

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

---

*Session document*

13 September 2004

B6-0062/2004

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by Joost Lagendijk, Angelika Beer, Gisela Kallembach, Raul Romeva and Tatjana Zdanoka

On behalf of the Green/EFA Group in the EP

On violence against minorities in Serbia

**European parliament resolution on violence against minorities in Serbia**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Serbia-Montenegro and Yugoslavia,
  - having regard to the Stabilisation and Association Process for Western Balkans,
- A. Whereas during January-May the Belgrade authorities have recorded nearly 300 incidents of nationalist violence and confrontation in Vojvodina, a multi-ethnic province of Serbia with over 20 registered ethnic communities of which ethnic Hungarians make up 14% of the population,
- B. Pointing out that the escalation of the attacks started after the riots which took place in March in Kosovo against the Serbian minority and others,
- C. Deeply concerned by the fact that Serb authorities mostly turn a blind eye to such violence treating it often as vandalism and refusing to accept a nationalist or sectarian motive,
- D. Pointing out that the attacks against the Hungarian minority have prompted official protest from Budapest,
- E. Having regard to the request of three leading ethnic Hungarian political parties of Vojvodina to ask Budapest to grant ethnic Hungarians the right to dual citizenship,
- F. Having regard to the parliamentary elections in the province which will take place on September 19,
- G. Stressing once more the European perspective of Serbia-Montenegro and hoping that soon the conditions for the opening of the negotiations of an association and stabilisation agreement with the EU could be met,
- H. Reaffirming its firm support for the territorial integrity of Serbia-Montenegro,
1. Calls on the Belgrade authorities to stop ethnic violence, racially motivated attacks and harassment of minorities bringing those responsible of such acts to justice;
  2. Reminds the Serbian government that the respect for minorities and their rights is one of the basic principles of the Stabilisation and Association Process for South East Europe and that the negotiation of a bilateral agreement with the EU is subject to the fulfilment of such a condition;
  3. Calls for the restoration of the full autonomy of Vojvodina within the framework of the Republic of Serbia and urges bordering countries to play down actively all secessionist claims;

4. Urges, in this respect, the government of Hungary to deal responsibly with the request of dual citizenship for the ethnic Hungarians of Vojvodina in the framework of the EU as well as with the representatives of the other bordering countries,
5. Calls on the Commission to strengthen cross-regional programmes in the framework of CARDS trying to prevent in an effective and constructive way the borders of the enlarged EU from becoming an insurmountable wall which breaks off historical ties and social relations between the people of the region;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission and the presidents, the governments and the parliaments of Serbia and the Federation of Serbia and Montenegro and the OSCE.