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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 Ukraine
(2014/2547(RSP))

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on behalf of the S&D Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in Ukraine
(2014/2547(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Ukraine, on the Eastern Partnership and on the European Neighbourhood Policy, in particular the most recent ones of 13 December 2012 on the situation in Ukraine¹, 12 September 2013 on the pressure exerted by Russia on Eastern Partnership countries (in the context of the upcoming Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius)² and 23 October 2013 on the European Neighbourhood Policy: towards a strengthening of the partnership. Position of the European Parliament on the 2012 reports³,
 - having regard to its resolution on the outcome of the Vilnius Summit and the future of the Eastern Partnership, in particular as regards Ukraine, of 12 December 2013⁴,
 - having regard to the European Council conclusions of 19-20 December 2013,
 - having regard to the Council conclusions on Ukraine of 20 January 2014,
 - having regard to the Joint Statement of the Prime Ministers of the Visegrad Group countries on Ukraine of 29 January 2014,
 - having regard to the PACE resolution 1974 on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine of 30 January 2014,
 - having regard to the Statement by the EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on the case of Dmytro Bulatov of 31 January 2014,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the demonstrations that started more than two months ago as a consequence of President Yanukovych's decision not to sign the Association Agreement with the EU continue to the present day in the capital and the discontent is spreading to other cities, including in eastern regions of Ukraine;
- B. whereas the adoption on 16 January 2014 of a series of anti-protest laws severely limiting the freedoms of expression and assembly provoked international outrage and sparked violent clashes in Kyiv resulting in the loss of human lives;
- C. whereas there are numerous reports of ill-treatment, kidnappings, torture and other violations of human rights; whereas the people responsible for these violations have so

¹ Text adopted, P7_TA(2012)0507.

² Text adopted, P7_TA(2013)0383.

³ Text adopted, P7_TA(2013)0446.

⁴ Text adopted, P7_TA(2013)0595.

far enjoyed impunity;

- D. whereas protesters had to organise their own improvised hospitals, given that ambulances and doctors had been ordered to report protesters seeking medical assistance;
 - E. whereas an ad hoc delegation of the European Parliament travelled to Kyiv between 28 and 30 January 2014 to assess the situation on the ground;
 - F. whereas President Yanukovych engaged in dialogue with the three opposition leaders and made a number of concessions; whereas these concessions did not satisfy the opposition and the protesters in Maidan; whereas commitment to genuine dialogue and compromise by all parties is now of paramount importance;
 - G. whereas the Association Agreement (AA/DCFTA) with the EU remains on the table, on the condition that the Ukrainian authorities demonstrate commitment to shared European values; whereas, pursuant to Article 49 TEU, Ukraine – like any other European state – can apply for membership of the EU provided it adheres to the principles of democracy, respects fundamental freedoms, human and minority rights, and ensures the rule of law;
1. Strongly condemns the latest outbreak of violence in Ukraine; calls on the Ukrainian authorities to fully respect people's civil rights and fundamental freedoms and urges all parties concerned to remain engaged in political dialogue and to demonstrate responsibility, reducing tensions and facilitating a peaceful solution to the crisis without further delay;
 2. Is equally concerned by the excessive and disproportionate use of violence by the security forces and the violent actions of extreme right-wing protesters and other provocateurs;
 3. Supports the European aspirations of the Ukrainian people and their right to fight for democracy, the rule of law, and a better life; strongly encourages them, however, to continue conducting this fight by peaceful means and to distance themselves clearly from extremist groups that are neither democratic nor pro-European; highlights the special responsibility of all opposition leaders in this respect;
 4. Calls on the President of Ukraine, the Government, and the Verkhovna Rada to take immediate steps to end the state of impunity by investigating and punishing the authors of violence against peaceful demonstrators; is particularly concerned about reports of torture and stresses Ukraine's international commitments in this respect; points out the most recent case of Dmytro Bulatov, the leader of 'AutoMaidan', who was kidnapped and tortured by unknown agents; takes the stance that, in the case of further escalation of violence, the EU should consider the adoption of targeted measures against those directly or indirectly responsible for human rights violations, such as the imposition of visa bans and the freezing of their financial assets in Europe, based on a thorough assessment of their effectiveness and capacity to contribute to a peaceful resolution of the crisis;

5. Warns that a further escalation might endanger the unity and overall stability of the country, compromising its independence and European future, and entail risks for regional peace and stability;
6. Stresses the importance of addressing the root causes of the crisis, fully guaranteeing the freedoms of expression and assembly and re-establishing people's trust in politics and the institutions; believes that this requires constitutional and structural reforms aimed at creating an effective system of checks and balances, a truly independent and impartial judicial system and the rule of law, free and fair elections, and genuine efforts to fight systemic corruption; underlines the need to involve the broader civil society, the Venice Commission and OSCE in these efforts;
7. Welcomes the Verkhovna Rada's decision to repeal the anti-protest laws, and its approval by President Yanukovich, as a positive step towards the political resolution of the crisis; regrets, however, that the amnesty law was approved on 29 January without the consent of the opposition; takes the view that an unconditional release of protesters would greatly facilitate the talks and appease society;
8. Underlines the EU's commitment to facilitate a peaceful way out of the crisis and commends the European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, Stefan Füle, and High Representative Catherine Ashton on their efforts in this respect;
9. Urges all relevant forces to continue negotiations with a view to reaching a political compromise that meets the European aspirations of the Ukrainian people; considers that a time-limited power-sharing arrangement, coupled with credible constitutional reform, could form a viable basis for de-escalating the situation, paving the way for free and fair elections;
10. Notes the numerous requests by ordinary Ukrainian citizens, activists and politicians for the establishment of a permanent mission of the European Parliament to facilitate a political solution and monitor the implementation of the agreements reached in this framework, following the example of the Cox-Kwasniewski monitoring mission; instructs the Conference of Presidents to consider this as soon as possible;
11. Regrets that Russia continues to exert economic and diplomatic pressure on Ukraine; invites it, instead, to use its influence positively; calls for the EU to engage Russia in resolving the current political crisis peacefully; points out that both the EU and Russia bear responsibility for making an active contribution towards peace and prosperity in the common neighbourhood; reiterates its belief that cooperation to achieve this goal is the only way forward;
12. Calls on the EU and the Member States to step up efforts to achieve an IMF loan with improved conditions for Ukraine and its people, to consider practical measures with an immediate impact – such as macro-financial assistance through the EU, EIB projects, education grants, and the swift implementation of the visa-free regime – and to increase support to civil society organisations and trade unions;
13. Calls on the EU and its Member States to affirm a clear and credible European

perspective for Ukraine, on the basis of Article 49 of the Treaty of the European Union, provided that it demonstrates adherence to common European values;

14. 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 Policy, the EU Member States, and to the President, the Government and the Parliament of Ukraine.