

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

---

*Session document*

2.7.2008

B6-0340/2008

## **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 Pasqualina Napoletano, Hannes Swoboda and Alexandra Dobolyi

on behalf of the PSE Group

on the situation in China after the earthquake and before the Olympic Games

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in China after the earthquake and before the Olympic Games**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its resolution on the natural disaster in China of 22 May 2008,
  - having regard to its resolution on the situation in Tibet of 10 April 2008,
  - having regard to its resolution of 13 December 2007 on the EU-China Summit and the EU/China human rights dialogue,
  - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. having regard to the scale of the destruction wrought by the violent earthquake in South-west China on 12 May 2008; whereas this earthquake caused tens of thousands of deaths and injuries, in particular in Sichuan province,
- B. whereas the Chinese Government took exceptional emergency measures, deploying part of the army and medical teams to aid the inhabitants of the stricken region;
- C. having regard to the extraordinary mobilisation and solidarity of the entire Chinese people and of the international community in efforts to aid the victims of the disaster;
- D. whereas the holding of the Olympic Games in Beijing in August 2008 is a unique opportunity to demonstrate the changes which have taken place in China in the last two decades;
- E. whereas the holding of the Olympic Games in Beijing is an extraordinary opportunity for China and the Beijing authorities to open up to the world, and for the world to reciprocate, and for China to show that it is capable of fulfilling its pledges with regard to the promotion of and respect for human rights;
- F. whereas contacts and talks between the representatives of the Dalai Lama and the authorities in Beijing have resumed following the violent demonstrations that took place in March in Lhasa;
1. Reaffirms its commitment to the territorial integrity of China and to respect for the principle of the "one China policy";
  2. Views favourably the new climate of political understanding between the authorities in Beijing and the new leadership in Taiwan; welcomes the decision to establish direct air links between the island and the mainland;
  3. Welcomes the resumption of contacts, after the events of March 2008 in Lhasa, between the representatives of the Dalai Lama and the Chinese authorities; encourages the two

parties to intensify these contacts so as to establish the bases for mutual trust, without which it will be impossible to arrive at a mutually acceptable political solution;

4. Notes with satisfaction that China rapidly agreed to accept the assistance of the international community to help the victims of the earthquake in the Sichuan region and to facilitate the operation of voluntary humanitarian aid organisations in distributing aid;
5. Stresses the scale of the effort by the European Union, the Member States and the international community to aid in the reconstruction phase for the affected region;
6. Calls on China to abide by the public commitments which it made with regard to human rights and minority rights, democracy and the rule of law and which the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced when it decided to allow China to organise the Olympic Games;
7. Considers that the people of China deserve to hold these Olympic Games and believes that holding them in Beijing represents an extraordinary opportunity for China and the Chinese authorities to show the world the major changes which have been achieved and at the same time to show their commitment to keeping their promises with regard to human rights; draws attention to the conclusions of the 17th Party Congress, which could open the way for political reform to promote democracy and respect for human rights;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee.