



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

10.9.2013

B7-0414/2013

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 Egypt
(2013/2820(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Egypt
(2013/2820(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Egypt,
 - having regard to the Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton of 14 August 2013 and the Joint Statement by US Secretary of State John Kerry and High Representative Catherine Ashton of 7 August 2013 on the situation in Egypt,
 - having regard to the Council conclusions on Egypt following the EU Foreign Affairs Ministers' meeting of 21 August 2013,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the failure of the Morsi government to deliver on economic promises, to take into account the legitimate concerns of all democratic forces of Egyptian society and to implement the democratic transition called for by the population for the last two years led to increasing political polarisation, mass demonstrations calling on President Morsi to resign and violent clashes;
- B. whereas on 3 August 2013 the military removed President Morsi from power and arrested him on accusations of incitement to violence;
- C. whereas the interim government has declared a state of emergency, whereas EU and international mediation has so far failed in its attempts to establish an inclusive political dialogue and whereas protests, clashes and arrests have continued;
1. Expresses its strong solidarity with the Egyptian people and its sincere condolences to the families of victims of clashes and violence;
 2. Condemns the disproportionate use of force and regrets the tragic loss of human life; asks the Government of Egypt to ensure that the security forces establish adequate internal review procedures, so that responsibilities for the excessive use of force can be ascertained; calls on the Muslim Brotherhood to strictly refrain in the future from engaging in any form of violence and to support legal proceedings against those of their leaders who called for the use of violence, respecting human rights and rule of law principles;
 3. Deplores at the same time the fact that the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood failed to clearly instruct its political base to refrain from any form of violence against the army and the police and those perceived as political opponents, in particular the Coptic community of Egypt; deplores the fact that the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood did not prevent those attacks and only belatedly condemned them;
 4. Calls on the Egyptian authorities, in order to create the necessary conditions for an

inclusive political process, to end the state of emergency as soon as possible, to release all political prisoners and to treat detainees with full respect for their international obligations;

5. Condemns the violence against the Coptic community and the destruction of a large number of churches, community centres and businesses throughout the country; points to the historical pluralism of Egyptian society and the centuries-old tradition of the Egyptian Coptic community; asks the Egyptian Government to support the Coptic community in every possible way, so that the Egyptian Coptic community can continue to be an important part of Egypt's social and economic fabric and that peaceful cohabitation with the other communities of Egypt can quickly be restored;
6. Points out that, though elected democratically, President Morsi failed to deliver on the democratic expectations of the people of Egypt and has been accused of using his power to transform Egypt into an autocracy; notes also that under President Morsi Egypt systematically failed to fight terrorism and Islamic extremism in Egypt, in particular in the Sinai Peninsula;
7. Points out that the above serious shortcomings led to an increasing sense of alienation in Egyptian society, which ultimately prompted a vast majority of Egyptians to call peacefully for a new path to democracy which could ensure adequate democratic rights for all political, social and religious components of Egyptian pluralistic society;
8. Stresses the urgent need for an inclusive and genuine process of national reconciliation, including all democratic political and social forces in Egypt, and calls on the moderate components of the Muslim Brotherhood to actively support and be part of the process of democratic transition;
9. Expresses its strongest support to the process of constitutional drafting and reform currently underway and stresses that this must lay the foundations for a truly democratic new Egypt, guaranteeing fundamental rights and freedoms, including religious freedom, for all citizens – men and women – of Egypt, promoting interreligious tolerance and cohabitation and guaranteeing the protection of minorities as well as freedom of association and the media; strongly believes that the consultation process on the new draft Constitution should include all components of the Egyptian political spectrum, including the moderate components of the Muslim Brotherhood, and that it should be followed by a referendum on a new, pluralistic Constitution and by free and fair parliamentary elections;
10. Reconfirms its commitment to assist the Egyptian people in the process towards democratic and economic reform; calls on the High Representative to follow the situation closely, in particular with regard to the safety and respect for the rights and freedoms of the Egyptian people;
11. Calls for EU assistance to Egypt to be clearly linked to political commitments and their implementation, in line with the More for More principle, but also to take into consideration the country's dire economic situation, without questioning EU assistance to civil society and to the people most in need;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the

Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt.