



Plenary sitting

B9-0334/2022

20.6.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the candidate status of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia
(2022/2716(RSP))

Manfred Weber, Michael Gahler, Andrzej Halicki, Miriam Lexmann, Rasa Juknevičienė, David McAllister, Željana Zovko, Siegfried Mureșan, Paulo Rangel, Andrius Kubilius, Jerzy Buzek, Traian Băsescu, Vladimír Bilčík, Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Daniel Buda, Cristian-Silviu Bușoi, Gheorghe Falcă, Tomasz Frankowski, Sunčana Glavak, Mircea-Gheorghe Hava, Sandra Kalniete, Arba Kokalari, Andrey Kovatchev, David Lega, Antonio López-Istúriz White, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Aušra Maldeikienė, Lukas Mandl, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Gabriel Mato, Liudas Mažylis, Dan-Ștefan Motreanu, Gheorghe-Vlad Nistor, Janina Ochojska, Radosław Sikorski, Michaela Šojdrová, Eugen Tomac, Inese Vaidere, Loránt Vincze, Iuliu Winkler, Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Alexander Alexandrov Yordanov, Milan Zver
on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the candidate status of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia
(2022/2716(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia,
 - having regard to Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union,
 - having regard to the applications for EU membership made by Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia,
 - having regard to the Versailles Declaration of 11 March 2022,
 - having regard to the Commission opinions of 17 June 2022 on the applications for EU membership submitted by Ukraine (COM(2022)0407), the Republic of Moldova (COM(2022)0406) and Georgia (COM(2022)0405),
 - having regard to the joint statement of the leaders of its Political Groups addressed to the Heads of State and Government in view of the European Council meeting of 23 and 24 June 2022,
 - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas since 24 February 2022, when Russia launched its unprovoked, unjustified and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, the geopolitical environment in Europe has been significantly altered;
- B. whereas applications for membership of the European Union were submitted by Ukraine on 28 February 2022 and the Republic of Moldova and Georgia on 3 March 2022 respectively;
- C. whereas the people of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia have for years consistently demonstrated unwavering support for the European course of their countries, embracing European principles and values;
- D. whereas the EU's relations with Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia are based on ambitious association agreements and deep and comprehensive free trade areas, creating a conducive environment for legislative approximation and economic integration, which are crucial elements of a future accession process;
- E. whereas the Commission has published opinions on the three applications, recommending that the Council confirm Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia's perspectives of becoming Member States of the EU;
- F. whereas in its opinions, the Commission recommended granting Ukraine and the

Republic of Moldova candidate status; whereas in the case of Georgia, the Commission recommended granting candidate status only after a number of priorities have been addressed;

1. Welcomes the Commission's opinions on the applications of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia to become Member States of the European Union, which confirm the perspectives of the three countries to join the EU; welcomes the Commission's formal recommendation to grant EU candidate status to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova and a European perspective for Georgia;
2. Calls on the Heads of State and Government who will meet as the European Council on 23 and 24 June to follow the Commission's opinion and grant EU candidate status to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova and to continue working towards granting the same status to Georgia once a number of priorities have been addressed; underscores that the Heads of State and Government must live up to their historical responsibility;
3. Underscores that the granting of candidate status by the European Union will equate to showing leadership, resolve and vision in today's context of the brutal Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and an attempted redefinition of the geopolitical environment; reiterates that the EU must continue to be a reliable partner and a credible geopolitical actor that lives up to its own principles and values by showing solidarity with those who stand up for the same ideals;
4. Reaffirms the enduring importance of an effective enlargement policy which helps to expand the area of application of European values and principles, as well as bringing stability and prosperity; strongly believes that the future accession of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia and the countries of the Western Balkans is in the best interests of the EU;
5. Underscores that granting candidate status sends a clear political message that the countries in question have irreversibly chosen a European path, which has been accepted by their European partners, and must not be the subject of interference from any third parties;
6. Recalls that the accession process is merit-based and lengthy, involves conditionality and puts an emphasis on reforms and progress in the areas of the rule of law, fundamental values, democracy and the fight against corruption; reiterates that the Copenhagen criteria apply and need to be fulfilled before the process can be concluded;
7. Stresses the need to take advantage of the experiences of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia with the implementation of their respective association agreements and deep and comprehensive free trade areas as a basis for the upcoming accession process, thus allowing the three countries to integrate further within the EU single market and enhance sectoral cooperation; recalls that this process will require increased technical, financial and political assistance from the EU;
8. Recalls that in order to retain the credibility of the EU enlargement process, the accession of the Western Balkan countries needs to remain high on the agenda and their parallel track needs to continue uninterrupted with more dynamism on the basis of merit, political alignment, solidarity in international matters and agreed commitments;

9. Acknowledges that Ukrainians, Moldovans and Georgians have continuously supported a pro-European orientation of their countries and deserve to live in free, democratic and prosperous countries that are proud and committed members of the European family; concludes that the forthcoming European Council can take an important first step towards fulfilling the dreams of the people of the three countries;
10. Calls on the Commission and the Council to establish enhanced and structured political dialogue with candidate and potential candidate countries in order to advance further economic integration and legislative harmonisation as well as gradual inclusion in the work and proceedings of the EU institutions, where appropriate;
11. Reiterates its call on the EU institutions to expedite the necessary steps to fully implement qualified majority voting in EU decision-making, which is urgently needed to improve the functioning of the European Union;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the presidents, governments and parliaments of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia.