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## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation in Burma/Myanmar

**Charles Tannock, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Adam Bielan, Julie Girling,  
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on behalf of the ECR Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Burma/Myanmar**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
  - having regard to its previous resolutions on Burma/Myanmar,
  - having regard to the Council conclusions on Burma/Myanmar of 26 April 2010,
  - having regard to the statement made by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the rejection of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's appeal by the Supreme Court of Burma/Myanmar of 1 March 2010,
  - having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Burma/Myanmar is set to hold its first parliamentary elections since 1990 in late 2010,
- B. whereas the 2010 Burmese elections are based on the undemocratic clauses of the 2008 Constitution that allocates 25% of the seats in the Parliament to the military,
- C. whereas the electoral laws promulgated by the ruling State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) in early March 2010 are in clear violation of human rights principles and attack the freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association,
- D. whereas the new electoral laws effectively prevent Nobel Peace Prize winner and leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other political dissidents from joining political parties and by extension from participating in the upcoming elections,
- E. whereas the NLD will face dissolution as a legal entity if it continues with its current plan to boycott the election,
- F. whereas on 17 March 2010 the Burmese military government announced that political parties wishing to publish reports or programmes must obtain approval from the censorship office within 90 days of their registration with the Electoral Commission,
- G. whereas articles about the elections in several privately owned publications have been and will continue to be censored, including interviews with candidates such as Shwe Ohn of the Union Democracy Alliance,

- H. whereas prior censorship, intimidation, imprisonment and expulsion of foreign reporters, such as the expulsion of CNN Southeast Asia correspondent Dan Rivers, by the Burmese authorities, are in clear violation of the democratic principles of free elections,
  - I. whereas Burmese internet service providers have obtained censorship and surveillance equipment from the Chinese subsidiary of the Franco-American company Alcatel-Lucent,
  - J. whereas Burmese news media based abroad, which constitute the main source of news for the Burmese people, are still banned from operating within Burma/Myanmar,
  - K. whereas an estimate of more than 2,200 political prisoners and at least 12 journalists remain in prison,
  - L. whereas members of religious orders, including an estimated 400,000 Buddhist monks in Burma/Myanmar, are explicitly barred from voting, signalling the perpetual discrimination by the military junta based on religion or status,
  - M. whereas Burma/Myanmar opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has lodged a new appeal with the Supreme Court against her house arrest in a last-chance attempt to win freedom after being in detention for 14 of the last 20 years and being sentenced to an additional 18 months under house arrest in August 2009,
  - N. whereas victims of Cyclone Nargis, which killed an estimated 138,000 people and affected 2.4 million people, are yet to receive vital assistance that would enable them to rebuild their lives since the cyclone ripped through the country over a year ago; whereas Burma's/Myanmar's military rulers continue to hamper the recovery effort by threatening and limiting access to independent relief workers, confiscating land, misappropriating reconstruction materials, and restricting communication and information,
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- 1. Strongly condemns the ongoing, systematic violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and basic democratic rights of the people of Burma/Myanmar;
  - 2. Condemns the restrictions on freedom of assembly, association, movement and expression in Burma/Myanmar and urges the authorities of Burma/Myanmar to lift these restrictions, including those imposed on the free and independent media;
  - 3. Deplores the new election laws as published in early March, as they do not provide for free and fair elections;
  - 4. Calls for the immediate and unconditional discharge of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the release of political prisoners and detainees;
  - 5. Calls on the authorities of Burma/Myanmar to take steps necessary to make the planned elections later this year a credible, transparent and inclusive process;

6. Condemns the ongoing repression and intimidation of Buddhist monks, including stripping them of their right to vote, and calls on the Burmese government to repeal discriminatory electoral laws targeted at religious minorities in the country;
7. Urges the Chinese subsidiary of the Franco-American company Alcatel-Lucent and Chinese authorities to cease aid to the Burmese junta government;
8. Calls on the Burmese authorities to cease all actions that hamper the reconstruction caused by the Cyclone Nagis, to facilitate community aid and allow access to independent relief workers;
9. Calls on the international community, including China and ASEAN countries, to use their economic and political leverage with the authorities of Burma/Myanmar in order to bring about substantial improvements in the country,
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the EU Special Envoy for Burma/Myanmar, the Burmese State Peace and Development Council, the governments of the SEAN and ASEM member states, the government of China, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the National League for Democracy, the UN Secretary-General and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.