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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 José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Charles Tannock, Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Michael Gahler, Christopher Beazley, Tunne Kelam and Bogdan Klich

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the EU-Russia Summit to be held in Mafra on 26 October 2007

European Parliament resolution on the EU-Russia Summit to be held in Mafra on 26 October 2007

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Russian Federation, of the other part, which entered into force in 1997 and expires in 2007,
 - having regard to the objective of the EU and Russia, set out in the joint statement issued following the St Petersburg Summit held on 31 May 2003, to set up a common economic space, a common space of freedom, security and justice, a common space of cooperation in the field of external security and a common space of research and education, including cultural aspects,
 - having regard to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its five protocols,
 - having regard to the EU-Russia human rights dialogue,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia, and in particular those of
 - 10 May 2007 on the EU-Russia Summit held in Samara on 18 May 2007,
 - 26 April 2007 on the recent repression of demonstrations in Russia,
 - 13 December 2006 on the EU-Russia Summit in Helsinki on 24 November 2006,
 - 25 October 2006 on EU-Russia relations following the murder of the Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya,
 - 15 June 2006 on the EU-Russia Summit held in Sochi on 25 May 2006,
 - 19 January 2006 on Chechnya after the elections and civil society in Russia,
 - 15 December 2005 on human rights in Russia and the new NGO legislation, and
 - 26 May 2005 on EU-Russia relations,
 - having regard to the 20th EU-Russia Summit, to be held in Mafra on 26 October 2007,
 - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas relations between the EU and Russia have been steadily developing over the past few years, leading to deep and comprehensive economic integration and interdependence, which are bound to increase even more in the near future,

- B. whereas the Russian Federation is a member of the Council of Europe and thus has committed itself to the objectives of that organisation, which are to promote democracy and consolidate democratic stability in Europe,
 - C. whereas there is widespread concern over democracy and human rights in Russia, over the independence of the judiciary, over increased control of the media and over repressive measures taken against the opposition,
 - D. whereas the underlying principles governing economic and trade relations between the EU and the Russian Federation should be reciprocity, transparency, predictability, reliability, non-discrimination and good governance,
 - E. whereas the conclusion of a new PCA between the EU and the Russian Federation is of the utmost importance for their future cooperation, in particular with regard to the further development of economic relations, to the further enhancement of security and stability in Europe and to the further strengthening of respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law as the basis of that cooperation,
 - F. whereas the start of the negotiations on the new PCA has been delayed and made conditional upon the Russian Government lifting a ban on Polish agricultural imports introduced in 2005, and whereas efforts are being made by the EU to find a compromise on the Polish imports issue, in order to end this political impasse,
1. Recalls its previous resolutions on Russia and, in view of the almost complete lack of new developments since the previous summit:
- (a) reaffirms its conviction that Russia remains an important partner for the purpose of building strategic cooperation, one with which the EU shares not only economic and trade interests, but also the objective of cooperating closely in the international arena as well as in their common neighbourhood;
 - (b) regrets the breakdown of the negotiations with the Russian Government on the lifting of Russia's ban on imports of Polish agricultural products and the subsequent failure to launch negotiations on a new PCA between the EU and Russia; regrets the almost complete lack of positive developments since the previous summit and urges the Russian Government urgently to reconsider those actions which they have taken and which have prevented further negotiations; encourages the Portuguese Presidency to continue its efforts to enable the negotiating mandate for a new agreement to be adopted as soon as possible and to start negotiations without further delay;
 - (c) reminds the Council and Commission that the EU negotiates as a single entity, on the basis of solidarity between all Member States, and reaffirms that the PCA may not be qualified by bilateral negotiations;
 - (d) is concerned by the concept of 'sovereign democracy' as it establishes de facto recognition of non-reciprocity;
 - (e) unequivocally calls for the acceptance of the principle of the rule of law, notably of international law, and the implementation of agreements already signed, for example

the Energy Charter Treaty;

- (f) welcomes the continuous exchange of views on human rights in Russia as part of the EU-Russia human rights consultations; emphasises, however, that the current situation in Russia is giving rise to serious concerns regarding respect for human rights, democracy, freedom of expression, xenophobia, inter-ethnic violence and the rights of civil society and individuals to challenge the authorities and hold them accountable for their actions;
 - (g) calls on the Russian authorities to guarantee a free and fair process for the Duma elections in December 2007 and the presidential elections in March 2008 in order to ensure that opposition parties have the opportunity to campaign; stresses that freedom of the media will be of key importance if the elections are to be seen as free and fair;
2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and of the Russian Federation and the Council of Europe.