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B7-0125/2011

## 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 Egypt

**Fiorello Provera, Niki Tzavela, Juozas Imbrasas, Rolandas Paksas, Nikolaos Salavrakos, Mario Borghezio, Jaroslav Paška**  
on behalf of the EFD Group

**B7-0125/2011**

**European Parliament resolution on Egypt**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Euro-Mediterranean partnership,
  - having regard to its resolutions on the situation of Christian communities,
  - having regard to the Barcelona Declaration of November 1995,
  - having regard to the recent statements of the European Council and of the HR/VP on the situation in Egypt,
  - having regard to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of 1984,
  - having regard to the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders,
  - having regard to the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as ratified by Egypt in 1982,
  - having regard to the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women,
  - having regard to Rule 110 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas following the ousting of Tunisia's president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on January 14, thousands of Egyptians took to the country's streets on January 25 to protest the regime of Hosni Mubarak and the ruling National Democratic Party,
- B. whereas at least 300 people have been killed and many more injured in street clashes resulting from confrontations between the police and pro and anti-Mubarak demonstrators,
- C. whereas Egypt's military continue to guard government buildings, embassies and other institutions in the capital Cairo, whereas since the 25 January thousands of protesters have congregated around Tahrir Square in central Cairo,
- D. whereas President Mubarak has agreed to step down from power in September 2011 and his son Gamal will not run for office in the next elections,
- E. whereas Egypt's newly appointed vice-president Omar Suleiman has sought to engage in dialogue with a number of opposition groups including the Muslim Brotherhood, which is considered a fundamentalist organization,
- F. whereas on 5 February Unknown attackers have blown up a pipeline that runs through El-Arish area of Egypt's north Sinai area and supplies gas to Jordan and Israel,

- G. whereas last year the number of immigrants in Turkey rose from 500.000 to 2.500.000, due to visa-free access into Turkey from Lebanon, Egypt, and Jordan,
- H. whereas due to the recent turmoil in the Arab world, specifically in Egypt and Tunisia, the number of immigrants entering Turkey will increase, whereas those immigrants are likely to leave Turkey and seek illegal entrance into the European Union, through the Greek borders,
1. Expresses its serious concern at the deteriorating situation in Egypt and condemns in the strongest terms the violence and all those who use and encourage hostility;
  2. Remains extremely worried by the prospect of the radicalisation of Egypt's political landscape and its consequences on the living conditions of women and of Christian and other vulnerable minorities;
  3. Calls on the Egyptian authorities to meet the aspirations of the Egyptian people with political reforms; invites all parties involved to show restraint, avoid further violence and begin an orderly transition to a broad based government;
  4. Supports the view of the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy that democracy entails more than simply being able to vote and to hold elections, that European history illustrates the need to build a democracy of substance, rather than a mere façade, and that the prerequisites for this are observance of the rule of law, freedom of expression, an independent judicial system and impartial administration;
  5. Considers that the transition process should be carried out without delay and in compliance with Egypt's obligations under international law and Egypt's international commitments, namely the peace agreement with the State of Israel; underlines that the EU's relationship with Egypt must be based now and in the future on the Association Agreement; points out that any breach by Egypt of its international commitments will have implications on its relations with the European Union;
  6. Emphasises the right of all citizens to demonstrate freely and peacefully, under due protection from law enforcement authorities and condemns any attempt to restrict the free flow of information, including aggression and intimidation directed against journalists and human rights defenders; emphasises that the citizens' democratic aspirations should be addressed through dialogue and political reform with full respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms, and through free and fair elections; calls on all parties to engage in a meaningful dialogue to that end;
  7. Supports the European Council's view that the European Union should lend its full support to the transition processes towards democratic governance, pluralism, improved opportunities for economic prosperity and social inclusion;
  8. Considers strengthening regional stability in the Mediterranean is crucial to preventing migration flows into Europe and calls on the High Representative to develop a package of measures aimed at lending European Union support to the transition and transformation processes (strengthening democratic institutions, promoting democratic governance and

social justice, and assisting the preparation and conduct of free and fair elections) and to link the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean towards these objectives;

9. Calls on Turkey to stop insisting on the issue of visa-free access to the EU, in the context of its negotiations for accession; urges the maintenance of the visa requirement for Turkish citizens;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the government and parliament of Egypt, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Mediterranean third countries which are parties to the Union for the Mediterranean, to the President of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly and to the Council and Commission.