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## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

to wind up the debate on statements by the Council and Commission  
pursuant to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Albert Jan Maat

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia

**European Parliament resolution on Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Kyrgyzstan and Central Asian Republics,
  - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreements with Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan which have already entered into force,
  - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreements with Tajikistan and Turkmenistan which have been signed but have not yet entered into force,
  - having regard to the Commission's Central Asia Strategy Paper 2002-2006,
  - having regard to its resolution of 28 April 2005 on human rights in the world 2004,
  - having regard to the statement of 4 March 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union concerning the parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan,
  - having regard to the statements of 21 and 25 March 2005 by Mr Javier Solana, High Representative of the European Union for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, on the situation in Kyrgyzstan,
  - having regard to the Declaration of 30 March 2005 by the European Union concerning the situation in Kyrgyzstan,
  - having regard to the statements by the OSCE on the situation in Kyrgyzstan,
  - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas disputed elections have taken place lately in all five of the Central Asian Republics, and the reports by the international observers stated clearly that they did not meet international standards,
- B. whereas the massive protests that took place in Kyrgyzstan after the two general election rounds of 27 February and 13 March 2005 brought down President Askar Akayev, who signed a letter of resignation on 4 April after fleeing to Moscow,
- C. whereas on 11 April the newly elected Parliament of Kyrgyzstan, which had been confirmed by the Central Electoral Commission, voted to accept Akayev's resignation,
- D. having regard to the decision of interim Prime Minister and acting head of state Kurmanbek Bakiev to hold new presidential elections on 10 July and new parliamentary elections before the end of the year,
- E. deeply preoccupied by the fragile security situation in Bishkek, where thousands of

squatters have seized land and run the risk of confrontation with residents and farm owners,

- F. whereas the electoral process in Kyrgyzstan is a test case that, if successful, could pave the way for the necessary democratic changes and institutional and economic reforms in all the other countries of Central Asia,
- G. noting the high degree of fragmentation of the Kyrgyz opposition movement, which is divided by clan affiliations and ethnic structures,
- H. welcoming the efforts which have been made by the OSCE in connection with the parliamentary elections in February and March 2005 and the presentation by the OSCE of a plan of action for the country's stability and security during the election campaign and beyond it,
- I. deeply concerned by the reactions of the governments of the other Central Asian Republics to the revolution in Kyrgyzstan, which have taken the form of attempts to tighten up laws in order to prevent similar events in their countries,
- J. underlining the strategic importance of the Central Asian Republics as regards energy supplies and security matters,
  - 1. Calls on the Council and the Commission to assist and support the OSCE and the newly appointed authorities of Kyrgyzstan in their difficult efforts to prepare for and establish the basic conditions to enable the forthcoming presidential election to be free and fair;
  - 2. Calls on the new authorities to maintain public order;
  - 3. Calls on the Kyrgyz people to respect order and not to engage in looting;
  - 4. Calls on the authorities of Kyrgyzstan to make every effort to start a real process of democratisation of the country based on a genuine multi-party system and respect for human rights and the rule of law; calls, in this respect, for the initiation of an inclusive process of constitutional reform aimed at ensuring that the previous system of power will not remain in place with different persons;
  - 5. Draws the attention of the Kyrgyz authorities to the need to maintain good relations among the country's national minorities;
  - 6. Hopes that the authorities in Bishkek will pursue stable and friendly relations with neighbouring countries;
  - 7. Urges the Commission to find ways to upgrade and adjust the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Kyrgyzstan in the light of the new situation, defining democratic and economic benchmarks that should lead to the enhancement of relations;
  - 8. Calls on the Council and the Commission to define and adopt a Common Strategy for the Central Asian Republics in order to adopt a comprehensive and coherent short and medium term approach for the whole region;

9. Urges the Commission to strengthen TACIS-democracy programmes in Central Asia with the aim of strengthening civil society and support an open and transparent institution-building process;
10. Calls on the Commission to include the Central Asian Republics in the priorities of the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights;
11. Regrets the recent changes of legislation on the funding of NGOs adopted by the authorities of Kazakhstan, which raise concerns about increased state pressure, and the inspections of more than 30 NGOs launched by the Kazakh General Prosecutor's Office;
12. Expresses its concern at the widespread use of torture in Uzbekistan, the restrictions on freedom of expression and the increased pressure on civil society;
13. Firmly condemns the persisting repression in Turkmenistan, where the government in its latest move refused to extend the licences of international shipping firms, severing one of the last remaining links with the outside world, and calls on the Council to raise the question of the dictatorship in that country in all the competent international bodies in order to define and adopt common actions which could lead to international sanctions against the regime;
14. Is deeply worried by the arrest of Tajikistan's opposition leader Makhmadruzi Iskandarov as well as by the recent suspension of two independent newspapers and television stations and the recent legislation requiring foreign embassies and international organisations to provide advance notice of meetings with civil society, political parties or the media,
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Presidents, Governments and Parliaments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, the President of the Russian Federation, the Duma and the OSCE.