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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 the situation in Libya

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European Parliament resolution on the situation in Libya

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the UN Security Council resolution 1970 (2011) of 26 February 2011,
 - having regard to the Council decision of 28 February implementing the UNSC resolution and imposing additional restrictive measures against those responsible for the violent crackdown on the civilian population,
 - having regard to the suspension on 22 February of the negotiations on EU-Libya Framework Agreement,
 - having regard to the recent statements by HR/VP Catherine Ashton on Libya (20 February, 23 February, 26 February, 27 February),
 - having regard to the speech of Štefan Füle European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy on the recent events in North Africa in the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament Brussels on 28 February 2011¹,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas recent demonstrations in several Arab countries in Northern Africa and the Middle East have called for an end to authoritarian regimes and for political, economic and social reforms, freedom, democracy and better living conditions for the citizens,
- B. whereas from 15 February, the initially peaceful protests against the Libyan regime have come under attacks of unprecedented violence; whereas Colonel Gaddafi has used the Libyan armed forces and militias to violently crush the protests, including by indiscriminately using machine guns, snipers and military warplanes against civilians; whereas this has resulted in a steeply increasing death toll and a large number of people injured and arrested,
- C. whereas after days of bloody clashes between protesters and government forces, demonstrators have now taken control of several important towns, including the city of Benghazi; whereas after liberating the Eastern part of the country, the uprising against leader Muammar Gaddafi is closing in on the capital Tripoli where fighting is ongoing,
- D. whereas the forces opposing the Gaddafi regime have taken control of most Libyan oil and gas fields, and whereas energy sanctions against Libya would therefore defeat their purpose,
- E. whereas according to UNHCR, more than 140,000 people have fled to neighbouring countries (particularly Egypt and Tunisia) in recent days and several thousand are stuck at

¹ <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/11/130&language=en>

the borders and in urgent need of help; whereas this generates a situation of humanitarian emergency that implies the need for a quick EU reaction,

- F. whereas according to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 1970(2011) the systematic and generalized attacks against the civilians committed in Libya might amount to crimes against humanity,
- G. whereas by its Resolution 1970(2011) of 26 February, the UNSC acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, has imposed an arms embargo and has adopted sanctions against Muammar Gaddafi and the persons responsible for the repression, while referring the situation to the International Criminal Court,
- H. whereas as from 22nd February, the EU has suspended ongoing negotiations of the EU-Libya Framework Agreement and all cooperation contracts with Libya; whereas on 28 February the EU Council has adopted additional restrictive measures on Libya,
- I. whereas freedom of expression and the right to assemble peacefully are inalienable human rights that must be respected and protected,
- J. whereas, as the uprising continues, the humanitarian situation in Libya is degrading with medical supplies, along with fuel and food, running short; whereas according to the United Nations refugees Agency more than 140.000 people have fled Libya to neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt,
- K. whereas the massive and unstoppable flow of displaced persons has led to dramatic situations also on the health field and humanitarian interventions deployed by some Member States are an effective response to the needs of the affected population,
- L. whereas the EU has a vital interest in a democratic, stable, prosperous, peaceful North Africa,
- M. Whereas the massive protests in numerous Arab countries have shown that undemocratic and authoritarian regimes cannot guarantee credible stability and that democratic values cannot be separated from economic and political partnerships,
 - 1. Expresses its solidarity with the Libyan people, and notably with the Libyan youth who have been a driving force for democracy and for regime change, and its support for their legitimate democratic, economic and social aspirations; Condemns in the strongest terms the blatant and systematic violations of human rights in Libya, and in particular the violent repression of peaceful pro-democracy protesters, journalists and human rights defenders by the Gaddafi regime;
 - 2. Strongly condemns the deliberate and disproportionate use of force and deeply regrets the resulting considerable loss of life and the high number of injuries; Expresses its condolences to the families of the victims;
 - 3. Calls therefore for an immediate end to the brutal dictatorial regime of Colonel Gaddafi and calls on him to immediately stand down in order to prevent further bloodshed and to allow for a peaceful political transition to take place; Calls on the Libyan authorities to

immediately stop the violence and allow for a peaceful resolution of the situation that would meet the legitimate expectations of the Libyan people; Calls on the Libyan authorities to respect human rights and international humanitarian law, lift all restrictions on the freedom of expression, including through the internet, and grant immediate access to independent human rights observers and foreign media;

