



Plenary sitting

B9-0227/2023

18.4.2023

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 Repression in Russia, in particular the cases of Vladimir Kara-Murza and Alexei Navalny
(2023/2657(RSP))

**Alex Agius Saliba, Sergey Lagodinsky, Bronis Ropé, Markéta Gregorová,
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von Cramon-Taubadel**
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

European Parliament resolution on Repression in Russia, in particular the cases of Vladimir Kara-Murza and Alexei Navalny (2023/2657(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia,
 - having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Russian-British opposition activist and journalist Vladimir Kara-Murza was sentenced on 17 April 2023 to 25 years in a strict regime correctional colony following a court case reminiscent of Stalin-era show trials;
- B. whereas Mr. Kara-Murza was found guilty on charges of treason, affiliation with an "undesirable organisation" and spreading "false" information about the Russian armed forces; whereas he has denied all charges; whereas this sentencing is the longest yet given to a political opponent of Vladimir Putin and is directly related to Mr. Kara-Murza's criticism of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine;
- C. whereas Mr. Kara-Murza's work as opposition politician, journalist and human rights activist has been widely recognised, including with the Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize; whereas he was one of the few prominent opposition figures who chose to stay in Russia after February 2022;
- D. Whereas in detention, his health has deteriorated; whereas he has previously faced two poisonings; whereas he was diagnosed with polyneuropathy;
- E. whereas Alexei Navalny's health has reportedly deteriorated even further, with his team reporting his significant weight loss and suspicion of poisoning; whereas the Russian authorities are withholding any further information about Mr. Navalny's wellbeing;
- F. whereas Mr. Navalny will soon face another trial following new charges, with a risk of an additional prison sentence of up to 35 years;
1. Strongly condemns the politically-motivated conviction of Vladimir Kara-Murza by the Russian authorities and demands his immediate and unconditional release;
 2. Calls on Russia to adhere to its international obligations on the rights of prisoners, including Vladimir Kara-Murza's entitlement to proper healthcare;
 3. Expresses serious concern about the latest reports of the further deterioration of Alexei Navalny's health; calls for his immediate release and until then access to doctors of his choice in a civilian hospital, moving to a pre-trial facility with access for his lawyers, and communication with his family;

4. Denounces this latest escalation of relentless repression of dissent by the Russian government and condemns the ongoing crackdown on government critics, human rights defenders and independent journalists, including under Article 207.3;
5. Urges EU Member States to provide humanitarian visas and other support to Russian dissidents at risk of political prosecution;
6. Calls on the EU delegation and EU Member State missions in Russia to continue attending trials of individuals facing politically motivated prosecution;
7. Urges the EU and the United Kingdom to coordinate efforts in calling for Mr. Kara-Murza's release as well as on possible targeted measures for holding to account those involved in Vladimir Kara-Murza's detention and the overall system of judicial repression in Russia;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the VP/HR, the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom, and to the President, Government and the Parliament of the Russian Federation.