



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

11.6.2013

B7-0298/2013

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a 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 situation of Rohingya Muslims
(2013/2669(RSP))

Véronique De Keyser, Robert Goebbels, Marc Tarabella, Joanna Senyszyn, Liisa Jaakonsaari, Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg, Ana Gomes, Richard Howitt,
on behalf of the S&D Group

B7-0298/2013

**European Parliament resolution on the situation of Rohingya Muslims
(2013/2669(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) of 1966,
- having regard to the 1951 UN Convention on the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto,
- having regard to the Human Rights Watch report “All You Can Do is Pray” Crimes Against Humanity and Ethnic Cleansing of Rohingya Muslims in Burma’s Arakan State’ of 22nd April 2013,
- having regard to the statement of the EU High Representative of 1st June 2013 on the agreement between the Government of Myanmar/Burma and the Kachin Independence Organisation ,
- having regard to the statement of the EU High Representative of 23rd March 2013 on violent clashes in the town of Meiktila
- having regard to the statement of the EU High Representative of 15th January 2013 on fighting in the Kachin state
- having regard to the UN General Assembly Resolution 67/233 on the Situation of human rights in Myanmar of 24th December 2012
- having regard to the report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burma/Myanmar of 6 March 2013,
- having regard to the Council conclusions on Burma/Myanmar (23rd April 2012)
- having regard to the EU Foreign Affairs Council conclusions of 22 April 2013 on Burma-Myanmar
- having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation of Rohingya Muslims in Burma, in particular that of 22 November and of 13 September 2012,
- having regard to Rule 122 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas the discrimination and persecution of Muslim Rohingya in Arakan State continues, including destruction of property, mass arrests and arbitrary imprisonment; torture, rape and restrictions on freedom of movements and religion ;

- B. whereas since October 2012 the Rohingya have suffered tighter restrictions and discriminatory practices have intensified, including through heavier impediments on their freedom of movement, restriction on marriage rights and access to education
 - C. whereas between March and May 2013 several anti-Muslim attacks have been reported in Mandalay, Pegu, and Rangoon Division as well as in Kachin and Shan States, resulting in 46 deaths and the displacement of over 14,000 people
 - D. whereas in the Arakan State, over 140,000 Rohingya and other Muslims remain in closed displaced person camps, denied freedom of movement, without access to livelihoods, and lacking adequate shelter, humanitarian aid and basic services;
 - E. whereas the Rohingya exodus intensified in the recent months and Rohingya refugees continued to arrive in Thailand, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Indonesia
 - F. whereas Thai, Malaysian, Bangladeshi and Indonesian authorities have detained Rohingya boat people or turned-them back without providing assistance to the hundreds of Rohingya found on their soil
 - G. whereas there are numerous reports that authorities in Arakan State either actively participated in perpetrating the abuses or failed to protect civilians from violence and have denied victims access to justice and to humanitarian assistance while the lack of accountability has created conditions leading to the spread of violence targeting Muslims in the whole country;
 - H. whereas the commission tasked with investigating the violence in Arakan State in its report issued on 29th April 2013 refused to acknowledge Rohingya identity, failed to hold anyone accountable for human rights abuses committed during the unrest but favoured a “temporary separation” of the Muslim and Buddhist communities and recommended the implementation of birth control programs for Muslims;
 - I. whereas UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Burma/Myanmar Tomás Ojea Quintana condemned the the two-child policy for Rohingya in Arakan State as a discriminatory and coercive measure that violates the basic human rights of Rohingya as well as Burma’s international human rights obligations and commitments
 - J. whereas the UN General Assembly resolution on the human rights situation in Burma/Myanmar urged the regime to protect the rights of the Muslim population, including their right to citizenship, continue the process of releasing political prisoners, take measures needed to end impunity and to address the armed conflict in Kachin State;
1. Condemns the serious violations committed against Rohingya Muslims in Burma/Myanmar since June 2012
 2. Expresses its deep concern at the aggravation of the humanitarian situation, forced displacement of populations and restrictions on the provision of humanitarian assistance and access to the displaced,

3. Deplores the failure of the authorities to protect the population from violence and public statements inciting to religious hostility,
4. Expresses its deep concerns at the allegations that members of the Burmese security forces participated in such violence and calls for an independent international investigation into allegations of crimes against humanity committed against the Rohingya Muslims in the Arakan State,
5. Calls on Burmese authorities to end all forms of persecution and discrimination against Rohingya Muslims, including lifting restrictions on their freedom of movement and protecting their fundamental rights, and to investigate and prosecute all persons implicated in human rights abuses in the Arakan State;
6. Calls on the President U Thein Sein to establish an action plan without further delay and with assistance of international human rights bodies to address the root causes of discrimination against the Rohingya Muslims and to avert a potential humanitarian crisis; reiterates its earlier call for an urgent review of the 1982 Citizenship Law with a view to granting the citizens' rights to the Rohingya;
7. Urges the Burmese authorities to immediately grant unfettered access to international humanitarian agencies to provide medical and other services to all persons in need in Arakan State with special focus on needs of internally displaced persons; calls on the Burmese government to allow the establishment of an OHCHR office in Burma/Myanmar;
8. Appeals to the authorities to revoke the regulation establishing a two-child limit for ethnic Rohingya in the North Arakan and other coercive or discriminatory policies or laws regarding population
9. Appeals to the governments of Thailand, Bangladesh and Indonesia to provide the Rohingya fleeing persecutions in Burma with at least temporary protection and stop pushbacks of the boats with Rohingya asylum seekers;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments and Parliaments of Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia and Bangladesh, the EU High Representative, the Commission, the parliaments and governments of the Member States, the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council.