

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Session document

10.1.2005

B6-0041/2005

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Jan Marinus Wiersma and Marek Siwiec

on behalf of the PSE Group

on Ukraine

European Parliament resolution on Ukraine

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 20 November 2003 on ‘Relations with our neighbours to the East and South’,
 - having regard to its resolutions on the previous rounds of the presidential elections in Ukraine adopted on 28 October 2004 and 2 December 2004,
 - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and Ukraine, which entered into force on 1 March 1998,
 - having regard to European Council Common Strategy 1999/877/CFSP on Ukraine, adopted by the European Council in Helsinki on 11 December 1999,
 - having regard to the Final Statement and Recommendations of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Cooperation Committee of 16-17 February 2004,
 - having regard to the Communication from the Commission of 12 May 2004 on the European Neighbourhood Policy (COM(2004)0373),
 - having regard to the Joint Statement of the European Union-Ukraine Summit of 8 July 2004 in The Hague,
 - having regard to the statements and the preliminary findings and conclusions of the international election observer mission in Ukraine on all rounds of the presidential election,
 - having regard to the announcement on the final results of the presidential elections in Ukraine by the Central Electoral Commission,
 - having regard to the decisions of the Supreme Court of Ukraine on the validity of the repeat of the runoff presidential elections on 26 December,
 - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the European Neighbourhood Policy recognises Ukraine's European aspirations and the importance of Ukraine as a country with strong historical, cultural and economic links to the Member States of the EU, and whereas a genuine and balanced partnership can only be developed on the basis of shared values with regard, in particular, to democracy, the rule of law and respect for human and civil rights,

- B. whereas Ukrainian society has proved its political maturity and adherence to common European values,
 - C. whereas the conditions under which the presidential elections in Ukraine took place were regarded beforehand as a serious test of the state of democracy in the country and of the authorities' adherence to these shared values,
 - D. whereas the situation concerning the first two rounds of these elections has led to a serious political crisis in Ukraine and even to threats to break up the unity of the country,
 - E. whereas the European Union and its Member States have acted promptly by sending mediators and whereas the leading role of the European Union, in particular the European Parliament, has been instrumental in defusing tension and bringing about an end to the electoral and political crisis leading to a rerun of the second round of the presidential runoff on 26 December 2004,
 - F. whereas more than 300,000 Ukrainians and more than 12,000 foreign observers were present as monitors at the polling sites to watch the election process,
 - G. whereas, according to the election observers and the head of the Ukraine's Central Election Committee, no major problems were reported, only minor infringements that did not affect the validity and overall outcome of the elections,
 - H. whereas Ukraine's Supreme Court rejected all legal challenges lodged by defeated former Prime Minister Yanukovich aimed at invalidating the 26 December vote,
1. Welcomes the fair elections held on 26 December 2004 and expresses satisfaction that the right of the Ukrainian people to freely elect their President has been recognised and implemented, representing a victory of the democratic institutions and procedures in Ukraine;
 2. Stresses again the role of the mediators in bringing about this successful conclusion of the Ukrainian crisis, including the High Representative for CFSP, the Presidents of Poland and Lithuania, as well as the representative of the President of the Russian Federation;
 3. Acknowledges that Viktor Yushchenko has clearly won the presidential runoff on 26 December 2004 and calls on all sides to accept the election results;
 4. Calls on the President elect to rapidly form a new administration to end the political stalemate, which is paralysing the country;
 5. Calls on the newly elected authorities to engage in the further development of democratic institutions, assuring civil liberties as well as providing a framework for the existence and proper functioning of a democratic opposition;
 6. Is concerned about the deep divisions within Ukraine and the splits along cultural and regional lines affecting the unity of the country, which were exacerbated by the political

standoff between the candidates and calls on all political leaders, including former opponents, to make efforts to heal those rifts and reform the country; considers continuing threats of separatism in Ukraine as unacceptable and expresses its commitment to the territorial integrity of Ukraine;

7. Resolutely rejects allegations of unlawful interference of the European Union in the internal affairs of another country;
8. Pledges its continuing support, assistance and commitment to the Ukrainian people's establishment of a free and open democratic system, their creation of a prosperous market economy and their country's assumption of its rightful place in the community of democratic nations;
9. Recalls the democratic spirit of the Ukrainian people demonstrated during the political crisis of December 2004; calls on the Council, the European Commission and the Member States to take the expectations and hopes that have been raised by the European Union's close involvement in the resolution of this crisis into account in their future approach towards Ukraine;
10. Welcomes the Council's intention to organise an early EU-Ukraine co operation Council to come to a swift launch of the EU/Ukraine Action Plan; calls on the Commission and the Council to engage in the rapid implementation of this plan and to include new measures aimed at strengthening the role of civil society;
11. Calls on the Council and the Commission to engage in particular in creating and strengthening independent media institutions, as well as a legal framework in which independent media can thrive;
12. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the Member States to consider, besides the measures of the Action Plan in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy, other forms of association with Ukraine, including the possibility of full membership for this country which is a direct neighbour with deep-rooted historical, cultural and economic links to the European Union;
13. Calls on the other hand on the new Ukrainian administration to demonstrate to the European Union that it has broken with its past negative heritage of declaring its desire to join the EU, NATO and WTO, without making any efforts to meet the required democratic and transparency criteria;
14. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Parliament and Government of Ukraine, the Parliamentary Assemblies of NATO and the OSCE, and the Council of Europe.