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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 André Brie and Jiří Maštálka

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the situation in Moldova after the elections of 5 April 2009

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Moldova after the elections of 5 April 2009**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions of the International Election Observation Mission of the OSCE for the Parliamentary Elections of 5 April 2009 in Moldova,
  - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the International Election Observation Mission of the OSCE concluded that the '5 April 2009 parliamentary elections took place in an overall pluralistic environment, offering voters distinct political alternatives and meeting many of the OSCE and Council of Europe commitments'; whereas the Mission also noted 'that further efforts need to be made, including at the legislative level, to ensure an electoral process free from undue administrative interference, to guarantee full respect for freedom of expression and access to information as well as to increase public confidence in the process',
- B. whereas after strong protests a re-count of the votes cast on 5 April was conducted,
- C. whereas after the parliamentary elections thousands of protesters stormed the presidential administration building and parliament; whereas government offices were ransacked, with papers and computers thrown from windows as protesters overran the buildings; whereas the protesters waved flags of neighbouring Romania as well as blue and yellow EU flags,
- D. whereas one man died during the clashes between the protesters and the police and around 200 people were arrested; whereas there are reports of excessive use of force by police, torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment in detention; whereas the authorities were not releasing adequate information on who was still held and where; whereas foreign journalists have been turned away at the borders and access to several opposition websites has been barred,
- E. whereas Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin has asked the EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, Javier Solana, to send a delegation to Moldova to investigate the mass protest rallies that took place in Chisinau on 7 April and the subsequent ransacking of the presidential administration and parliament buildings; whereas a delegation from the European Parliament has visited Moldova,
1. Welcomes the fact that the elections for the fifth Parliament of the Republic of Moldova were conducted in a peaceful and orderly manner and in an overall pluralistic environment and accorded with the OSCE and Council of Europe commitments;
  2. Welcomes the decision of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova to allow the verification of voters' lists; notes that Moldova's Constitutional Court approved the results of the parliamentary election recount, confirming the victory of the

Communist Party with an unchanged majority of 49.48%; considers that this was an important step to consolidate confidence;

3. Calls on all parties in Moldova to accept the democratic will of the Moldovan population;
4. Underlines that the current conflict situation can only be settled by dialogue and constitutional procedures and calls on all parties to continue to avoid the use of force or inflammatory rhetoric;
5. Calls on Romania and other neighbouring countries of Moldova to exercise restraint, to respect Moldova's sovereignty and not to interfere in the internal affairs of Moldova; calls for the normalisation of relations between Romania and Moldova;
6. Condemns those responsible for the riot which escalated in Chisinau on the days after the elections; calls for a thorough investigation of events; calls on the Moldovan authorities to ensure that anyone reasonably identified as responsible is brought to justice in fair proceedings;
7. Calls on the Moldovan authorities to ensure that all allegations of use of excessive force by the police and of torture and other ill-treatment are promptly and thoroughly investigated; calls on the Moldovan authorities to bring those responsible to justice and to ensure that anyone found to have fallen victim to such rights violations receives fair and adequate compensation and full rehabilitation;
8. Calls on the Moldovan authorities to guarantee full respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights, including the rights of peaceful assembly, access to information and freedom of expression;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the Member States, the Government and Parliament of Moldova, the Government and Parliament of Russia and the OSCE.