4. Calls on the EU and the international community to take every possible measure in order to completely isolate Gaddafi and his regime both nationally and internationally;
5. Calls for an independent international inquiry committee into the incidents leading to death, injuries and imprisonments during the events that have occurred in Libya since February 15; Underlines that the perpetrators of the attacks against civilians incur individual criminal responsibility under international law, that they must be brought to justice and that there can be no impunity; welcomes, in this respect, the referral of the situation in Libya to the International Criminal Court by the UNSC and calls on the Member States to cooperate with the Court and its Prosecutor so that justice can be done swiftly;
6. Welcomes the UN General Assembly resolution of 1 March 2011 suspending the membership rights of Libya in the UN Human Rights Council as a paradox from the beginning and systematic human rights violations committed in Libya;
7. Takes the view that the gravity of the situation in Libya requires determined and concerted action from the international community; Welcomes therefore the adoption of Resolution 1970(2011) by the UNSC imposing an arms embargo, assets freeze, and a visa ban on Muammar Gaddafi and other persons involved in violently repressing the protests; Notes that the EU has been the first to implement the sanctions decided by the UNSC and that the EU measures go beyond, imposing autonomous sanctions; welcomes therefore the Council decision to prohibit trade with Libya on equipment that might be used for internal repression, as well as the extension of the list of persons concerned by assets freeze and visa ban;
8. Expresses deep concern that the deteriorating situation in Libya could unleash an unprecedented displacement of people fleeing both towards the Tunisian and Egyptian borders as well as towards Europe;
9. Calls on the European Commission and on the Frontex agency to ensure that all the necessary measures, including adequate financial, human and technical resources, are in place to ensure that the EU could respond adequately in the event of any mass migratory movement in accordance with Article 80 of the TFEU;
10. Calls for a constant evaluation of the effectiveness of sanctions; welcomes in that context discussions on further EU sanctions to also include assets freeze of Libyan companies with ties to the Gaddafi regime;
11. Calls on the HR/VP and the Member States to continue to closely monitor the situation and to make preparations in order to stand ready to adopt, in close cooperation with the UN, tougher measures, including no-fly zones and possibly other military measures, to prevent further bloodshed and isolate the Gaddafi regime;

12. Is deeply concerned by the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Libya as well as for refugees in and around its borders; stresses that thousands of people are stuck on the Libyan and Egyptian side of the border with Tunisia and are denied the right to cross, consequently generating a situation of humanitarian emergency; calls on the present and coming Libyan authorities to grant access to humanitarian organizations and guarantee the safety of the humanitarian personnel; stresses that the EU must urgently assess the humanitarian needs in Libya and the neighbouring countries and quickly deploy all the necessary financial and human assistance; Welcomes measures taken and funds deployed so far by Commissioner Georgieva and ECHO as well as the humanitarian assistance provided by some Member States to meet this challenge;
13. Welcomes the convening of an extraordinary European Council on the developments in Libya and in the Southern Neighbourhood on March 11; calls on the HR/VP and the Members States to devise a comprehensive and coherent strategy for the humanitarian and political response to the situation in this country;
14. Calls on the EU to take a leading role also in the long term political, economic and social development of Libya; calls in this context on priority to be given to assistance to institution-building and to reforms promoting human rights, rule of law, good governance and a pluralistic, democratic and peaceful Libya; asks the High Representative/Vice-President of the European Commission to make full use of all relevant EU external financial instruments;
15. Calls in this context on the EU to maintain a permanent dialogue with the Libyan opposition;
16. Takes the view that the revolutionary changes in North Africa and Middle East have made it clear that the EU's positive impact and long-term credibility in that region will depend on its ability to conduct a cohesive common foreign policy that is value-based and will clearly side with the new democratic forces; reiterates its demand for the EU to revise its democracy and human rights support policy so as to create an implementation mechanism for the human rights clause in all agreements with third countries;
17. Reiterates its request to be closely associated to the work of the Task force established to coordinate EU response to the crisis in Libya and elsewhere in the Mediterranean region;
18. Stresses once more that events in Libya, and in other countries in the region, highlight the urgent need to develop more ambitious and efficient policies and instruments to encourage and support political, economic and social reforms in the EU's southern neighbours; stresses that the ongoing Strategic Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy must reflect current developments in the region and must come up with new improved ways to meet the needs and aspirations of the peoples; insists that the review of the neighbourhood policy must prioritise criteria relating to the independence of the judiciary, respect for fundamental freedoms, pluralism and freedom of the press and the fight against corruption; calls for better coordination with the Union's other policies vis-à-vis those countries;
19. Shares the view that the Union for the Mediterranean has to adapt to the new era and circumstances and has to reflect and act on recent events in order to put forward proposals

on how to best promote democracy and human rights in its Member States and in the region, including Libya, and on possible reforms in order to make its own role stronger, coherent and more efficient;

20. Considers that the fight against corruption and the strengthening of the rule of law in third countries are fundamental criteria to meet people's expectations as well as to attract external investment;
21. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the High Representative, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean and the Libyan authorities and opposition.