



Plenary sitting

B9-0075/2023

17.1.2023

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 humanitarian consequences of the blockade in Nagorno-Karabakh (2023/2504(RSP))

Nathalie Loiseau, Petras Auštrevičius, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Dita Charanzová, Olivier Chastel, Katalin Cseh, Vlad Gheorghe, Klemen Grošelj, Svenja Hahn, Karen Melchior, Urmas Paet, Frédérique Ries, Michal Šimečka, Nicolae Ștefănuță, Ramona Strugariu, Dragoș Tudorache, Hilde Vautmans
on behalf of the Renew Group

European Parliament resolution on the humanitarian consequences of the blockade in Nagorno-Karabakh (2023/2504(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas since 12 December 2020, so-called Azerbaijani environmental activists, later joined by military personnel have been blocking the Lachin Corridor, the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh, Armenia and the outer world;
- B. whereas by sustaining the blockade of the Corridor, Azerbaijan is in breach of its international obligations under the Trilateral ceasefire statement of 9 November 2020, whereby Azerbaijan shall guarantee the security of persons, vehicles and cargo moving along the Corridor in both directions;
- C. whereas Russian “peacekeepers” failed to carry their duties and obligations under the Trilateral ceasefire statement;
- D. whereas the blockade of the Corridor has led to a severe humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh, significantly affecting the most vulnerable populations;
- E. whereas the 120,000 Armenian inhabitants are besieged, which is hampering the flow of food, medical and energy supplies to Nagorno-Karabakh leading to food and fuel rationing and school closures; whereas Stepanakert hospitals are running out of medicines, while the transfer of ill patients to Armenia is impossible without mediation of the ICRC; whereas hundreds of families remain separated;
- 1. Deplores the tragic humanitarian consequences caused by the blockade of the Lachin Corridor and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict; deplores the death of one person due to the current situation; reminds that the past blockades of Nagorno-Karabakh have had serious consequences for Nagorno-Karabakh and the overall peace in the region;
- 2. Urges Azerbaijan to immediately and unconditionally remove any obstacles hindering freedom and security of movement along the Corridor as prescribed by the trilateral statement of 9 November 2020; urges, furthermore, to refrain from undermining the functioning of transport, energy and communication connecting Armenia with Nagorno-Karabakh in the future;
- 3. Encourages the UN Secretary-General to visit the Corridor and express the illegal nature of the blockade; calls on Azerbaijan to ensure unimpeded access of international organisations to Nagorno-Karabakh and the Corridor to assess the humanitarian situation and provide necessary humanitarian assistance;

4. Condemns Russian “peacekeepers” inaction; considers that their replacement with the OSCE international peacekeepers, under a UN mandate, should be negotiated urgently;
5. Stresses that a comprehensive settlement is needed and that the process of achieving peace and determining Nagorno-Karabakh’s future legal status should comply with the norms and principles of international law, the UN Charter and the OSCE 1975 Helsinki Final Act;
6. Deplores the repeated inflammatory rhetoric of President Aliyev and his call to the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh to leave, which would trigger ethnic cleansing;
7. Condemns Azerbaijan’s continued policy of erasing Armenian cultural heritage in and around Nagorno-Karabakh in violation of international law and the International Court of Justice decision; calls for the restoration of damaged sites; urges Azerbaijan to allow UNESCO’s fact-finding mission without preconditions;
8. Urges the EU to be actively involved and ensure that the inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh are no longer held hostage by Baku's activism and Moscow's immobility;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to Armenia, Azerbaijan and international institutions.