European Parliament

2019-2024



Plenary sitting

B9-0076/2023

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))

Stelios Kouloglou, Martina Michels on behalf of The Left Group

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B9-0076/2023

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 the Lachin Corridor connecting Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh with Armenia and the rest of the world has been blocked since December 12, 2022; whereas the corridor is the only passage for essential goods and services that are vital for the 120000 Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh residents; whereas as a result of this blockade coupled with the air blockade by Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh is effectively under siege; whereas this blockade constitutes a violation of the Geneva Convention IV relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, as well as of the Ceasefire Agreement of 9 November 2020;
- B. whereas the disruption of the Corridor is fraught with catastrophic humanitarian consequences; whereas these include lack of food and indispensable medical supplies, impossibility to transport critical patients, cancellation of scheduled medical interventions and constrained access to electricity;
- C. whereas 1100 civilians are stuck on the corridor unable to reach their homes, including children;
- D. whereas the situation is further aggravated by intermittent disruptions of gas in Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh, leaving houses, hospitals and schools without heating; whereas such disruptions deprive citizens of their rights to health and education, among others;
- E. Whereas the gas deal signed between the European Union and Azerbaidjan favours the EU energy interests over Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh/Artsakh's peace and security;
- 1. Condemns the blockade of the Lachin Corridor, and deplores its humanitarian consequences; calls on the Azerbaijani government and Russian peacekeeping force to urgently reopen the Lachin Corridor, in line with the Ceasefire Agreement of 9 November 2020; in particular, calls for the restoration of freedom of movement for the immediate reunification of families, as well as unimpeded humanitarian assistance delivery to Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh;
- 2. Is concerned that the current escalation of tension threatens to derail fragile progress and unleash dangerous resumption of violence; calls on Azerbaijan and Armenia to resume negotiations on the settlement of the conflict and reengage in the process of the OSCE Minsk Group, based on the Helsinki Final Act principles of non-use of force, territorial integrity, and the equal rights and self-determination of Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh;



- 3. Calls on UN experts to continue engaging with Armenian and Azerbaijani authorities, and to deploy a fact-finding mission to Nagorno Karabakh and Lachin Corridor in order to closely monitor the humanitarian situation on the ground;
- 4. Welcomes the fact that the EU and the OSCE have deployed fact-finding missions to Armenia; calls on the EU and the Member States to continue supporting Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh in the process of finding a peaceful and political solution to the conflict;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Governments and Parliaments of Member States, and the Governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation.

