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*Plenary sitting*

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6.6.2011

B7-0359/2011

## **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 the EU-Russia summit (9-10 June 2011)

**Charles Tannock, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Tomasz Piotr Poręba, Marek Henryk Migalski, Paweł Robert Kowal, Konrad Szymański, Ryszard Czarnecki, Zbigniew Ziobro**  
on behalf of the ECR Group

**B7-0359/2011**

**European Parliament resolution on the EU-Russia summit (9-10 June 2011)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the existing Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between the European Communities and their Member States, on the one part, and the Russian Federation, on the other part, and the negotiations initiated in 2008 on a new EU-Russia agreement,
  - having regard to its previous reports and resolutions on Russia and on EU-Russia relations,
  - having regard to the EU-Russia human rights consultations and its latest meeting on 4th May 2011,
  - having regard to the agreements signed and the joint statements issued at the EU-Russia Summit held in Rostov-on-Don from 31 May to 1 June 2010,
  - having regard to the upcoming EU-Russia summit in Nischni-Novgorod 9/10 June 2011,
  - having regard to the statement by HR/VP Catherine Ashton on the Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev case from 24 May 2011,
  - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Constitution of the Russian Federation guarantees its citizens full rights and liberties; whereas Russia is member of the Council of Europe and Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and signatory to numerous international treaties, including the European Convention of Human Rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,
- B. whereas the EU and Russia cooperate on numerous bilateral and global challenges, based on joint commitments and shared interests,
- C. whereas the negotiations on a new bilateral treaty between EU and Russia have continued, with the stated goal of reaching a comprehensive and legally binding new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement,
- D. whereas the institutional framework of cooperation is also based on four Common Spaces, Partnership for Modernisation (PfM), as well as twice-yearly human rights consultations,
- E. whereas Siberian overflight duties charged by the Russian Federation still remain an issue, despite an agreement to phase them out signed in November 2006,
- F. whereas it is important for the EU to speak with one voice, show solidarity and display

unity in its relations with the Russian Federation,

- G. whereas corruption continues to be a major problem in Russia, which was ranked 154 out of 178 in the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions index for 2010; whereas according to chief military prosecutor Sergei Fridinsky one out of every five rubles allocated for the military is embezzled,
- H. whereas, in one of several upcoming judgments in response to appeals lodged by Mikhail Khodorkovsky at the European Court of Human Rights, on 31 May 2011 the Court held that the arrest and detention of Khodorkovsky had breached the European Convention on Human Rights on numerous counts,
- I. whereas Russia still failed to comply fully with the cease-fire agreements with Georgia of 12 August and 8 September 2008; whereas talks between Russia and Georgia are being held in the framework of Geneva Discussions, which are currently the only format for communicating between the two states,
1. Calls on the EU and Russia to intensify negotiations on a new comprehensive and legally binding Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, which must include a binding section on human rights and democracy;
  2. Notes little progress in implementing the provisions of the Partnership for Modernisation and the joint rolling work plan adopted in December 2010; in this regard welcomes the project of creating a network of appellate courts in Russia, but calls on both sides to strengthen cooperation, especially in the areas of rule of law, protection of citizens' rights and ensuring a level playing field for companies;
  3. Calls on the HR/VP and the Commission to ensure that the discussion on human rights issues is not confined only to the bi-annual Human Rights Consultations but is addressed also on other meetings at all levels;
  4. Calls on the Russian government to make sure that during the consultations it is represented not only by diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but also officials from other relevant institutions, including the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Internal Affairs; reiterates its call to include human rights defenders and other representatives of civil society in Russia in the consultations and welcomes, in this regard, the practice of the Commission to consult such organisations before meeting with the Russian side;
  5. Calls on the Russian authorities to make real progress in remedying and preventing Russia's widespread breaches of the European Convention on Human Rights, including not only the breaches for which the European Court of Human Rights has ruled against Russia, but also the systemic and ongoing breaches that led President Dmitry Medvedev to call for action against the country's 'legal nihilism';
  6. Regrets that on 24 May 2011 the Moscow City Court upheld the 27 December 2010 conviction of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev in the second criminal case against them; welcomes the 24 May 2011 declaration by Amnesty International that Khodorkovsky and Lebedev are henceforth considered to be Prisoners of Conscience; takes note of the 'Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act 2011', the bill

