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## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

to wind up the debate on statements by the Council and the Commission

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

on Western Sahara

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## European Parliament resolution on Western Sahara

## The European Parliament,

- having regard to the resolutions of the UN Security Council on Western Sahara, in particular resolutions 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005 and 1495 (2003), endorsed by the UN General Assembly on 11 October 2005, and resolution 1871 (2009),
- having regard to the latest UN Security Council resolution 1920 (2010) that extended the existing mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO),
- having regard to the Secretary-General's latest report to the Security Council on Western Sahara (14 April 2008),
- having regard the conclusions of the report of the EP ad hoc Delegation on March 2009, in particular the recommendations relating to the compliance and monitoring of human rights in Western Sahara,
- having regard to its resolutions on Western Sahara and in particular its resolution on 27 October 2005,
- having regard to the EU Declaration regarding the 8th Association Council EU-Morocco meeting which took place on 7 December 2009 and the Joint Statement of the first EU-Morocco Summit which took place on 7 March 2010,
- having regard to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and the Member States on the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco on the other part, especially its Article 2,
- having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of the United Nations, signed by the Kingdom of Morocco,
- having regard to the Declaration of the UN General Assembly of 9th December 1998 on the right of individuals, groups and institutions to promote and protect universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- having regard the Statement by the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, on Western Sahara on 10 November 2010,
- having regard to Rule 110 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas over 12 000 Sahrawians left their cities and set up tents in the outskirt of El Aaiun, setting up the Gdaim Izyk camp in protest of the their socio-economic situation and living conditions,

- B. whereas on Sunday, 24th October Nayem El-Garhi, a Sahrawi teenager, aged 14, was killed and five others were injured by Moroccan military forces while they were trying to reach the camp in the outskirts of El Aaiun,
- C. whereas on Monday 8th November Moroccan security forces violently entered their way into the Gdaim Izyk camp, employing disproportionate force,
- D. whereas the Moroccan authorities said that the operation was necessary to free camp residents who were being held there against their will and that the security forces encountered serious resistance, and whereas fighting between police and protestors spread to the streets of El Aaiun,
- E. whereas there are reports of numerous casualties, injuries and disappearances,
- F. whereas the future of Western Sahara is being discussed between the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front in New York under UN auspices,
- G. whereas the EU fully supports the efforts by the Secretary General of the United Nations and his Personal Envoy in order to find a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution which will allow the self-determination of the people of the Western Sahara as laid out it the resolutions of the United Nations,
- H. whereas on September 21 dissident Mostapha Sidi Mouloud was arrested by Polisario Front after voicing support for Morocco's autonomy initiative and since then his fate remains unknown,
- I. whereas the situation in the camps in the Western Sahara and in Tindouf may develop into a real humanitarian tragedy with unpredictable consequences, and that those incidents once again highlight the urgent need to include a human rights monitoring component in the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO),
- 1. Condemns the serious attacks and disproportionate use of force by the Moroccan authorities that took place in the Gdaim Izyk camp and the city of El Aaiun which led to many civilian casualties;
- 2. Expresses its solidarity with the family of the young Sahrawi Nayem El-Garhi and calls on the Moroccan authorities and the MINURSO to conduct an investigation in order to clarify the circumstances of his killing;
- 3. Deeply regrets and is very concerned about the dead, injured and missing people that resulted after the violent attacks and expresses its solidarity with the families of the victims;
- 4. Urges the Commission and Council to freeze the Association Agreement between the EU and the Kingdom of Morocco; calls on the Commission and the Council to make every progress in the implementation of the Advanced Status conditional on the

fulfilment by the Kingdom of Morocco of its international obligations regarding Western Sahara, with particular reference to the holding of a referendum on selfdetermination in Western Sahara;

- 5. Calls for an international independent investigation under the auspices of the UN into recent events in the Gdaim Izyk camp and the city of El Aaiun;
- 6. Welcomes the resumption of informal meetings between Morocco and the Polisario Front under the auspices of the United Nations' Secretary General's Personal Envoy;
- 7. Calls on the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front to refrain from acts of violence and thus greatly contribute to the easing of tensions in order to achieve a solution to the conflict will allow the self-determination of the people of the Western Sahara in compliance with the relevant UN resolutions;
- 8. Calls upon the European Commission and the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to follow-up the situation of human rights in Western Sahara and to regularly send information missions to the area, in virtue of Article 2 of the Association Agreement EU-Morocco;
- 9. Is concerned about the fate of Mostapha Sidi Mouloud and calls on the Polisario Front to disclose his whereabouts, to provide him prompt contact with his family and a lawyer, and to bring him promptly before an independent judicial body to determine whether there is a legal basis for his detention;
- 10. Calls for a European Parliament delegation to be sent to Western Sahara and the camps in Tindouf in order to observe *in situ* the situation of human rights;
- 11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the UN Secretary General, the Secretary-General of the African Union, the EP Delegation for the Relations with the Maghreb Countries, as well as the Bureau of the Euro Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliament and Government of Spain, Algeria and Morocco, and the Polisario Front.