



Plenary sitting

B8-0425/2017

13.6.2017

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 Human Rights in Indonesia
(2017/2724(RSP))

Barbara Lochbihler, Heidi Hautala, Bodil Valero, Ernest Urtasun, Bronis Ropè, Davor Škrlec, Igor Šoltes, Ignazio Corrao, Fabio Massimo Castaldo
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**European Parliament resolution on Human Rights in Indonesia
(2017/2724(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- Having regard its previous resolutions on Indonesia, in particular the one of 19 January 2017 on the cases of Hosea Yeimo, Ismael Alua and the Governor of Jakarta, and of 10 February 2014 on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and cooperation between the European Community and its Member States on the one part and the Republic of Indonesia on the other part, with the exception of matters related to readmission,
- Having regard to the EU local statement on freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression of 9 May 2017,
- Having regard to the Joint Press Release following the First Meeting of the EU-Indonesia Joint Committee of 29 November 2016,
- Having regard to the Bangkok Declaration on Promoting an ASEAN-EU Global Partnership for Shared Strategic Goals of 14 October 2016,
- Having regard to the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: ‘The EU and ASEAN: a partnership with a strategic purpose’ of 18 May 2015,
- Having regard to the statement of 27 July 2016 by the European External Action Service (EEAS) spokesperson on the planned executions in Indonesia and of 23 May 2015 by the HR/VP Federica Mogherini on the prospect of further executions in Indonesia,
- Having regard to the Summary of stakeholders’ submissions on Indonesia in the Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of 20 February 2017,
- Having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Indonesia is a state party;
- Having regard to rule 135 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. Whereas Indonesia is the world’s fourth most populous country, and despite being the world’s largest Muslim majority country is religiously diverse and Indonesia’s constitution is not based on the sharia;

B. Whereas contrary to Indonesia’s longstanding tradition and frequent public commitment by the authorities to promote pluralism, religious intolerance and violence by militant groups against houses of worship and members of religious minorities are on the raise,

C. Whereas such actions are in part made possible by discriminatory laws and regulations, including a blasphemy law that officially recognizes only six religions, and house of worship decrees that give local majority populations significant leverage over religious minority

communities; whereas in May 2017, the Christian former Governor of Jakarta Basuki Tjahaja Purnama (“Ahok”) was sentenced to two years imprisonment on blasphemy charges,

D. Whereas recently LGBTI Indonesians have been facing increased assault on their basic rights, led by anti-LGBTI rhetoric and decrees from government officials and commissions, including mass arrests, forced HIV tests or public caning, thereby creating an atmosphere of heightened fear,

E. Whereas reportedly almost half of all girls from birth to 14 years of age in Indonesia are still victims of female genital mutilation,

F. Whereas the Indonesian government actively supports the death penalty for convicted drug traffickers and executed four convicted drug traffickers in July 2016,

G. Whereas according to the government’s own estimates, over 18,000 people with real or perceived psychosocial disabilities in Indonesia currently live in shackles in homes as well as state-run and private institutions, despite an official ban of the practice since 1977,

H. Whereas the government of President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo has repeatedly promised a new approach to Papua and announced in April 2016, that it would seek accountability for 11 high-priority human rights cases in Papua from past years; whereas on the other hand, over the last year Indonesian police arrested thousands of peaceful protesters in Papua for causes including support for Papuan independence,

I. Whereas Papua has the lowest life expectancy, and the highest infant, child and maternal mortality rates in Indonesia and has long been in desperate need of assistance from health INGOs but over the past decade, the Indonesian government has banned international organizations from working on health issues in the region, including Cordaid and the International Committee of the Red Cross,

J. Whereas recent violent attacks by police and military personnel on Indonesian journalists, mostly with impunity, have created an atmosphere of fear and self-censorship; whereas Papuan journalists in particular face harassment, intimidation, and at times violence from security forces and pro-independence forces when they report on corruption, rights abuses, land grabs, and other sensitive topics,

K. Whereas Indonesian authorities continue to restrict access by foreign journalists to Papua despite President Jokowi’s May 10, 2015 announcement that accredited foreign media would have unimpeded access to Papua,

1. Re-iterates its concern about the growing intolerance in Indonesia towards ethnic, religious and sexual minorities; condemns acts of violence, harassment and intimidation, as well as reported impunity for such acts and complicity of security forces in many cases;

2. Expresses disappointment over the fact that former Governor Ahok was convicted of blasphemy contrary to the principle of religious tolerance and multiculturalism enshrined in the Constitution;

3. Calls on the government to take a more proactive line against religious intolerance and to hold violators of rights of religious minority communities to account; appeals to the Indonesian Parliament to abolish discriminatory laws and regulations, including the blasphemy law;
4. Asks President President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo, in line with his public support for LGBTI Indonesians, to order all ministries that issued anti-LGBTI edicts in 2016 to publicly rescind them;
5. Urges the Indonesian police internal affairs division to investigate incidents of police collusion with militant Islamist groups to attack gatherings of LGBTI people and activists, and punish those responsible for the incidents, and specifically instruct the national police chief to command all police forces to respect the rights of LGBTI people and protect them from violence;
- 6.. Deeply regrets that the present Indonesian government propagates the death penalty as an effective remedy against drug trafficking, welcomes therefore the more that the authorities ordered a last-minute delay in the executions of 10 death row prisoners pending a “comprehensive review” of their cases;
7. Re-iterates its opposition to the death penalty as cruel and irreversible punishment and calls on the Indonesian government to reinstate a moratorium on the use of the death penalty in preparation of its abolition;
8. Welcomes the government’s resolve to open up discussion of the state-backed massacres of up to 1 million alleged Communists and others in 1965-1966 and is looking forward to the establishment of a timetable for the creation of a meaningful accountability process for the killings; notes with concern that the appointment of former General Wiranto as security minister, who was indicted by a UN-supported tribunal for crimes against humanity, could compromise such plans;
9. Urges the Ministry of Health to make mental health medication available in the local community health centers (puskesmas) across the country and provide community-based mental health services and to establish independent and regular monitoring of mental hospitals and social care institutions for people with psychosocial disabilities in the short term and a progressive shift from institutions to providing community-based services in the long-term;
10. Welcomes the government campaign against the practice of Female Genital Mutilation announced by Yohana Yembise, Minister for women’s empowerment and child protection and calls on the EU Commission to offer its financial support if requested by the government; urges the Indonesian government to criminalize and specify penalties for those who carry out FGM;
11. Welcomes President Joko Widodo promised new approach to Papua and to pursue meaningful steps toward accountability for past human rights abuses in Papua, Urges the President to release all political prisoners and to stop arresting Papuans for exercising their universal rights of freedom of expression and association;

12. Re-iterates its request to end special restrictions on the operations of international nongovernmental organizations in Papua and West Papua and to allow their staff free access to the region;

13. Calls on the Indonesian government to make sure that state agencies, notably the police and armed forces, adopt a zero-tolerance policy toward physical abuse of journalists and media workers and that foreign media have de facto unfettered access to Papua;

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 governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Government and Parliament of Indonesia, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council.