introduced in the US Congress to impose sanctions on certain Russian officials responsible for grave human rights violations, including those responsible for human rights violations in the cases of Sergei Magnitsky and Mikhail Khodorkovsky, and applying travel ban and asset freeze on those who violate internationally recognised rights and freedoms;

7. Urges the Commission and the HR/VP to include the Khodorkovsky case in the agenda of the forthcoming EU-Russia summit; refers to its Annual Report on Human Rights in the World 2009 and the European Union's policy on the matter and urges the Council to consider imposing sanctions on Russian officials involved in the Khodorkovsky case; encourages EU law enforcement agencies to cooperate in freezing bank accounts and other assets of these Russian officials in all EU Member States;
8. Reiterates its call on the Russian judicial authorities to press ahead with the investigation of the death of Sergey Magnitsky and calls for an EU entry ban and accounts freeze for the 60 Russian officials involved in this case;
9. Recalls President Medvedev's public commitment to strengthening the rule of law in Russia and raising concerns over the independence of Russia's judiciary and legal system; in this regard regrets that these words contradict reality in the light of recent detentions of 70 opposition members during a legal demonstration in Moscow; calls on the HR/VP to raise these issues during the Summit;
10. Calls on the EU to make the deeper economic and political cooperation with Russia dependent on respecting European values such as human rights, democracy and freedom;
11. Welcomes the fact that the EU and Russia have reached an agreement on outstanding bilateral issues with regard to Russia's WTO accession, opening the prospect of Russia's entry to the organisation by the end of 2011, which will facilitate trade and create a level playing field for business; reminds, however, that to do that Russia has to overcome wide – ranging obstacles, such as industrial subsidies, red tape, foreign investment restrictions and inadequate public health standards;
12. Calls on the Russian government to implement the agreement to phase out Siberian overflight duties without conditioning it on first becoming a fully fledged WTO partner, as is currently the case;
13. Expresses its concern about the ban on vegetable imports from all the EU countries recently imposed by Russia in response to the E coli outbreak in Germany; points out that no other EU trading partner has taken such a drastic step and calls on the HR/VP to raise this matter with the Russian authorities;
14. Reiterates its call on Russia to fully comply with its international obligations provided by the six-point ceasefire agreement and to immediately withdraw its troops from the occupied Georgian territories of South Ossetia and Abkhazia; calls on Russian authorities to engage in the result-oriented and constructive discussions within the framework of Geneva talks on establishing of the international security mechanisms in the occupied regions and on the measures for safe and dignified return of the IDPs; calls on the HR/VP to raise the issue of Russian passports being given to citizens of the occupied territories;

15. Calls on the Russian authorities to refrain from exerting economic and political pressure on the countries from the common EU-Russia neighbourhood; stresses the need for cooperation between the EU and Russia towards strengthening the countries of the common neighbourhood, particularly in respect to human rights and rule of law; calls on Russia to recognise the European choice for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine and to contribute in a constructive manner to solving the so-called 'frozen conflicts' in Transnistria and Nagorno-Karabakh;
16. Stresses the importance of the upcoming parliamentary elections in Russia and observing the election standards set by CoE and OSCE/ODIHR; calls in this regard on the HR/VP and the Commission to discuss these matters with their Russian counterparts during the Summit and at all subsequent meetings at different levels and to insist that Russian authorities invite international observers and fully cooperate with them during the elections;
17. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States, the Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation, the Government and Parliament of Georgia, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.