

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolutions on Vietnam and on the human rights situation in the world in 2002,
 - having regard to Rule 48 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas the cooperation agreement between the EU and Vietnam is conditional upon observance of fundamental rights,
 - B. whereas the Vietnamese government has revoked the recognition granted to the Protestant house churches, the Hoa Hao and Cao Dai groups and the unified Buddhist church of Vietnam (UBCV), whose patriarch, the 86 year-old Thich Huyen Quang, and his deputy the venerable Thich Quang Do, aged 75, have been held in isolation since 9 October 2003, after being under house arrest since 1982 and up until 2003 respectively,
 - C. whereas on 10 April 2004 more than 100 000 Montagnards gathered to conduct religious celebrations in public in the central highlands of Vietnam and, according to eyewitness reports, hundreds of Montagnards in the town of Buonmathout alone were killed by government forces, who closed access to the region, even for diplomatic representatives,
1. Calls on the Commission to take political initiatives immediately to:
 - secure from Vietnam access to the central highlands and the cessation of persecution of the Montagnards;
 - secure Cambodia's compliance with the UN Refugee Convention by inviting it to give refuge to the Montagnards;
 - suspend the cooperation agreements with Vietnam.