



Plenary sitting

B9-0080/2022

18.1.2022

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 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on the political crisis in Sudan
(2022/2504(RSP))

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on behalf of the S&D Group

B9-0080/2022

**European Parliament resolution on the political crisis in Sudan
(2022/2504(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sudan,
 - having regard to the UNSC discussion on Sudan of 12 January 2022
 - having regard to the statement of the EU, UK, Norway and the US on Sudan Prime Minister's resignation of 4 January 2022,
 - having regard to the statement of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Sudan of 3 January 2022,
 - having regard to the statement by the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) on 21 November 2021 on the agreement reached in Sudan,
 - having regard to the statement of the HRVP on Political Developments in Sudan of 18 November 2021,
 - having regard to United Nations Security Council resolution 2524 (2020) establishing the UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS),
 - having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966, to which Sudan is party,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
 - having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,
 - having regard to the Sudan Constitutional declaration of August 2019,
 - having regard to the Cotonou Agreement,
 - having regard to the Sudanese Peace Agreement of October 2020, otherwise known as the “Juba Agreement”,
 - having regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
 - having regard to the joint EU-Africa Strategy,
 - having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure.
- A. Whereas Sudanese military and civilian leaders had been sharing power since August 2019 after authoritarian leader Omar al-Bashir was ousted following demonstrations demanding civilian rule;

- B. Whereas the 2019 power sharing agreement was shattered on October 25, 2021 when military leader General Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan staged a coup, declared a state of emergency, dissolved the power-sharing Sovereign Council, sacked the civilian government, and temporarily detained Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and his ministerial team as well as other activists and political figures, leading to international condemnation and widespread protests in Sudan;
- C. Whereas on 21 November 2021 Mr Hamdok signed an agreement with General al Burhan releasing him from house arrest to continue as prime minister; Whereas Hamdok had agreed to resume his position in order to continue democratic reforms, but resigned from office on 2 January 2022 citing resistance by the military generals towards greater civilian rule;
- D. Whereas General al-Burhan appointed figures linked to the al Bashir regime to key positions and resisted moves towards reform by Mr Hamdok; Whereas on 24 December 2021, al-Burhan granted powers to search, detain, interrogate, and confiscate property to the intelligence services, the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the army;
- E. Whereas following Hamdok's resignation, citizens took to the streets to organise peaceful mass demonstrations against the military, which responded with violence; Whereas security forces used extreme force, including the use of sexual violence against women and leading to the death of at least 60 protesters with hundreds more injured and jailed; Whereas, there have been widespread internet shutdowns and disruption of communications networks;
- F. Whereas there have been alarming reports of security forces entering hospitals to arrest protestors, prevent injured people from receiving treatment as well as threatening and intimidating medical personnel;
- G. Whereas the response to the protest violates the right to freedom of assembly, association and expression, right to personal liberty, prohibition against torture and ill-treatment, amongst others, which are guaranteed in regional and international treaties to which Sudan is party;
- H. Whereas on 8 January 2022 the UN Interim Transition Assistance Mission to Sudan launched consultations to restore the democratic transition; Whereas although this has been welcomed internationally, major groups such as the Sudanese Professional Association remain firmly opposed to any power sharing arrangement with military figures;
- I. Whereas Sudanese citizens continue to face spiralling inflation, extreme price rises on fuel and basic commodities, coupled with a lack of basic services, leaving many unable to meet their basic needs and go about their livelihoods, adding to the sense of frustration amongst protestors; Whereas numerous military commanders are reported to control around 250 companies in vital areas of the Sudanese economy, such as gold, rubber, and meat exports;
- J. Whereas in 2021 the International Monetary Fund (IMF) granted Sudan a USD 2.5 billion loan, and together with the World Bank approved Sudan's request for debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, requiring the adoption of

extensive economic reforms, including the elimination of certain subsidies;

