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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 Ewa Klamt

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on presumed use of European countries by the CIA for the transportation and illegal detention of prisoners

European Parliament resolution on presumed use of European countries by the CIA for the transportation and illegal detention of prisoners

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the European Union is a Union of values, founded on the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law, principles which are common to the Member States,
- B. whereas international terrorism poses the greatest threat to society within the EU and to those values,
- C. whereas cooperation in the field of intelligence remains a concern for Member States and their bilateral and multilateral relations,
- D. whereas allegations have been made by one US non-governmental organisation of the existence of so-called ‘black site’ detention centres on the territory of unnamed eastern European countries; whereas that same NGO has also alleged that CIA flights using the airspace and airport facilities of EU Member States have carried terrorist suspects for the purpose of ‘extraordinary rendition’,
- E. whereas the only categorical statements which have been made so far have been to deny the existence of any black sites in Europe; whereas not a single piece of evidence has been produced to substantiate these allegations,
- F. whereas evidence points to over 400 flights by planes strongly believed to be associated with the CIA making stopovers on the territory of EU Member States; whereas nothing is known of the passengers on these flights or the purpose of those flights,
- G. whereas the Secretary General of the Council of Europe acting on the basis of Article 52 of the European Convention on Human Rights has written to the 45 governments which are parties to the ECHR requesting that they provide explanations of the manner in which their internal laws ensure the effective implementation of the Convention regarding issues pertaining to the allegations,
- H. whereas the UK Presidency has written to the US Government asking for clarification of the veracity of the allegations,
- I. whereas following a meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers on 8 December, those EU Foreign Ministers who made any statement expressed themselves satisfied with the explanations offered by the US Secretary of State,
- 1. Calls on the Council to provide clear answers to the questions which it has raised with the United States of America;

2. Calls on the Council to confirm or deny categorically the existence of any so-called 'black sites' on the territory of EU Member States or candidate countries;
3. Calls on the Commission to obtain such information from Eurocontrol as is available in relation to the alleged CIA flights;
4. Calls on the EU Member States to cooperate fully with the Council of Europe when replying to the questionnaire that has been sent out under Article 52 of the European Convention on Human Rights;
5. Calls, if appropriate, for a temporary committee to be set up in accordance with Rule 175 of its Rules of Procedure;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Governments of the Member States.