



Plenary sitting

B9-0255/2023

9.5.2023

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 Belarus: the inhumane treatment and hospitalisation of prominent opposition leader Viktor Babaryka
(2023/2693(RSP))

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on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on on Belarus: the inhumane treatment and hospitalisation of prominent opposition leader Viktor Babaryka (2023/2693(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Belarus,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to all human rights conventions to which Belarus is a party,
 - having regard to rule 144 of its RoP;
- A. whereas the situation of political prisoners in Belarus continues to deteriorateas of 4 May 2023, the Association of Human Rights Organisations in Belarus has recognised 1,499 people as political prisoners, while the actual number may be much higher;
- B. whereas the quality of prison conditions is deteriorating; whereas former presidential candidate Viktor Babaryka has been brutally beaten in the penal colony; whereas information about tortures and suicide attempts in Lukashenka's prisons indicates an unacceptable level of persecution and humiliation; whereas at least 4 political prisoners died in detention centres: Aliaksandr Vikhor, Dzianis Kuzniatsou, Vitold Ashurak and Mikalai Klimovicz;
- C. whereas the politically motivated imprisonment of Andrzej Poczobut is a clear testimony to the anti-Polish actions of the Lukashenka's regime; whereas the systematic discrimination against the Polish minority in Belarus has been going on for many years, including eliminating education in the Polish language, searches in their houses destruction of Polish cemeteries, graves of poets, writers, insurgents and soldiers of the Home Army;
- D. whereas Lukashenka's regime uses hostage-taking to exert psychological pressure on members of the democratic movement, deliberately arresting and sentencing their relatives; whereas this has happened to Viktor Babaryka's son Eduard Babaryka, Pavel Latushka's cousin Anatoly Latushka, Ihar Losik's wife Daria Losik, Vadzim Kabanchuk's cousin Siarhei Franchuk, Anatol Liabedzka's son Artsiom and Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya's husband Siarhiej Tsikhanouski;
- E. whereas Belarusian society continues to struggle under extremely difficult conditions against the dictatorship of Lukashenka and, the involvement of Belarus in Russia's war of aggression, continuing the fightfor nation's future ;

1. Demands that the Lukashenka regime guarantee proper medical supervision of the health of political prisoners and the possibility of independent international medical commissions to have access to them; in particular calls on the IRC to intensify its support for oppressed Belarusians, especially Viktor Babaryka but also Andrzej Poczobut, Ales Bialacki, Palina Sharenda-Panasiuk and others, demands an independent investigation and expert report into the death of Mikalai Klimovich, which proves that Lukashenka's prisons are an instrument of killing,
2. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of Viktor Babaryka, Andrzej Poczobut, Ales Bialacki, Palina Sharenda-Panasiuk as well as all other human right defenders and all political prisoners in Belarus;
3. Insists on taking systemic measures to support the preservation of the independent statehood of Belarus, considering the will of the Belarusian society as the main factor in this preservation and the imperial policy of Moscow and its ally Alexander Lukashenko as the main threat;
4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the HR/VP, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, G20, UN, ILO, IRC, the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation and to the representatives of the Belarusian democratic forces.