European Parliament

2019-2024



Plenary sitting

B9-0353/2020

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 143 of the Rules of Procedure on the EU's global human rights sanctions regime

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B9-0353/2020

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the EU's global human rights sanctions regime

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 143 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, on 19 October 2020, the Commission and the High Representative presented a joint proposal for a Council regulation on the implementation of a global EU human rights sanctions regime;
- B. whereas this proposal seeks to grant the European institutions powers to address human rights violations of all kinds, under a regime which would go far beyond the legislative framework provided for in Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- C. whereas decisions taken by the Council (the most recent, of 15 October 2020, concerned the Navalny case) very often stem from non-legal considerations, i.e. personal opinions and/or press campaigns which are not always objective;
- 1. Points out that the politicisation of this sanctions-based mechanism has, in the past, caused a boomerang effect, impacting the EU economy in general and the French economy in particular (embargo on exports) to the tune of several billion euros;
- 2. Calls on the Commission and the Council to abandon any idea of a universalist approach to human rights violations, which is both pointless and ineffective, and to give priority to negotiation and mediation tools in the context of EU foreign policy.

