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## 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 Milan Horáček, Marie Anne Isler Béguin, Rebecca Harms, Elisabeth Schroedter and Hélène Flautre

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on the situation in Ukraine

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Ukraine**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Ukraine, particularly those of 28 October 2004 and 2 December 2004,
  - having regard to the European Neighbourhood Policy which seeks to spread peace and stability to countries bordering on the EU, with the prospect of closer cooperation and sharing of the values of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and civil liberties,
  - having regard to the Common Strategy on Ukraine,
  - having regard to the conclusions of the International Election Observation Mission in Ukraine on the third round of the presidential elections,
  - having regard to the conclusions of the Brussels European Council of 17 December 2004,
  - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 26 December 2004, after a long period of non-violent popular mobilisation and street demonstrations which led to the annulment of the second round of the presidential elections by the Supreme Court, the people of Ukraine were invited to repeat the presidential runoff election,
- B. underlining that no major problems were reported on election day, after calls for calm by both the candidates,
- C. whereas there was a risk that the stand-off between the two sides after the second round might deepen the split in Ukrainian society with the potential consequence of destabilising the whole country,
- D. whereas the quick and firm reaction of all the EU bodies played an important role in avoiding violence, defusing tension, restoring the dialogue between the parties and brokering a compromise,
- E. having regard to the constitutional reform, which was voted by the Ukrainian Parliament on 8 December 2004 as part of a package aimed at breaking the political deadlock and which will transfer substantial power from the President to Parliament by the end of this year or in 2006,
- F. whereas one of the driving forces of the 'Orange Revolution' was the aspiration for a European integration that went beyond the 'enhanced and distinctive relationship' offered by the European Council of December,

- G. whereas the International Election Observation Mission led by the OSCE concluded that the conduct of the 26 December election process brought Ukraine substantially closer to meeting European standards,
  - H. whereas the Supreme Court has rejected all the appeals by former Prime Minister Yanukovich, who applied for the voting in all of Ukraine's 225 electoral districts to be declared invalid,
  - I. having regard to the Action Plan negotiated by the EU and the Ukrainian Government, whose Prime Minister and defeated candidate Yanukovich resigned on 31 December,
  - J. having regard to the sluggish economic situation with part of the population still suffering from the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,
  - K. taking note of the change of attitude of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, who refrained from interfering in this campaign, unlike during the previous two rounds,
1. Expresses warm congratulations on the non-violent struggle of the democratic movement of Ukraine and pays tribute, in particular, to the action of organisations like Nasha Ukraina and Pora;
  2. Warmly congratulates the newly elected President of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, and pays tribute to the outstanding struggle for democracy of the Ukrainian people;
  3. Welcomes the successful action of the European mediators to help resolve the crisis and the effective role played by the large OSCE mission in improving Ukrainian electoral standards and monitoring the election campaign;
  4. Is of the opinion that the time has now come for the EU to start a new era of cooperation with Ukraine, delivering on promises and meeting the expectations of the Ukrainian people; calls, in this regard, on the Council and the Commission to make every effort to provide all necessary assistance to the Ukrainian authorities with a view to rooting democracy and European values in Ukrainian society, healing the electoral split, strengthening democratic institutions and adopting and implementing the necessary reforms that Ukraine has to undertake on its way to full association with the EU;
  5. Urges the Council to make it clear that the European Neighbourhood Policy is in no way intended as an alternative to EU membership but on the contrary as an indispensable way of coming closer to the EU, which may afford a prospect of European integration;
  6. Calls, in this regard, for a revision of the Action Plan, which must take account of the new situation, thus giving the new Ukrainian Government the opportunity to renegotiate it in the light of its deep-rooted aspirations to European integration;
  7. Urges the Commission to make the most of Ukrainian civil society, finding ways to strengthen and support it as well as to support the development of a genuinely independent and pluralistic media system;

8. Expresses its concern at the persistently grave environmental situation stemming from the Chernobyl disaster with its serious repercussions on the health of part of the population; urges the Commission to improve the investigations into the matter and increase assistance to the affected communities;
9. Calls on the Commission to support the process of decentralisation, setting up an ad hoc programme for twinnings between Ukrainian and EU local communities;
10. Believes that the crisis which arose in Ukraine represents a test case for the EU in its efforts to spread democracy, human rights and respect for the rule of law to all of the neighbouring countries; urges the Council to raise this question with the new Ukrainian authorities, pointing out that a regime change in Belarus and the beginning of a real process of democratisation in Russia would mutually benefit all the countries in the region;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the President and Parliament of Ukraine, the OSCE and the Council of Europe.