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*Plenary sitting*

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**B9-0224/2023**

18.4.2023

## 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 universal decriminalisation of homosexuality in the light of recent  
developments in Uganda  
(2023/2643(RSP))

**Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Czarnecki, Assita Kanko, Elżbieta Rafalska,  
Bogdan Rzońca, Veronika Vrecionová, Adam Bielan, Anna Zalewska, Jan  
Zahradil, Hermann Tertsch, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Eugen Jurzyca**  
on behalf of the ECR Group

**European Parliament resolution on the universal decriminalisation of homosexuality in the light of recent developments in Uganda (2023/2643(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Uganda,
  - having regard to the statement of 22 March 2023 by the Spokesperson of the European External Action Service (EEAS) on the adoption of the Ugandan anti-homosexuality bill,
  - having regard to resolutions 17/19 and 27/32 of the UN Human Rights Council of 17 June 2011 and 26 September 2014 respectively, on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity,
  - having regard to the report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights of 4 May 2015 on discrimination and violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity,
  - having regard to the joint statement by 66 states before the UN General Assembly of 18 December 2008 on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity,
  - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,
  - having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966,
  - having regard to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of 27 June 1981,
  - having regard to the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda,
  - having regard to the statements by the Council and the Commission,
  - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 21 March 2023, the Ugandan Parliament passed one of the world's harshest anti-homosexuality bills, criminalising consensual sexual activity between adults of the same sex, making some crimes punishable by death and introducing sentences of up to 20 years in prison for people identifying as homosexual;
- B. whereas on 22 March 2023, the EEAS Spokesperson stated that the EU is deeply concerned by the passing of this anti-homosexuality bill in Uganda and that the criminalisation of homosexuality is contrary to international human rights law;
- C. whereas on 22 March 2023, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, said that this bill conflicts not only with Uganda's own constitutional provisions stipulating equality and non-discrimination for all, but also with its international legal

obligations on human rights, and that it actively puts people's rights, health and safety at grave risk; whereas Mr Türk called on President Yoweri Museveni not to promulgate this bill into law;

- D. whereas numerous LGBTIQ persons have been murdered or have died under suspicious circumstances in Uganda for the sole suspected reason of being members of the LGBTIQ community;
  - E. whereas 71 countries have anti-homosexuality laws;
  - F. whereas the joint statement by 66 states, including the EU Member States, before the UN General Assembly of 18 December 2008 on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, urged states to take all the necessary measures, in particular legislative or administrative, to ensure that sexual orientation or gender identity may under no circumstances be the basis for criminal penalties, in particular executions, arrests or detention;
  - G. whereas the report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights of 4 May 2015 on discrimination and violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity recommends that states revise their criminal laws in order to remove offences relating to consensual same-sex conduct and other offences used to arrest and punish individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, order an immediate moratorium on related prosecution and expunge the criminal records of individuals convicted of such offences;
1. Considers the Ugandan Parliament's adoption of a new draconian and discriminatory anti-homosexuality bill, in violation of international human rights law, deeply disturbing and calls on President Museveni not to promulgate it into law;
  2. Strongly condemns the murder of and violence against members of the LGBTIQ community in Uganda and stresses that their safety and security must be preserved;
  3. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to continue engaging with the Ugandan authorities and civil society to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity, are treated equally;
  4. Asks the Commission and the Member States to continue to promote the universal decriminalisation of homosexuality in their multilateral relations, in particular with the UN, as well as in their bilateral international relations;
  5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the EU Special Representative for Human Rights, the President of the Republic of Uganda, the Speaker of the Ugandan Parliament and the African Union and its institutions.