



Plenary sitting

B9-0068/2020

16.1.2020

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 143 of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation of Christians in Nigeria

Gianna Gancia

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the situation of Christians in Nigeria

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 21(1) of the TEU,
- having regard to Rule 143 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Nigerian Christian population has been subjected to religious persecution for about a decade now, despite the efforts made by some European countries and the United States to support the communities affected¹;
- B. whereas Islamic fundamentalism is expanding violently in Central Africa;
- C. having regard to the gravity of the clash between Muslims and Christians, exacerbated by the killing of the leader of ISIS, al-Baghdadi²;
- D. having regard to the terrorist attack at Christmas by terrorists linked to Boko Haram, which led to the deaths of ten Christians and one Muslim;
- E. whereas the Nigerian Constitution, the UN Charter and the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance prohibit religious discrimination³;
- 1. Is concerned about the status of the right to religious freedom in Nigeria;
- 2. Calls on the Commission and the Council, as a matter of urgency, to take a clear position on this matter by putting pressure on the Nigerian Government to ensure that it puts in place effective measures to protect the physical safety and rights of Christians;
- 3. Calls for the allocation of the necessary human and financial resources to ensure that Christian minorities are able to enjoy their fundamental freedoms.

¹ <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/nigeria>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/27/world/africa/ISIS-executions-Nigeria.html>

³ Nigerian Constitution: Chapter II, Article 15(2); UN Charter: Chapter I, Article 1(3); ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance: Section 1, Article 1(g).