



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

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B7-0153/2012

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 discriminatory internet sites and government reactions (2012/2554(RSP))

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

European Parliament resolution on discriminatory internet sites and government reactions (2012/2554(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Articles 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), Articles 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 45, 49, 56, 67, 83 and 258 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR),
 - having regard to Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law¹,
 - having regard to Directive 2004/38/EC on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States²,
 - having regard to Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin³,
 - having regard to the statement by Commission Vice-President Reding on the PVV website of 11 February 2012⁴,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, at the beginning of February, the Dutch Freedom Party (PVV) launched an internet hotline ‘Meldpunt Midden en Oost Europeanen’, calling on people to report complaints arising from the ‘massive labour migration’ of ‘Central or Eastern European citizens’, in particular Poles, Romanians and Bulgarians; whereas people are asked, in particular, whether they have experienced any problems in terms of anti-social behaviour and whether they have lost their jobs to one of those citizens;
- B. whereas the free movement of citizens in the European Union is enshrined in Article 21 TFEU, and the free movement of workers within the European Union in Article 45 TFEU;
- C. whereas the right to protection from discrimination on grounds of nationality is enshrined in Article 18 TFEU, and protection from discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin in Article 10 TFEU;
- D. whereas the right to freedom of thought is enshrined in Article 10 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, and freedom of expression in Article 11 thereof;

¹ OJ L 382, 6.12.2008, p. 55.

² OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 77.

³ OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22.

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/reding/multimedia/news/2012/02/20120211_en.htm

- E. whereas the European Union is founded on the values of democracy and the rule of law, as stipulated in Article 2 TEU, and on unequivocal respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, as enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and in the ECHR;
 - F. whereas the Member States have an obligation to all EU citizens to ensure that they are not discriminated against or stigmatised when living and working across Europe;
 - G. whereas the PVV hotline openly incites discrimination against European Union workers from Central and Eastern European countries and is creating divisions between communities in Dutch society;
 - H. whereas the PVV website undermines the free movement of persons and the right to non-discrimination, based on Directive 2004/38/EC and the relevant Treaty articles;
 - I. whereas the Dutch Government has signed a parliamentary support agreement with the PVV and thus can count on a majority in the Dutch Parliament;
 - J. whereas the Dutch Government has so far not formally condemned the PVV hotline;
 - K. whereas other Member States have experienced similar situations;
1. Strongly condemns the website launched by the PVV, as it goes against the fundamental European values of human dignity, freedom, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights and risks destroying the very basis of the Union, which is pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and freedom of movement;
 2. Considers the PVV hotline as an ill-intentioned initiative aimed at creating divisions within society and obtaining political gain to the detriment of workers from Central and Eastern Europe;
 3. Is deeply concerned about the increased tendency of governments to stigmatise certain groups because of their ethnic origin or beliefs; denounces the instrumentalisation of migration policies for political or electoral ends;
 4. Stresses the obligation of all European Union governments to guarantee the rights of free movement and non-discrimination; calls upon the European Council and the Dutch Government formally to condemn the PVV hotline since it undermines those rights and is an affront to European values and principles;
 5. Calls on the Dutch authorities to investigate whether this initiative constitutes an administrative or criminal offence;
 6. Calls on all Member States to promote the mobility of workers in the EU by following up on the requests made by Parliament in its resolutions;
 7. Invites the Commission to document similar initiatives or acts in the Member States which may constitute a breach of human rights and civil liberties as enshrined in the legal orders of the Member States and in European Union law, along with the responses of the competent authorities to such initiatives, and to report on them to the Council and

Parliament by 31 July 2012;

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Council of Europe and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.