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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 in North Korea
(2014/2696(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in North Korea
(2014/2696(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK),
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to all relevant international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, adopted and ratified by the DPRK,
 - having regard to the 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,
 - having regard to the report of the Commission of Inquiry on human rights in the DPRK of the 7th of February 2014
 - having regard to the resolution of the UN Human Rights Council of the 26th of March 2014 on the situation of human rights in the DPRK,
 - having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. Whereas the human rights situation in the DPRK, despite the change in leadership, is deeply precarious, deteriorating and one of the worst worldwide; whereas the humanitarian situation is a source of grave concern;
- B. Whereas on the 21 March 2013, the United Nations Human Rights Council established the Commission of Inquiry on Human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK); whereas the said Commission investigated "the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights" in North Korea and released a report on the 7th of February 2014;
- C. Whereas the Commission of Inquiry found that systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations have been and are being committed by the DPRK, while in many instances, the violations found constitute crimes against humanity based on State policies;
- D. Whereas these crimes against humanity entail extermination, murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape, forced abortions and other sexual violence, persecution on political, religious, racial and gender grounds, the forcible transfer of populations, the enforced disappearance of persons and the inhumane act of knowingly causing prolonged starvation; whereas these crimes against humanity are ongoing in the DPRK because the policies, institutions and patterns of impunity remain in place;

- E. Whereas the DPRK upon the establishment of the Commission of Inquiry has stated that it would "totally reject and disregard it" and refused permission to the latter to visit the country and failed to cooperate in any other way; whereas the DPRK regime has not cooperated in general with the UN and has rejected all UN Human Rights Council and General Assembly resolutions regarding human rights in North Korea; whereas it has failed to cooperate with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the country and has rejected all assistance from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights;
1. Welcomes the report of the Commission of Inquiry on human rights in the DPRK and asks that it is transmitted to all parties concerned and brought forward to the broader public;
 2. Expresses its deepest concern over the findings of the Commission of Inquiry on systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations in the DPRK, many of which constitute crimes against humanity;
 3. Is convinced that the time has come for the international community to respond to these violations and take concrete action to stop the impunity of the perpetrators; demands that those most responsible for the crimes against humanity committed in the DPRK are held accountable, be brought before the ICC and be subject to targeted sanctions;
 4. Deeply regrets the refusal of the Government of the DPRK to extend any cooperation to the Commission of Inquiry and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, including access to the country; Calls therefore on the Government of the DPRK to fulfil its obligations under the human rights instruments to which it is a party, and to fully cooperate with humanitarian organisations, independent human rights monitors and the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, including providing access to the country;
 5. Expresses its particular concern about the severity of the food situation the country is facing and its impact on the economic, social and cultural rights of the population; calls on the Commission to maintain existing humanitarian aid programmes and channels of communication with the DPRK, and to secure their safe delivery to the targeted parts of the population; calls on the DPRK authorities to ensure access for all citizens to food and humanitarian assistance on the basis of need, in accordance with humanitarian principles; calls furthermore on the DPRK to invest its resources in improving the appalling living conditions of its people and not in building up its military arsenal and further developing its nuclear program;
 6. Calls on the Government of the DPRK to ensure a comprehensive investigation with a transparent and satisfactory outcome, to hand over all information on the EU citizens and third-country nationals who are suspected to have been abducted by North Korean state agents during past decades, and to release immediately those abductees still being held in the country;
 7. Calls on the DPRK to immediately and permanently stop public and secret executions and abolish the death penalty; calls furthermore on the DPRK to put an end to extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and collective punishment, to close all prison camps,

release political prisoners and to allow its citizens to travel freely, both within and outside the country; calls on the DPRK to allow free expression and press freedom for national and international media as well as uncensored access to the internet for its citizens;

8. Calls on the PRC to stop returning forcibly North Korean citizens to the DPRK, as returnees and their families are at great risk of abuse and even execution, and to fulfil its obligations under the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, to allow the UNHCR access to North Korean refugees to determine their status and assist their safe resettlement; calls furthermore on the PRC to use its close relations with the DPRK to promote economic and social reform in the country, with a view to improving the living conditions of the North Korean population.
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council, the Commission, the EU Special Representative on Human Rights, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Government of the Republic of Korea, the Government of the People's Republic of China, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, and the UN Secretary-General.