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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 110(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on implemented reforms and developments in the Republic of Moldova

Jiří Maštálka

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

B7-0579/2010/rev.

European Parliament resolution on implemented reforms and developments in the Republic of Moldova

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Moldova,
 - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement which entered into force in 1998 for unlimited duration,
 - having regard to the EU Moldova Action Plan which was signed in February 2005,
 - having regard to the negotiations on an Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova,
 - having regard to the Mobility Partnership between the European Union and Moldova signed on 5 June 2008 in Luxembourg,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Republic of Moldova faces an 18-month lasting political crisis triggered by the failure of the Parliament to elect a new head of state,
- B. whereas the governing coalition initiated a constitutional referendum to allow for a direct election of the president by popular vote; whereas this constitutional referendum failed as the voter turnout fell below the legal requirement to validate a referendum,
- C. whereas the early parliamentary elections foreseen for the 28 November 2010 represents a strong possibility of ending the serious crisis of legitimacy which has characterised the last 18 month under the condition that a comprehensive and non-exclusive political dialogue will be established between the parties and political forces,
- D. whereas the legal framework for the conduct of elections had undergone a number of revisions since the last parliamentary elections, many of which address previous recommendations by the OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe; whereas the Republic of Moldova invited the OSCE to observe the forthcoming elections,
- E. whereas a Commission for study and appreciation of the totalitarian communist regime in Moldova recommended the prohibition by law to use the term 'communist' in party name and to use in public communist symbols, the hammer and sickle; whereas in pre-election times this is a manoeuvre to discredit the Communist Party of Moldova, a party almost half of all voters have been voting for over 12 years,
- F. whereas the per capita GDP of the Republic of Moldova is the lowest in Europe; whereas almost 30% of Moldovans live under the poverty line; whereas the economy of the

Republic of Moldova has been severely affected by the international financial crisis; whereas economic stabilisation and recovery in the Republic of Moldova are supported by conditioned macro-financial assistance of the EU and IMF,

- G. whereas according to unofficial estimates from a population of roughly 4.5 million between 600 000 and 1 million Moldovans are working abroad, with the biggest part being employed in low-paid and low-skilled jobs; whereas for this reason further visa facilitation and liberalisation is of particular importance for Moldovan citizens,
- H. whereas recently new impetus to the solution of the Transnistrian problem was given by national and international actors; whereas there is an encouraging confidence-building process on the way, including projects to refurbish, upgrade and develop the infrastructure; whereas Russia, Ukraine and the EU started a fresh effort to solve this frozen conflict,
1. Urges the Moldovan Government to ensure that the forthcoming parliamentary elections are held in full compliance with international standards, and reminds that the pre-election campaign must provide equal opportunities to all political forces, including the Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova;
 2. 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 on Romania to ratify the border agreement with Moldova;
 3. Underlines that whatever the outcome of the elections will be the only way to overcome the dividing lines which caused the political crisis in the Republic of Moldova is dialogue; stresses that this dialogue can only be successful if it does not exclude any political party and refrains from intimidation and isolation of any democratic political force;
 4. Calls on the EU to continue its efforts to help resume and foster constructive negotiations in the exclusively legitimate format 5+2, that would allow to reach a fair, viable and sustainable solution to the conflict through the elaboration and adoption of a special legal status for the Transnistrian region, in full respect for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova; calls for the resumption of these negotiations without any preconditions or delay;
 5. Takes the view that the EU can contribute to the solution of the Transnistrian problem by fostering confidence building, in particular by supporting the implementation of joint projects addressing common needs of the population working with local communities and civil society and by giving assistance to alleviate the economic crisis on both sides of the Nistru river;
 6. Calls on the EU to play a key role together with the Russian Federation in efforts to support peace and security in Moldova, in particular through participating at the transformation of the existing peace-keeping operation into a civilian observer mission;
 7. Welcomes the encouraging progress in the negotiations on the Association Agreement with Moldova; calls on both sides to give priority to the needs of the people of Moldova, in particular with a view to overcome the social consequences of the difficult economic

situation and to further facilitate the visa regime with the aim to arriving as soon as possible at visa liberalisation: takes the view that free trade is not the appropriate way to help Moldova to overcome economic problems;

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Member States, the Government and Parliament of Moldova, the Government and Parliament of Russia and the OSCE.