- K. Whereas countries including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Israel are actively involved in Sudan through weapon supplies, political support and financial flows from raw materials and gold;
- L. Whereas, the security situation across the entire country continues to deteriorate, notably in east Darfur where hundreds of civilians have been killed and thousands displaced in addition to large scale displacements and killing in South Kordofan; Whereas there has regrettably been no progress on the establishment of the Darfur special criminal court, as provided for in the Juba Agreement; Whereas Sudan continues to not cooperate with the International Criminal Court on four individuals accused of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur including ex-President al-Bashir;
- M. Whereas since September 2019, the EU mostly through the EUTF, has provided more than €88 million in development assistance to support political and economic reforms to contribute to peace and stability in Sudan;
- N. Whereas in line with a constitutional document governing the transition period, general elections are set to take place in Sudan in July 2023.
1. Deplores the killing of scores of Sudanese protestors and the injury of hundreds more, including the use of sexual violence, at the hands of security services and other armed groups since the October 25 2021 military coup. Underlines the right of the Sudanese people to assemble and exercise their fundamental rights for democracy to be re-established and for their basic needs to be met;
 2. Calls for independent investigations into the deaths and associated violence and for the perpetrators to be held accountable. Calls for all protestors unjustly detained to be released and for the State of Emergency to be lifted immediately. Firmly underlines that attacks on hospitals, detentions of activists and journalists, and communication blackouts, must immediately stop;
 3. Supports calls for an independent international fact-finding mission to investigate reports of violence against protestors since the military coup in October 2021. Calls on the EU and its Member States to engage with regional and international bodies to facilitate this and closely monitor events in the country, ensuring all human rights violations are investigated so perpetrators can be prosecuted;
 4. Strongly supports efforts by the UN Interim Transition Assistance Mission to Sudan to facilitate discussions to resolve the political crisis. Calls on all Sudanese political actors to engage in this dialogue to restore the transition to civilian rule, in line with the 2019 Constitutional Declaration and pursue the Sudanese citizen's desire for greater freedom, democracy, peace, justice, and prosperity;
 5. Emphasises that in line with the 2019 Constitutional Declaration, the process to reform must be inclusive and Sudanese led, identifying clear timelines and processes for establishing the legislative and independent judiciary, creating accountability mechanisms, and conducting inclusive, fair and transparent elections as soon as

possible. Emphasises that dialogue must be fully inclusive and representative of previously marginalized groups, including women and youth and minorities. Calls on the EU and its Member States to actively support this process;

6. Demands security services and other armed groups immediately stop using violence against civilians across the entire country, especially in Darfur. Urges all sides to prioritise the establishment of the Darfur Special Criminal Court as established in the Juba declaration; Calls on Sudan to fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court and to implement outstanding arrest warrants.
7. Denounces efforts by the Sudanese military to retain ownership and control of strategic industries and companies, reversing the process of reform. Calls on the Commission and its Member states to establish thorough due diligence mechanisms in relation to dealings with such sectors and to make full use of provisions in the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime against individuals where appropriate.
8. Condemns the military's attempt to undermine Sudan's institutions by removing civil servants who were appointed during the transitional period, and replacing them with others aligned to the previous al Bashir regime. Underlines that civil servants dismissed by the regime be reinstated;
9. Supports the statement of the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) of 18 November 2021 that if constitutional order is not fully restored there will be serious consequences for EU financial support. Underlines the need however for continued EU assistance in the provision of basic services such as health and education;
10. Urges the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) and the Member States to ensure that 'migration management' and counter-terrorism actions do not undermine support for human rights; is concerned that EU and individual Member States' cooperation with Sudan on migration is used by the military regime as an excuse and to reinforce its ability to control and oppress people, for example by strengthening surveillance capacities, including at borders, and by supplying equipment, such as biometric equipment; calls for the EU and its Member States to therefore ensure complete transparency with regard to projects involving Sudan in the field of security, including all planned activities and beneficiaries of EU and national funding; stresses the need to continuously examine EU's and individual Member States' financial support to Sudan, potentially reorienting its support on migration to sustainable development, humanitarian aid and good governance, while strengthening civil society and encouraging democratic reforms to work for an inclusive political development in Sudan;
11. Reiterates its call for an EU-wide ban on the export, sale, update and maintenance of any form of security equipment that can be or is used for internal repression, including internet surveillance technology, to states with deplorable human rights records such as Sudan; Urgently demands other countries in the region to follow suit;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Government of Sudan, the African Union, the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the Pan-African Parliament.