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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 case of Ai Wei Wei

**Rui Tavares, Søren Bo Søndergaard**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

**European Parliament resolution on the case of Ai Wei Wei**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on China and, in particular, to the one on minority rights and the application of the death penalty and the one of 21 January 2010 on human rights violations in China, notably the case of Liu Xiaobo,
- having regard to its resolution of 6 September 2007 on the functioning of the human rights dialogues and consultations on human rights with third countries,
- having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas, Ai Weiwei, one of the world's most famous artists, was detained at Beijing airport on 3 April 2011 on his way to Taiwan for an art exhibition and is, since then, out of reach;

B. whereas, after the airport incident, between 15 and 20 police officers surrounded his studio in Caochangdi, cut off power supply in the neighbourhood, grabbed the phone of a Guardian journalist who took a photograph of the scene and deleted the image and took away Ai Weiwei's colleagues for questioning;

C. whereas Ai Weiwei is one of most prominent signatories of Charter 2008, a petition that urges China to press ahead with political reform and the protection of human rights, that was signed by more than 10,000 Chinese citizens;

D. whereas Ai Weiwei's detention comes at the time of a wider crackdown on activists and dissidents, which human rights campaigners describe as the worst in over a decade, with Chinese authorities stepping up intimidation and harassment and increasing the surveillance of human rights activists, intellectuals, lawyers and artists and imposing tight restrictions on foreign reporters in the country;

E. whereas at least 23 people have been detained, mostly in relation to incitement to subversion or creating a disturbance and three more have been formally arrested and more than a dozen are missing, including high profile human rights lawyers;

F. whereas on 25 March 2011 Liu Xianbin, another signatory of Charter 2008, was sentenced to a 10 year prison term for "incitation to subversion of the State;

G. whereas on 19 February 2011 Teng Biao, Jiang Tianyong and Tang Jitian, three human rights lawyers, have disappeared;

H. whereas Sakharov prize laureate Hu Jia is still detained in poor health conditions;

I. whereas the EU-China human rights dialogue established in 2000 has achieved negligible results so far, and whereas this lack of results is also the consequence of an uncoordinated and ineffective EU common foreign policy on China;

1. Expresses its support to those who have openly voiced their criticism vis-a-vis human rights violations in China and the lack of respect for basic freedoms;
2. Calls for Ai Weiwei's immediate and unconditional release and expresses its solidarity with his peaceful actions and initiatives in favour of democratic reforms and the protection of human rights;
3. Expresses its deep concern at the health conditions of Hu Jia and calls, therefore, for his immediate release on medical grounds; insists that after his release Hu Jia can have access to full medical care and that him and his family are not placed under house arrest;
4. Calls on the Chinese authorities to respect the commitments made before the Human Rights Council and to conform to the provisions of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1998;
5. Urges the Chinese authorities to ensure in all circumstances respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with human rights standards and international instruments and calls for the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
6. Notes that China's human rights record remains a matter of serious concern; emphasises the need to make a comprehensive assessment of the EU-China human rights dialogue;
7. Calls on the HR/VP for Foreign and Security Policy Catherine Ashton to take all the necessary steps for the swift organization of the next human rights dialogue where to raise the case of Ai Weiwei as well as all the other cases of human rights violations mentioned in the EP resolutions; urges the HR/VP to make every effort in order to make the EU-China human rights dialogue more effective and result-oriented; insists in this regard on the necessity to increase the transparency and accountability of the dialogue and seminar process by producing regular assessments based upon clear benchmarks and making these assessments public; demands that the question of the participation of academics and experts in the EU delegation for EU-China seminars on human rights be seriously examined;
8. Takes the view that the development of EU-China relations must go hand in hand with the development of a genuine, fruitful and effective political dialogue and that the respect for human rights should be an integral part of the new framework agreement which is now being negotiated with China;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the High Representative of the Union for Foreign and Security Policy, the President of the Council of the European Union, the Commission and the President, Prime Minister and People's National Assembly of the People's Republic of China.