



Plenary sitting

B9-0418/2023

3.10.2023

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 case of Zarema Musaeva in Chechnya
(2023/2882(RSP))

Bernard Guetta, Petras Auštrevičius, Malik Azmani, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Vlad Gheorghe, Klemen Grošelj, Svenja Hahn, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Nathalie Loiseau, Karen Melchior, Javier Nart, Dragoș Pîslaru, Frédérique Ries, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Ramona Strugariu, Dragoș Tudorache, Hilde Vautmans
on behalf of the Renew Group

**Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the case of Zarema Musaeva in Chechnya
(2023/2882(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 4 July 2023, Zarema Musaeva, mother of Chechen human rights activists Abubakar, Ibragim and Baysangur Yangulbaev and spouse of former Supreme Court judge Saidi Yangulbaev, was sentenced to five and a half years in prison by the Akhmatovsky District Court of Grozny on charges of fraud and assaulting the authorities and after having denied her proper legal defence;
- B. whereas on 12 September, the Supreme Court of Chechnya ruled to shorten Mrs Musayeva's prison term by six months and decided that her term will be spent at a colony settlement instead of a penal colony due to her medical condition;
- C. whereas in early 2022, Mrs Musaeva was abducted from her apartment in Nizhny Novgorod and placed in police custody in Grozny accused of a fraud case dating from 2019;
- D. whereas Mrs Musaeva's sons, Abubakar, Ibragim and Baysangur, are vocal critics of the Chechen regime and the family has faced threats and persecution from the Chechen leadership; whereas on 18 August 2023, Russian authorities charged Abubakar Yangulbaev for terrorism;
- E. whereas the Chechen authorities are targeting Russian and Chechen human rights groups and activists and are committing numerous, well documented, serious and systematic human rights abuses, including abductions, extrajudicial executions, kidnapping and torture, including a systematic persecution of LGBTIQ+ persons;
- F. whereas on 4 July, before the announcement of the verdict in the Musayeva case, still unidentified persons brutally beat journalist Yelena Milashina and lawyer Alexander Nemov, who had come to Grozny to attend the trial;
- 1. strongly condemns the arbitrary detention and sentencing of Zarema Musaeva and regards these as acts of retaliation for the legitimate human rights work of her sons;
- 2. urges the Chechen authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Mrs Musaeva and to provide her with proper medical care, to remove any obstacles to correspondence with her family while in detention, to carry out a transparent and independent investigation into the circumstances surrounding her enforced disappearance, and to put an immediate end to all forms of harassment against her relatives;
- 3. calls on the Russian Federal authorities to uphold the rule of law according to international standards in Chechnya and to hold the Chechen leadership accountable for

the illegal human rights abuses carried out in the Republic and to take measures to stop repression against critical voices and their relatives;

4. calls on the EU institutions and EU Member States to continue supporting human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists, working on the advancement of human rights in the Chechen Republic and to place those responsible on the EU sanctions list;
5. recalls that the deploring human rights situation in Chechnya is a consequence of the corruption and decay of the governance structures of the Russian Federation;
6. instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the HR/VP, the Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation, and the Chechen authorities.