



---

*Plenary sitting*

---

**B8-0188/2016**

2.2.2016

## **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 135 of the Rules of Procedure

on the human rights situation in Crimea, in particular of the Crimean Tatars (2016/2556(RSP))

**Helmut Scholz, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Tania González Peñas, Miguel Urbán Crespo, Lola Sánchez Caldentey, Xabier Benito Ziluaga, Estefanía Torres Martínez, Younous Omarjee, Kostadinka Kuneva**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

**European Parliament resolution on the human rights situation in Crimea, in particular of the Crimean Tatars (2016/2556(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard Rule 135 of the Rules of Procedure,
  - A. whereas more than 2.5 million people who live in Crimea are victims of the blockade of the peninsula; whereas the United States and European Union have put Crimea on one of the toughest embargoes in the world blocking almost all trade, transport links, and banking transactions; whereas Ukraine has cut rail and bus communication, water and power supply: whereas tourism faced a steep drop and farmer are deprived of the possibility to irrigate their fields; whereas the population of Crimea faces serious problems of supply with the basic goods:
  - B. Whereas since September Crimean Tatar activists, backed by Ministry of Interior troops, border guards and the far-right group Right Sector, have blocked roads connecting Crimea to Ukraine to prevent food deliveries from Ukraine to Crimea: whereas the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine expressed concern about the legality of this action and human rights abuses that have accompanied it, including illegal identity checks, vehicle searches, confiscation of goods, and arrests: whereas the district court of Simferopol has arrested in absentia one of the organizers of the Crimean blockade, Crimean Tatar rights activist Mustafa Dzhemilev
  - C. Whereas Crimean Tatars constituted the majority of Crimea's population for many centuries; whereas they have experienced discrimination, prosecution and deportation; whereas the Crimean Tatars have been prevented to commemorating the 70th anniversary of their deportation from the peninsula;
  - D. Whereas Crimea during its history was ruled by different empires and was part of different countries; whereas populations changed dramatically in the 20 century resulting in today's situation where ethnic Russians make up the majority of the population, whereas during the Soviet era Crimea prospered as a tourist destination, but experienced economic and social stagnation during the last twenty year; .
  - E. Whereas the Crimean parliament on 11 March 2014 adopted a declaration “On guarantees for the restoration of rights of the Crimean Tatar people.” which stated stated that in a future Crimean constitution, the Crimean Tatar language will be given the status of official language (together with Russian and Ukrainian), that in executive organs of state power in Crimea at least 20 percent of positions will be reserved for Crimean Tatars, that Crimean Tatar self-government organs, the Kurultai and the Mejlis, will be officially recognized, and that financial assistance, as well as assistance for the restoration of historical monuments and native language education, will be provided; whereas this declaration has never been implemented:
  - F. Whereas many human and democratic rights violations in Crimea have been reported

during the last two years: whereas the human rights organizations which worked in Crimea until the spring of 2014, as well as many independent media have been forced to curtail their work and leave the peninsula. whereas the access of international journalists and human rights activists is hindered by additional restrictions on the entry imposed by Ukraine, and the need to obtain a special permit.

- G. Whereas the Council of Europe has sent a delegation chaired by the Special Envoy of the Council of Europe Secretary General Gerard Studman to Crimea to assess the situation ; whereas this delegation will report about their findings situation after having meetings with the leadership of the Crimean federal district, the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol, representatives of a wide group of associations of national minorities, non-profit and religious organization in February March; whereas this is the first delegation from an international organisation that has been able to go there for more than a year;
1. Expresses concern at the economic and social situation of the population of Crimea; urgently calls on the United States, the EU and Ukraine to lift the blockade; calls for negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations to solve the Crimean problem;
  2. Reiterates it's position the rights of indigenous peoples and minority rights have to be respected and condemns any violation of these rights: urgently cal for the implementation of the 2014 declaration "On guarantees for the restoration of rights of the Crimean Tatar people"
  3. Welcomes the decision of the Council of Europe to send a delegation to Crimea to assess the human and democratic rights situation; looks forward to the report of the delegation and will examine its conclusions;
  4. Calls on Russia, Ukraine and the responsible authorities of Crimea to create the necessary conditions for the access of journalists, humanitarian and human rights organisations to Crimea;
  5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Governments and parliaments of Russia, Ukraine and the United States, the authorities of Crimea, the Council of Europe, the Secretary-General of the United Nations.